



Moore School of Music
Kathrine G. McGovern
College of the Arts

GRADUATE AUDITION & APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Brass
Composition
Percussion
Piano
Organ
Collaborative Arts / Keyboard
Strings
Harp

Voice
Woodwinds
Conducting—Choral
Conducting—Band
Conducting—Orchestral
Music Education
Music History
Music Theory

MOORES SCHOOL OF MUSIC

3333 Cullen Blvd.
Houston, TX 77204-4017
713-743-3009
www.music.uh.edu

For additional information about graduate admissions,
please contact the Office of Graduate Studies at gradmusic@uh.edu.

BRASS

Gavin Reed, *Brass Area Head*

MASTER OF MUSIC (PERFORMANCE—BRASS INSTRUMENT)

- Students should be prepared to demonstrate all major and minor scales on the full range of the instrument.
- Three selections of contrasting style. One of these should be a movement from a concerto. The other two selections should be taken from standard repertoire for the instrument.
- Five excerpts from the standard orchestral repertoire. Euphonium students may use excerpts from the band repertoire.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS (PERFORMANCE—BRASS INSTRUMENT)

- An hour-long audition program that reflects a diversity of styles is required. At least one major work should be memorized (i.e., a concerto or major unaccompanied work).
- An accompanist on selections that require piano is optional, pre-recorded tracks are fine.

CERTIFICATE IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE (BRASS INSTRUMENT)

- An hour-long audition program that reflects a diversity of styles is required. At least one major work should be memorized (i.e., a concerto or major unaccompanied work).

ALL STUDENTS

- Proper attire is recommended for the audition.

For further information regarding brass auditions, please contact
Professor Gavin Reed, Brass Area Head, at greed3@uh.edu or 713.743.3888.

COMPOSITION

Rob Smith, *Composition Studies Coordinator*

MASTER OF MUSIC (COMPOSITION)

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS (COMPOSITION)

All graduate composition applicants should submit a portfolio with their application that contains:

- Three representative scores and corresponding recordings of original compositions that utilize contrasting instrumentation. The inclusion of live recordings is strongly encouraged for MM applicants and required for DMA applicants.
- A list of all compositions (please include instrumentation, durations, dates and performances)
- A program from an undergraduate or master's degree composition recital (if applicable)

Selected applicants will be invited to interview with the composition faculty.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for a teaching assistantship, in which case an audition/interview is required. TA applicants must also take the theory placement exam that is offered on all audition days.

For further information regarding composition auditions, please contact
Dr. Rob Smith, Composition Studies Coordinator, at robsmith@uh.edu or 713.743.3163.

PERCUSSION

Blake Wilkins, *Percussion Area Head*

MASTER OF MUSIC: PERCUSSION AUDITION REPERTOIRE

Concert Snare Drum

- One advanced snare drum etude or solo, of a level appropriate for an advanced senior degree recital).
- Two (2) concert snare orchestral excerpts of the applicant's choice.

Keyboard

- One two-mallet solo (of a level appropriate for an advanced senior degree recital) – single movements are acceptable.
- One four-mallet solo (of a level appropriate for an advanced senior degree recital) – single movements are acceptable.
- Two (2) xylophone orchestral excerpts of the applicant's choice.

Timpani

- One (1) advanced etude or short solo work for four or five timpani.
- Two (2) timpani orchestral excerpts of the applicant's choice.

DMA/PERFORMER'S CERTIFICATE: PERCUSSION AUDITION REPERTOIRE

DMA and CMP applicants shall prepare 50 minutes of music, including each of the following:

Concert Snare Drum

- One advanced snare drum etude or solo, of a level appropriate for a master's degree graduate.
- Three (3) concert snare orchestral excerpts of the applicant's choice.

Keyboard

- One two-mallet solo, of a level appropriate for master's level degree recital.
- Two contrasting four-mallet solos (can either be two marimba works, or alternately one work for marimba and one work for vibraphone), of a level appropriate for master's level degree recital—all movements of multi-movement works should be performed.
- Three (3) orchestral xylophone excerpts of the applicant's choice.

Timpani

- One (1) advanced etude or solo work for four or five timpani, of a level appropriate for a master's degree graduate.
- Three (3) timpani orchestral excerpts of the applicant's choice.

Multiple Percussion (optional but recommended)

- One (1) advanced multiple percussion solo, of a level appropriate for master's level degree recital – a single movement from multi-movement works is acceptable.

Graduate percussion applicants will also upload:

1. a brief vita identifying your education, music employment background, awards and honors you have received both in music and in other areas, etc.
2. a repertoire list of all the solos and percussion ensembles you have played.

For further information regarding percussion auditions, please contact

Dr. Blake Wilkins at bwilkins@uh.edu or 713.743.3192.

PIANO

Timothy Hester, *Keyboard Area Head*

PIANO AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Master of Music (Piano Performance/Piano Performance & Pedagogy) Audition Requirements

The audition should consist of three fully memorized selections from the standard classical piano repertoire representing contrasting musical periods and styles. The audition should be approximately twenty minutes in length. Some examination of sight-reading skills may also be part of the audition.

Doctor of Musical Arts (Piano Performance)

The audition should consist of a fully memorized recital program of at least 60 minutes in length, containing works from the standard classical piano repertoire and representing at least three contrasting musical periods and styles. Some examination of sight-reading skills may also be part of the audition.

Certificate in Music Performance (Piano)

The audition should consist of a fully memorized recital program of at least 60 minutes in length, containing works from the standard classical piano repertoire and representing at least three contrasting musical periods and styles. Some examination of sight-reading skills may also be part of the audition.

For further information regarding piano auditions, please contact
Professor Timothy Hester, Keyboard Area Head, at thester@uh.edu or 713.743.3309.

ORGAN

Daryl Robinson, *Organ Area Head*

All auditions will take place at the Moores School of Music on the C.B. Fisk studio organ. Instruments by Wahl and Pasi will also be available for practice during your audition visit.

C.B. Fisk, Op. 165 (2024)
III/Ped, 10 stops
Mechanical key and stop action
Manual compass: 61 notes
Pedal compass: 32 notes

MANUAL I:

Manual III is permanently coupled to Manual I

MANUAL II AND III:

8' Principal
8' Flûte harmonique
8' Bourdon
4' Octave

PEDAL:

16' Subbass (façade)
8' Flûte (from manuals)

COUPLERS:

Manual II/I
Manual II/Ped
Manual III/Ped

All stops are enclosed except the 16' Subbass.

Manual stops have two stop knobs, one in Manual II and one in Manual III.

The stops may be used in one division or another or simultaneously on Manual I.

The Bourdon is available simultaneously on Manuals II and III courtesy of Wechselschleifen.

Non-functioning thumb and toe piston rails with General, Divisional, Sequencer,
and Coupler reversible pistons in customary layout.

MM and DMA in Organ Performance

Performance from memory is encouraged, but not required.

Auditions for graduate study in organ consist of a 30-minute program of organ repertoire chosen by the candidate. The performer should demonstrate their ability to perform music in at least three contrasting musical periods and styles and include at least one major work by J.S. Bach. The quality of performance and choice of repertoire for the MM degree must be at least at the level of a senior recital in organ; that for DMA study must be at the level of a Master's recital in organ.

Certificate in Music Performance (Organ Track)

Performance from memory is encouraged, but not required.

Applicants for the Certificate in Music Performance must upload a video recording for preliminary evaluation purposes along with all other application materials by the priority music application deadline. The preliminary video must consist of a full recital program of at least 60 minutes in length, containing works representing at least three contrasting musical periods and styles. Applicants invited to perform a live audition will present a 30-minute program. An interview with the faculty committee will follow the performance audition. Some examination of sight-reading skills may also be part of the audition.

For further information regarding organ auditions, please contact

Professor Daryl Robinson, Director of Organ Studies, at darobinson@uh.edu or at 713.743.7316.

COLLABORATIVE ARTS / KEYBOARD

Timothy Hester, *Keyboard Area Head*

MASTER OF MUSIC (KEYBOARD COLLABORATIVE ARTS)

Applicants auditioning for the M.M. in Keyboard Collaborative Arts must prepare three representative works in different styles and varied instrumentation (for example: a baroque flute sonata, a romantic string sonata and a modern vocal work).

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS (PIANO PERFORMANCE — KEYBOARD COLLABORATIVE ARTS EMPHASIS)

An audition for the D.M.A. in Piano Performance *with an emphasis in Collaborative Arts* must consist of approximately 30 minutes of solo playing representing at least two periods and 40 minutes of collaborative repertoire representing at least three different types of compositions (for example: 10 minutes of German lieder, 10 minutes of a French String Sonata or Chamber Work and 10 minutes of a 20th Century Woodwind Concerto reduction).

The following may also be evaluated:

- sight-reading of instrumental repertoire.
- sight-reading of vocal music, incorporating the playing of the vocal line into the accompaniment.
- transposition of a song up or down a half or whole step.

A full transcript of the student's academic career and a musical vita and repertoire list must be presented at the audition.

CERTIFICATE IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE (KEYBOARD COLLABORATIVE ARTS)

An audition for the Certificate in Music Performance in Keyboard Collaborative Arts must consist of approximately 30 minutes of solo playing representing at least two periods and 40 minutes of collaborative repertoire representing at least three different types of compositions (for example: 10 minutes of German lieder, 10 minutes of a French String Sonata or Chamber Work and 10 minutes of a 20th Century Woodwind Concerto reduction).

The following may also be evaluated:

- sight-reading of instrumental repertoire.
- sight-reading of vocal music, incorporating the playing of the vocal line into the accompaniment.
- transposition of a song up or down a half or whole step.

If applicants for the Collaborative Arts program are unable to perform with collaborative partners, please notify the Professor Timothy Hester at the contacts provided below.

For further information regarding Collaborative Arts auditions, please contact
Professor Timothy Hester, Keyboard Area Head and Director of Keyboard Collaborative Arts,
at thester@uh.edu or 713.743.3309.

STRINGS

Kirsten Yon, *Strings Area Head*

PRESCREENING REQUIREMENTS: Applicants should upload at least ten (10) minutes of music that best represents their playing. Selection(s) can be from any part of their audition repertoire. Applicants will be notified if they pass the pre-screening round and are invited to a live audition.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

If invited to a live audition, the following list of audition materials represents a guideline; substitutions are acceptable if they are approved at least four weeks in advance by Dr. Yon and the string faculty.

IMPORTANT NOTE: *To be considered for a scholarship, at least one movement or work in the audition repertoire must be memorized.*

Accompaniment is not provided on site for live MM auditions, but it will be provided for DMA and CMP auditions.

MASTER OF MUSIC

The required works should demonstrate appropriate technical difficulty and showcase contrasting musical genres. Applicants must perform the following for entrance into the graduate programs:

Violin, Viola, Cello

- Minimum of two movements of unaccompanied Bach
- First or third movement of a major concerto
- Additional contrasting work or movement of applicant's choice

Double Bass

- One movement of unaccompanied Bach
- One movement of a concerto
- Two contrasting orchestral excerpts

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS (PERFORMANCE – STRING INSTRUMENTS)

Applicants are required to prepare a 30-minute program with selections in at least three distinct musical styles. Selections should demonstrate the highest level of technical and artistic achievement of the candidate. The audition must demonstrate evidence of memorization.

CERTIFICATE IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE (STRING INSTRUMENTS)

Applicants are required to prepare a 50-minute recital program with selections in at least three distinct musical styles. Selections should demonstrate the highest level of technical and artistic achievement of the candidate. The audition must demonstrate evidence of memorization.

For further information regarding string auditions, please contact
Dr. Kirsten Yon, Strings Area Head, at kayon@uh.edu or 713.743.3154.

HARP

Kirsten Yon, *String Area Head*

PRESCREENING REQUIREMENTS: Applicants should upload at least ten (10) minutes of music that best represents their playing. Selection(s) can be from any part of their audition repertoire. Applicants will be notified if they pass the pre-screening round and are invited to a live audition.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

IMPORTANT NOTE: *To be considered for a scholarship, at least one movement or work in the audition repertoire must be memorized.*

Accompaniment is not provided on site for live MM auditions, but it will be provided for DMA and CMP auditions.

MASTER OF MUSIC

The required works should demonstrate appropriate technical difficulty and showcase contrasting musical genres. Applicants must perform the following for entrance into the graduate programs:

- One etude
- Three contrasting works demonstrating applicant's highest level of artistry, performed from memory
- One orchestral excerpt of the applicant's choice

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS (PERFORMANCE – HARP)

Applicants are required to prepare a 30-minute program with selections in at least three distinct musical styles. Selections should demonstrate the highest level of technical and artistic achievement of the candidate. The audition must demonstrate evidence of memorization.

CERTIFICATE IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE (HARP)

Applicants are required to prepare a 50-minute recital program with selections in at least three distinct musical styles. Selections should demonstrate the highest level of technical and artistic achievement of the candidate. The audition must demonstrate evidence of memorization.

For further information regarding harp auditions, please contact
Professor Hope Cowan, Affiliate Artist of Harp, at hkcowan@uh.edu.

VOICE

Cynthia Clayton, *Voice Area Head*

ALL GRADUATE APPLICANTS

- In the Acceptd portal, upload five (5) video selections, including at least one operatic aria. One musical theatre selection is encouraged but not required. Screening videos should be captured in landscape orientation and at a sufficient distance from the singer to demonstrate these selections are performed from memory. It is preferred that each selection be uploaded as a separate file, with the filename including the selection title and the singer's surname.
- Please include the program from your most recent degree recital and a comprehensive repertoire list with application submission.
- The completed application with all uploads must be received by the priority music application deadline.
- If invited for a live audition:
 - All selections must be performed from memory.
 - An accompanist will be provided. However, applicants may bring their own accompanist.

Studio placement is decided by the voice faculty at the time of the audition. Applicants may request a specific voice teacher on the application and audition forms. If a student is accepted by the requested teacher and if there is room in his/her studio, the student will be so assigned. If no preference is stated at the audition or if studio allotments cannot accommodate the request, the student will be assigned an instructor.

MASTER OF MUSIC AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants are required to prepare at least 5 selections, demonstrating the highest level of achievement to date. These must be in at least 4 different languages (one selection may be in English). Selections must represent various national styles and various historical periods, including at least one 21st century composition that demonstrates your facility with more complex/contemporary idioms. A musical theatre selection is encouraged, but not required (and is not intended to satisfy the contemporary requirement above).
- In meeting the requirements listed above, we highly encourage you to submit at least one selection written by a composer from a group historically underrepresented in opera and classical vocal literature (including but not limited to works by women, BIPOC, and LGBTQIA+ composers).
- Applicants invited to a live audition must submit a performance resumé.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS AND CERTIFICATE IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants are required to prepare a program 60-minute recital program from memory. At the time of the audition, the committee will determine selections to be performed. Demonstration of superior technical achievement, breadth of repertoire and styles, and a minimum of 4 languages (one selection/group may be in English) are requirements. Please include at least one 21st century composition that demonstrates your facility with more complex/contemporary idioms. A musical theatre selection is encouraged, but not required (and is not intended to satisfy the contemporary requirement above).
- In meeting the requirements listed above, we highly encourage you to submit at least one selection written by a composer from a group historically underrepresented in opera and classical vocal literature (including but not limited to works by women, BIPOC, and LGBTQIA+ composers).
- Applicants invited to a live audition must submit a current curriculum vita.

For further information or questions regarding voice auditions, please contact
Professor Cynthia Clayton, Voice Area Head, at cynthiaclayton@uh.edu or at 713.743.3309.

WOODWINDS

Yevgeny Dokshansky, *Woodwinds Area Head*

MASTER OF MUSIC (PERFORMANCE-WOODWIND INSTRUMENTS)

Flute

- Three orchestral excerpts
- One movement of a concerto
- Two works of contrasting style

Oboe

- Three orchestral excerpts of contrasting styles and periods
- One movement of a concerto, one movement of a sonata in contrasting styles and periods

Clarinet

- Full range major and minor (harmonic, melodic) scales through seven sharps and flats
Three contrasting works from the standard solo repertoire and three contrasting orchestral excerpts

Bassoon

- Etude of applicant's choice from Milde *25 Studies in Scales and Chords for Bassoon* Op.24
- Two contrasting etudes from Milde *Concert Studies* Op.26 Volume 2 (26-50), Jancourt *26 Melodic Studies* Op. 15, Orefici *Melodic Studies*, and Pivonka *Rythmical Etudes for Bassoon*
- Two movements from a major concerto or sonata ie: Hummel, Mozart, Vivaldi, Saint-Saens, Weber, Williams, Zwilich OR one movement from a major concerto/sonata and a solo bassoon piece
- 3-5 orchestral excerpts demonstrating technical and musical ability

Saxophone

- Two contrasting major works
- All major scales and chords

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS (PERFORMANCE-WOODWIND INSTRUMENT)

All DMA woodwind applicants must present a sixty-minute recital including works of contrasting styles.

CERTIFICATE IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE (WOODWIND INSTRUMENT)

All CMP woodwind applicants must present a sixty-minute recital including works of contrasting styles.

ALL STUDENTS

Proper attire is recommended for the audition.

For further information regarding woodwind auditions, please contact
Professor Yevgeny Dokshansky, Woodwinds Area Head, at ydokshansky@uh.edu.

CONDUCTING—CHORAL

Kaitlin DeSpain, *Director of Choral Studies*

MASTER OF MUSIC AND DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS (CONDUCTING)

- I. Applicants for all graduate programs in Choral Conducting must submit the following:
 - An uploaded video recording of at least 20 minutes in length that includes the applicant in both rehearsal and concert settings.
 - A curriculum vita.

- II. All graduate applicants must complete a live audition with one of the University choral ensembles. It is possible for students, particularly international students, to petition to audition remotely; please contact Dr. DeSpain (kedespain@uh.edu) to discuss your specific case.

Applicants must conduct a 20-minute rehearsal demonstration consisting of three works from the standard repertory.

 1. Two pieces, chosen by the Director of Choral Studies (DCS), will be in the current repertory of the ensemble and in the process of preparation. The applicant will be assigned these works no less than two weeks prior to the audition.
 2. The third piece, chosen by the applicant and approved by the DCS, will be introduced as a new work to the ensemble.

- III. All graduate applicants will undergo a series of skills tests that demonstrate piano, gestural, and sight singing proficiency.

- IV. All graduate applicants will interview with the Choral Faculty.

For further information regarding choral conducting auditions, please contact **Dr. Kaitlin DeSpain**, Director of Choral Studies, at kedespain@uh.edu.

CONDUCTING—BAND

David Bertman, *Director of Bands, Cheer and Dance*

MASTER OF MUSIC AND DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS (BAND CONDUCTING)

Applicants for all graduate programs in Band Conducting must submit the following with their Moores School of Music application:

- A video recording (including conducting in-performance and in-rehearsal) for preliminary evaluation purposes.
- A curriculum vita.

After the preliminary application process is completed, all candidates must interview with the Director of Bands and Associate Director of Bands, as well as any other professors that would be appropriate depending on degree. The interview process should be held in person when possible; however, if there are extenuating circumstances, this interview can be done via Zoom or other like platforms.

For further information regarding band conducting auditions, please contact
Professor David Bertman at dbertman@uh.edu or 713.743.3183.

CONDUCTING—ORCHESTRAL

Franz Anton Krager, *Director of Orchestras*

MASTER OF MUSIC and DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS (ORCHESTRAL CONDUCTING)

- I. Applicants for all graduate programs in orchestral conducting must submit the following:
 - A video recording (including conducting in-performance, and in-rehearsal) for preliminary evaluation purposes along with all other required Moores School of Music application materials by the priority music application deadline.
 - A curriculum vita.

- II. After the preliminary application process is completed, a short list of candidates will be invited to come to the UH campus for an interview with the Director of Orchestras, and a live audition with one of the University orchestra ensembles. This is typically done during the spring semester, and the required repertoire will be tied to whatever the orchestra ensemble is preparing at that time. All repertoire will be determined by the Director of Orchestras.

Invited **MM** candidates must interview with the Director of Orchestras, and conduct a 20-minute rehearsal demonstration consisting of whatever music is assigned by the Director of Orchestras.

Invited **DMA** candidates must interview with the Director of Orchestras, and conduct a 30-minute rehearsal demonstration consisting of whatever music is assigned by the Director of Orchestras.

A live audition that demonstrates the ability to handle all repertoire assigned is required.

For further information regarding orchestra conducting auditions, please contact
Professor Franz Anton Krager at fak@uh.edu or (713) 743-3189.

MUSIC EDUCATION

Julie Derges, Music Education Area Head

In lieu of an audition, applicants may be invited for an interview with Music Education faculty. Carefully review the list of application requirements below.

Guidance for submitting materials on Acceptd:

- Double-check that all components below are uploaded. Required components that are not specifically listed in Acceptd should be uploaded under “Supplemental Materials.”
- Acceptd prompts applicants to upload a headshot and repertoire list. These are not required nor considered for music education applicants.

MASTER OF MUSIC (MUSIC EDUCATION)

An interview with Music Education faculty committee may be requested.

Applications should include:

- A. Three letters of recommendation, including a person who has knowledge of your teaching;
- B. A current curriculum vitae or resume;
- C. A pdf of your teaching certification;
- D. A statement of purpose (approximately 500 words, double-spaced, Times New Roman) describing your interest in the degree, topics/areas you want to explore in the degree to further develop your teaching, and/or how you hope for this degree to support your future career goals; and
- E. A 20- to 30-minute video of you teaching music, preferably in a group-based classroom or ensemble setting.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS (MUSIC EDUCATION)

An interview with Music Education faculty committee may be requested.

Applications should include:

- A. Three letters of recommendation, including a person who has knowledge of your teaching;
- B. A scholarly writing sample (term paper, thesis, etc.) of at least ten pages that includes citations and evidence of research ability and original thought;
- C. A current curriculum vitae or resume, including evidence of successful professional experience in a field of music teaching (minimum of three years);
- D. A pdf of your teaching certification;
- E. A statement of purpose (approximately 500 words, double-spaced, Times New Roman) describing your interest in the degree, topics/areas you want to explore in the degree to further develop your teaching, and/or how you hope for this degree to support your future career goals; and
- F. A 20- to 30-minute video of you teaching music, preferably in a group-based classroom or ensemble setting.

For further information regarding application for graduate degrees in Music Education, please contact **Dr. Julie Derges**, Music Education Area Head, at jderges@uh.edu or (713) 743-4547.

MUSIC HISTORY

Matthew Dirst, *Musicology Area Head*

MASTER OF MUSIC (MUSICOLOGY)

Applicants must upload two (2) research papers, at least one of which should be from an undergraduate music history/literature class. Applicants must have a minimum 3.25 GPA in all music literature and music history courses in the undergraduate degree program.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for a teaching assistantship, in which case a campus audition/interview is required. TA applicants must also take the theory placement exam that is offered on all audition days.

For further information regarding application to the MM Music History degree, please contact **Dr. Matthew Dirst**, Musicology Area Head, at mdirst@uh.edu or (713) 743-3150.

MUSIC THEORY

Timothy Koozin, *Music Theory Head*

MASTER OF MUSIC (MUSIC THEORY)

Applicants must upload samples of theoretical papers and other supporting materials as requested. Applicants must have a minimum 3.25 GPA in all music theory courses in the undergraduate degree program.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for a teaching assistantship, in which case a campus audition/interview is required. TA applicants must also take the theory placement exam that is offered on all audition days.

For further information regarding application to the MM Music Theory degree, please contact **Dr. Timothy Koozin**, Music Theory Area Head, at tkoozin@uh.edu or (713) 743-3318.