

Audition Requirements by Instrumentation

(Professional Dress Recommended)

Piano

A total of two selections (3 for performance majors) by memory representing two or more of the following categories:

1. A selection of J.S. Bach, from Two or Three-Part Inventions, Well-Tempered Clavier, Suites, Partitas, etc
2. A movement of a sonatina or sonata by Clementi, Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven.
3. A work from 19th century repertoire by such composers as Chopin, Schumann, or Mendelssohn.
4. A selection from 20th century composers such as Shostakovich, Kabalevsky, Bartok, Barber, Debussy, etc.

Voice

Audition requirements:

Prepare two contrasting solos (3 for performance majors), at least one classical in nature, to be performed from memory with accompaniment. One foreign language piece preferred. Folk song arrangements are acceptable. One selection may be from the musical theatre repertoire. A contemporary Christian song is acceptable.

Examples of appropriate songs found in collections for auditioning students include but not limited to:

- 24 Italian Songs & Arias of the 17th and 18th Centuries, published by G. Schirmer (available in Medium High & Medium Low vocal ranges)
- 26 Italian Songs & Arias of the 17th and 18th Centuries, ed. by Paton, published by Alfred (available in Medium High & Medium Low vocal ranges)
- First Books of Solos, ed. by Boytim, published by Hal Leonard (available in Soprano, Mezzo/Alto, Tenor and Baritone/Bass Volumes)
- First Book of Broadway Solos, ed. by Boytim, published by Hal Leonard (available in Soprano, Mezzo/Alto, Tenor, and Baritone/Bass Volumes)

Organ

A total of two selections representing two of the following categories:

1. One prelude and fugue from eight Little Preludes and Fugues by Bach
2. An organ composition of a contrasting nature.
3. A hymn similar in difficulty to “Holy, Holy, Holy,” “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee,” or “Faith Of Our Fathers.”

A piano audition may be substituted by a student who has no previous organ study.

Woodwind or Brass Instruments

Selections from each of the following categories:

1. All 12 Major and chromatic scales for the full range of the instrument.
2. An etude or a solo selection demonstrating, both technical and lyrical skills, as well as musical level of achievement.
3. Sight-reading.

Percussion

Required Audition Material:

Keyboard Percussion: (Carson-Newman will provide a 5 octave Musser synthetic marimba with adjustable height for audition.) Prospective students need to prepare:

- two-mallet or four-mallet solo to demonstrate technique and musicianship,
- twelve major scales and chromatic scale full-range on the marimba,
- sight read at the marimba.

Snare Drum: (Carson-Newman will provide a Yamaha Grand Symphonic Rosewood (GSR 1450) snare drum for audition.) Prospective students need to prepare:

- a concert or rudimental solo or etude to demonstrate technique and musicianship,
- the 40 PAS rudiments, to be played slow-fast-slow

- the multiple bounce roll should be played soft-loud-soft
- to demonstrate sight reading in a concert style.

Timpani: Carson-Newman will provide 4 Adams timpani (32", 29", 26", 23") with tuning gauges for audition.) Prospective students need to prepare:

- a solo or etude to demonstrate technique, musicianship, and tuning ability on timpani.

Optional Audition Material:

Multiple Percussion: Prospective students may choose to perform an etude/solo on any combination of percussion instruments. Please verify in advance that any needed instruments will be available.

Drumset: Prospective students may choose to perform a solo or other material to demonstrate time-keeping and stylistic proficiency on drumset. Please verify in advance that any needed sound equipment for play-along tracks will be available on the audition day.

Strings

Selections from as many of the following as possible:

1. Any three-octaves-scales with arpeggios (two octaves for Double-bass).
2. One Etude or Caprice
3. Any concerto, solo or concert piece that best represents playing ability at the time of the audition.

Memorization is recommended but not required for strings audition.

Guitar

BM degree:

1. Major and Minor scales, first position
2. Chords - Major 7th, Dominant 7th, Minor 7th, Half-diminished 7th and Diminished 7th
3. Repertoire: two classical pieces in contrasting style and or tempo. For example,
-Fernando Sor

- Ferdinando Carulli
- Matteo Carcassi
- J.S. Bach

4. Optional third piece in a jazz, rock, blues, or other modern style

BA with Emphasis in Worship Leadership or guitar as a secondary instrument:

1. Two contemporary worship pieces of the student's choice - one in simple meter (4/4) and one in compound meter (6/8)
2. Traditional Hymn
3. Optional fourth piece in classical, jazz, rock, or blues