

Undergraduate Music Audition Information

performingarts.uncg.edu
music@uncg.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

Purpose of the Audition

The audition serves as an opportunity for you to display your musical performance ability, meet our faculty, and have questions answered concerning the School of Music, Theatre and Dance, the admissions process, student financial aid, housing, campus life, and other aspects of being a music student at UNCG. Your parents are encouraged to attend with you, as there is a special informational meeting and tour for prospective students and their parents.

The School of Music, Theatre and Dance requires that you, as a prospective music major or minor, audition for acceptance into the music program before faculty members in the performance area(s) you select. Audition requirements for acceptance as a music minor are the same as those for a music major.

Full admission to the School of Music, Theatre and Dance is a two-step process involving a successful **live audition**, as well as acceptance into the University by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. Acceptance to the University prior to your music audition is not a requirement, though **you are encouraged to submit an application to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions prior to your audition**. You may contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at (336) 334-5243 or visit their website at admissions.uncg.edu/.

Requesting an Audition - Go Online

Your audition should be arranged in advance by completing the **online Undergraduate Application and Request for Music Audition** form found at performingarts.uncg.edu/prospective/apply. The online form **must be completed no later than Sunday one week prior to the requested audition date**. Requests received after that time will be accepted only on a space available basis and must be approved. High school students are urged to audition early in their senior year. Transfer students should plan to audition during the year preceding enrollment at UNCG. If scheduling conflicts do not permit a personal audition on one of the regularly scheduled audition dates, you should contact the Music Office by calling (336) 334-5789. Be aware that some areas will not schedule auditions except on regular audition days. Acceptance into the music program is valid for one calendar year. If the student does not enroll and begin performance studies lessons within that time, he or she must re-audition for entrance into the program.

The Audition

The audition in your major performance area is the most important factor in determining whether or not you will be accepted as a music major or minor. Be certain to read **Guidelines for Audition Material** on pages two and three, and prepare your audition accordingly. Although voice students are encouraged to bring their own accompanists, an accompanist will be provided upon request. Instrumental auditions do not require accompaniment.

Music Audition Dates 2014-2015

Saturday, December 6, 2014
Saturday, January 24, 2015
Saturday, February 7, 2015
Saturday, February 28, 2015*

** February 28, 2015 is the last date to be considered for a music scholarship.*

In the event of inclement weather, you will be notified of any alterations or cancellation of the scheduled audition via e-mail. Please be sure to check your e-mail regularly the day before and day of the audition.

The Audition Location

Music auditions are held in the UNCG Music Building located on campus at the corner of McIver Street and West Market Street (100 McIver Street). If you need driving directions or lodging recommendations, please visit admissions.uncg.edu/visit-directions.php or performingarts.uncg.edu/about/directions. Parking is available in the McIver Street Parking Deck, directly across from the Music Building.

The Audition Day

Please report to the UNCG Music Building between 7:30 and 8:15 a.m. on the audition day. The audition process typically lasts the entire morning, but may continue into the early afternoon. Parents are most welcome to accompany you and attend the orientation meeting in the Recital Hall at 8:30 a.m. Our faculty, staff, and Music Student Ambassadors look forward to meeting you and your parents and answering any questions you may have.

Recorded Auditions

The School of Music, Theatre and Dance does not usually accept recorded music auditions from applicants who live within the continental United States.

Scholarships for Music Majors

Outstanding students majoring in music will be awarded music scholarships based on the results of the audition and will receive notification by mail. In order to be eligible for a music scholarship, you should plan to audition in person **no later than the last audition day** in the academic year preceding expected enrollment. Music scholarships are made on a one-year basis and are renewable depending upon satisfactory academic and musical progress.

Music Education Interview

All prospective students interested in pursuing a major in Music Education must complete an interview with a faculty member of the Music Education Department. If Music Education is one of your requested major areas, you will be sent a Music Education Interview Profile to complete and bring with you to your audition. Music Education Interviews will take place on each of the four designated audition days.

Piano Placement Test

The Piano Placement test is not related to the decision regarding acceptance into the School of Music, Theatre and Dance. It is only used to determine placement in class piano. All students who are not keyboard majors or minors are advised to take the Piano Placement Test on the audition day.

Theory and Ear Training for Transfer Students

Theory and ear training placement tests will be offered on regular audition days and at the beginning of each semester. Prior to taking the tests, students will be registered for the theory and ear training level according to transcripts of previous study. Following the tests, students will be placed into courses based upon their individual results.

GUIDELINES FOR AUDITION MATERIAL

These guidelines are intended for entering freshmen. **Sight reading will be a part of each audition.**

Brass and Woodwind Instruments

Prepare two solo works/etudes that best represent your performance level; one demonstrating tone, the other technique. Saxophonists should visit Dr. Stusek's personal website at <http://stevestusek.com/audition-info/> for more specific classical audition information. Brass and saxophone students interested jazz should see the Jazz Studies guidelines.

Percussion

Choose repertoire that highlights your skill, musicianship and preparation in the areas of snare drum (concert and rudimental), and two-mallet keyboard. Optional areas include four-mallet marimba, timpani and/or drum set. For specific details on percussion audition requirements, please visit performingarts.uncg.edu/prospective/apply. Percussionists interested in jazz should see the Jazz Studies guidelines.

Composition

Mail or e-mail a portfolio of 2-4 original compositions to the School of Music, Theatre and Dance (Attn: Miranda Freeman) at least **one week prior** to your audition date. Please include scores (.pdf format) and recordings (preferably .mp3 format). Live recordings or digital representations exported from notation software are acceptable. Choose pieces that best represent your compositional style and interests. Please also include a short essay: What are your career goals? What kind of music do you write and listen to? What would you like to do creatively? Composition students must also audition in a performance area, as prospective composition majors must be admissible to the School of Music, Theatre and Dance on an instrument or in voice.

Strings

Violin, Viola, and Cello students interested in Performance should be prepared to perform the following:

1. Two contrasting movements of a Bach solo work for your instrument
2. One movement of a concerto
3. A piece of the applicant's choice (may be an etude)

Violin, Viola, and Cello students interested in Music Education, Composition, or the BA in Music should be prepared to perform the following:

1. One movement of a Bach solo work for your instrument
2. One movement of a concerto or virtuoso piece

Double Bass: Prepare two works that best represent your performance level. These works should be contrasting in style; one demonstrating tone, the other demonstrating technique.

Harp: Prepare two works that best represent your performance level. These works should be contrasting in style; one demonstrating tone, the other demonstrating technique. You may also be asked to perform scales.

UNCG is no longer accepting classical guitar students.

Jazz Studies

Be prepared to perform the following (for saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drums, piano, electric guitar, double bass):

1. Major scales, two octaves in all keys with fluency
2. Two or three contrasting jazz standards should be prepared. Be able to play the melody and improvise. (Guitar, bass, and pianists should demonstrate accompanying.)
3. Sight reading of a lead sheet (melody, improvisation, and accompaniment)
4. Performance of a transcription is highly recommended

Jazz percussionists should demonstrate ballad, medium, and fast swing "time" with brushes and sticks; bossa nova, funk, and afro-cuban grooves. They should also demonstrate that they have started a pitched instrument, such as marimba, vibraphone, or piano. It is suggested that jazz percussionists bring their own sticks, mallets, brushes, snare drum, hi hat clutch, and cymbals (including hi hats) to the audition. Guitarists should additionally prepare a chord-solo piece.

Harpsichord

Be prepared to perform the following, preferably from memory:

1. An Invention or Sinfonia by J. S. Bach
2. A Prelude from *L'Art de Toucher le Clavecin* by Francois Couperin
3. A harpsichord work of the applicant's choice by a third composer
4. Major and minor scales and arpeggios over four octaves at the piano

Organ

Be prepared to perform the following:

1. One of the *Eight Short Preludes and Fugues* of Bach
2. One Chorale Prelude from the *Orgelbüchlein* of Bach, or a comparable work from the same period
3. One composition from the 19th or 20th century
4. Major and minor scales and arpeggios from one through four octaves at the piano

Students who have not previously studied organ and wish to begin organ study at UNCG should plan to audition on piano to demonstrate keyboard skills essential for organ study. In this event, see guidelines for Piano.

Piano

Be prepared to perform the following, preferably from memory:

1. Major and minor scales and arpeggios over four octaves
2. A two-part or three-part invention by Bach, or an equivalent work from the same period
3. One movement of a sonata by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, or an equivalent work
4. One or two additional compositions of your own choice, preferably from the 19th or 20th century

Voice

Be prepared to sing, from memory, two contrasting solo pieces from the standard art song repertoire. All selections should be for solo voice with piano accompaniment. **A capella auditions, vocal lines excerpted from choral works, or accompaniment CD's and/or tapes are not acceptable.** An accompanist, however, will be provided upon request. You will be evaluated on vocal potential, as well as basic musical skills and expression. Transfer students should include songs in French, German, and/or Italian if they have had experience singing in these languages.

UNCG Music Faculty

Peter Alexander, EdD, Dean

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THE UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA
GREENSBORO

School of
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