

## GUIDELINES FOR MUSIC AUDITIONS

All prospective music majors and minors must audition for admission to the Department of Music and to apply for music scholarships. These scholarships vary in amounts and may be renewed each year of a music major's continued study. The Department of Music offers both merit and need-based awards designed to enhance the university financial aid package. The following steps are required in order to secure an audition:

1. **Apply to Taylor University:** It is recommended that prospective students apply first for admission to Taylor University through the university Office of Admissions.
2. **Schedule an audition:** Students are encouraged to visit the campus, audition in person, meet the music faculty, and interact with our music majors. Please contact Lisa Royal at the Department of Music at 765-988-5232 or [lsroyal@taylor.edu](mailto:lsroyal@taylor.edu) to schedule an audition. If you want to be considered for a music scholarship, you must complete your audition by **March 14**.

If you are unable to audition in person, you may submit a video-recorded audition on DVD, by email, or by posting it on YouTube. If you want to be considered for a scholarship, this must arrive by **March 14**. Do not use microphones or any additional sound enhancement devices when preparing an audition recording. Please contact Lisa Royal at the Department of Music office if you plan to submit a pre-recorded audition so that we may know of your intention.

3. **Submit information form:** You will receive a *Taylor University Department of Music Information form* from us when you visit our campus or upon request from the Department of Music. **Please complete and return the form before your audition** to Lisa Royal using the address listed at the end of this document.

**Specific audition requirements are as follows:**

### Voice emphasis

- Prepare three (3) selections from the standard art song literature.
- At least ONE selection should be in a standard foreign language such as Italian, German, or French (An operatic or oratorio aria, well-suited to the singer's ability, may be substituted.)
- At least ONE selection should be a 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> century American, English, or Canadian art song.
- A sacred song, hymn arrangement, spiritual, or a standard selection from musical theatre may also be performed in place of one art song.
- All selections must be performed from memory.

### Piano emphasis

- Prepare three (3) selections from different style periods such as a two-part invention or prelude and fugue by J.S. Bach, a sonata movement by Beethoven, Mozart, or Haydn, and a composition by a nineteenth or twentieth century composer.
- Two (2) of the three selections must be performed from memory.

### Instrumental emphasis

- Prepare one (1) selection of the type utilized for state contest or solo and ensemble participation.
- A movement from a sonata, concerto, or concert piece is acceptable.
- Memorization is not required.
- **Note: Bass players, guitar players, and set drummers** may send a recording consisting of a demonstration of playing in contemporary styles such as rock, swing, Latin, and other jazz styles with twelve bar blues improvisation included as an element of the recording. Recorded excerpts from ensembles such as jazz bands, combos, and worship teams may be included to demonstrate abilities in ensemble playing.

### Composition emphasis

- Submit two (2) or three (3) short compositions that best represent the applicant's style and ability.
- Compositions are to be submitted as printed manuscripts, and in recorded format (CD or MP3).
- An electronic (MIDI) realization of the composition is acceptable.
- Electronic submissions of the applicant's music are also acceptable.
- The applicant may use Finale, MIDI, and MP3 formats.

**For all areas (except piano)** an accompanist will be provided unless you plan to bring your own accompanist. In order for the accompanist to be prepared for your audition, please mail or fax your music to the Department of Music at least one week before your scheduled audition.

**Please note:** During the summer Freshman Orientation sessions, students will receive a packet of information about the Theory Placement exam including a practice test and review materials. The exam will be administered to all freshman music majors during Welcome Weekend in August.

**Please send recordings and completed music information form to:**

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[lsroyal@taylor.edu](mailto:lsroyal@taylor.edu)

Rev. 5/21/12