

Audition Requirements for Keyboard Instruments

The Music Department at Towson University

Piano

Bachelor of Science in Music Education

- First movement of a Mozart sonata or equivalent from the Classical period
- A Chopin nocturne or equivalent from the Romantic period
- A J.S. Bach two-part or three-part invention or equivalent from the Baroque period
- All major and minor scales and arpeggios, four octaves
- Sight-reading

Bachelor of Music in Performance

- The applicant is required to demonstrate performance potential by playing a memorized audition.
- One J.S. Bach prelude and fugue
- First movement of a sonata of the Classical period, excluding Beethoven, Op. 27, No. 2 and Op. 49
- One Romantic composition
- One Impressionistic, 20th century, or 21st century composition
- All major and minor scales and arpeggios, four octaves
- Sight-reading

Bachelor of Music in Composition

Bachelor of Science in Music

Music Minor

- First movement of a Mozart sonata or the equivalent from the Classical period
- A Chopin nocturne or the equivalent from the Romantic period
- A J. S. Bach two-part invention from the Baroque period
- Major and minor scales and arpeggios – four octaves
- Sight-reading

Bachelor of Music in Jazz/Commercial Performance
Bachelor of Music in Jazz/Commercial Composition

Requirements, as applicable, for Jazz applicants

- All major scales memorized, two octaves where possible, in one consistent format determined by candidate
- A memorized two octave chromatic scale starting on any pitch, determined by the auditioner, displaying the command of the instrument's range
- Sight reading chosen by the Jazz/Commercial faculty
 - The ability to sight read simple melodies and chord progressions is essential to the success of a candidate for a Bachelor of Music degree in Jazz/Commercial music. Applicants who cannot read music must learn to do so before auditioning.
- Demonstrate good pitch matching either on the instrument or by vocalization
- Interview

Prepared Selections for Jazz Piano

- All major and minor scales, two octaves
- A prepared piece from the Baroque or Classical period (Bach Invention, Mozart or Haydn Sonata movement)
- Improvisation on Blues or standard tune with accompaniment (the Music Department will provide a stereo with CD player only. Applicants are responsible for their recorded accompaniments).

Standards for Jazz Candidates

Candidates for the Bachelor of Music in Jazz/Commercial Performance are expected to demonstrate technical proficiency, musical expression and improvisational skills. Additionally, candidates must demonstrate the potential to succeed and excel in the field of music.

Candidates for the Bachelor of Music in Jazz/Commercial Composition must display evidence of promise as a creative composer. Additionally, candidates must demonstrate proficiency in at least one area of performance (must pass Department of Music audition in candidate's primary performance area). Composition candidates must submit a portfolio of completed compositions by

October 1 for consideration for the spring semester and by February 1 for the fall semester. Details can be found on the Department of Music website on the composition web page.

It is expected that all applicants be prepared for the rigors of the music curriculum through dedicated and continued study of their primary instrument with a qualified private instructor provided by the university.

Pipe Organ

Bachelor of Music in Performance
Bachelor of Music in Composition
Bachelor of Science in Music Education
Bachelor of Science in Music
Music Minor

- A work of J.S. Bach
- Two other works of the applicant's choosing
- Sight-reading (a hymn)
- Submission of a list of repertoire previously studied

Those with no previous organ training may audition on the piano. In such cases, the audition materials should be similar to those described under the piano audition requirements for Music Education majors.