

Performing Arts Audition - Music

We're excited that you've decided to audition to study music at Clemson University! Our Bachelor of Arts degree is a versatile program that can be uniquely tailored to your strengths and interests to prepare you for a number of different careers in the music field. If you happen to have further questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Director of Music, Dr. Paul Buyer at pbuyer@clemson.edu.

RESUMÉ

All students interviewing for the music concentration are encouraged to provide a resume listing any experiences and/or skills pertinent to their performing arts interest and at least two current letters of recommendation. One of these letters should come from a current music teacher.

Please bring two letters of recommendation with you to your audition.

INTERVIEW

Students should be prepared to answer the following questions:

What attracted you to this degree program?

What are your career aspirations?

What are your experiences and background in the arts?

What other (non-arts) activities were you involved with in your school and/or community during your high school career?

Understanding that this degree requires collaborative teamwork with students of varying performing arts backgrounds:

How do you see yourself fitting into this curriculum?

What previous experiences have you had in collaboration?

Voice Auditions

Prospective voice students should prepare two art songs or folk songs of contrasting styles. At least one of the selections MUST be in a language other than English. Make sure the selections adequately demonstrate musicality, tone quality, and technical abilities.

In addition to the prepared pieces, students will be asked to sight read a short excerpt.

For repertoire suggestions, please contact: Dr. Anthony Bernarducci, Director of Choral Activities at bernar5@clermson.edu.

Strings Auditions

*** Prospective bass students may audition in either the classical style or the jazz style but are encouraged to do both if possible. ****

Prospective violin, viola, cello, and *classical* bass students should prepare two selections of contrasting styles. Make sure your selections adequately demonstrate your musicality, tone quality, and technical abilities. Suggested repertoire could include unaccompanied Bach.

Prospective *jazz* bass students should be prepared to demonstrate a walking bass line in the keys of F and Bb and a bass line of a jazz standard in either a swing, ballad, or bossa style.

In addition to your prepared pieces, you will be asked to play a selection of scales: 2 octaves for Bass, 3 octaves for violin, viola, and cello.

In addition to the prepared pieces, students will be asked to sight read a short excerpt.

For repertoire suggestions, please contact: Dr. Andrew Levin, Orchestra Conductor at alevin@clermson.edu

Woodwinds & Brass Auditions

Prospective students should prepare two solo pieces, etudes, or excerpts of larger works of contrasting styles, which adequately demonstrate musicality, tone quality, and technical abilities. Students should be prepared to play a total of 5-7 minutes of music.

In addition to prepared pieces, students may be asked to sight read a short excerpt.

For repertoire suggestions, please contact: Mr. Tim Hurlburt, Assistant Director of Bands at thurlbu@clemsom.edu

Percussion Auditions

Prospective percussion students should prepare to demonstrate proficiency in **two** of the following areas:

Snare Drum: A concert or rudimental snare drum solo. Demonstrated proficiency of the Percussive Arts Society International Drum Rudiments is also expected.

Keyboard: A two or four mallet solo demonstrating technical proficiency on marimba, vibraphone, or xylophone.

Timpani: A three or four drum solo demonstrating technical command of the instrument. Students will also demonstrate the ability to hear, sing, and tune individual notes and the intervals of a third, fourth, and fifth.

Drumset: Perform various musical styles including jazz, rock, funk, Latin, and ballads. Students should be prepared to play time and improvise fills in different styles. A basic understanding of reading drumset charts is also highly regarded.

In addition to the prepared pieces, students will be asked to sight read on the instrument of their choice. (snare drum, keyboard, or timpani)

For repertoire suggestions, please contact: Dr. Paul Buyer, Director of Percussion at pbuyer@clemsom.edu

Piano, Organ and Carillon Auditions

Prospective students should prepare, on piano, two solo works to be performed from memory from the following:

One piece from the Baroque Era by Domineco Scarlatti or J.S. Bach Prelude and Fugue in its entirety or 2 contrasting movements from a suite

OR

A Classical Era sonata 1st or last movement by Mozart, Haydn, or Beethoven.

One Romantic Era piece by Chopin, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Brahms, Grieg, Liszt, Franck, or Rachmaninov.

OR

One 20th Century Era piece by Debussy, Ravel, Prokofiev, Shostakovich, Bartok, Copland, Barber, Kabalevsky, Khachaturian, Scriabin, Ginastera, Poulenc, or Mucsynski.

** Students with questions regarding repertoire substitutions should contact Dr. Linda Li-Bleul: libleu@clemsn.edu

** Any student wishing to audition on Organ or Carillon instead of piano should contact Dr. Linda Dzuris: ldzuris@clemsn.edu

Guitar Auditions

Prospective Classical Guitar students should prepare two selections of contrasting styles demonstrating finger style technique and musicality.

Prospective Jazz Guitar students should prepare two selections: a jazz standard and a blues chart to demonstrate both comping and improvising.

While reading ability will be examined, fluency is not an absolute requirement.

For repertoire suggestions, please contact Mr. David Stevenson at dsteven@clemsn.edu