

# MUSIC DEPARTMENT AUDITION GUIDELINES

Thank you for your interest in applying for a music audition! The Music Major degree prepares students for entrance into graduate and other post-baccalaureate programs, and it is anticipated that the student enter the university with considerable prior experience. This document explains the audition process and informs you of what to prepare in advance. Please show your music ability and performance versatility.

**The purpose of the music audition is two-fold:**

1. an entrance exam into the Music Department, and
2. an application for a music scholarship.

When you first meet the ACU Music Faculty, you will be asked to share your musical dreams and aspirations, stating experiences you've had on your voice or instrument (ie. private lessons, experience in a choir or praise band, etc.). As you share, our Faculty will guide you to the ACU music degree matching *your* musical goals. They will help you choose a program that can be catered to your goals and will prepare you for your future.

For most music auditions (whether for music major or minor), you will be asked to perform pieces demonstrating your knowledge of music and your musical skill. Faculty will decide on class placement in courses such as Applied Lessons, Class Piano, Music Theory, Chorale and Praise Band.

**Find the degree concentration program below that you are considering for your major for audition requirements.**

## AUDITION REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS

### MODERN WORSHIP AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

**Emphasis in Modern Worship (Piano):**

- 2 selections in contrasting styles.
  - 1 selection in a Worship style
  - 1 selection in a Pop, Jazz, or Blues style.
- Be prepared to demonstrate facility and technique on your instrument with scales.

**Emphasis in Modern Worship (Strings):**

- Scales, up to three octaves, all major/minor
- Two contrasting pieces (solo or accompanied)

### Emphasis in Modern Worship (Instrumental):

- 2 selections in contrasting styles.
  - 1 selection in a Worship style
  - 1 selection in a Pop, Jazz, or Blues style.
- Be prepared to demonstrate facility and technique on your instrument with scales.

### Emphasis in Modern Worship (Voice):

- Choose 1 selection from the following styles:
  - 1 Classical selection - may be an American or English art song, or a song in a foreign language.
  - 1 Legit/Golden Age Musical Theater selection.
  - 1 jazz standard from the Great American Songbook.
- 1 Worship style (not Christian pop) selection.
- Choose 1 selection from the following:
  - Second Worship song in a contrasting tempo.
  - 1 Commercial (pop, rock, R&B, country, etc.) selection.

## THEORY & COMPOSITION AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

A conventional audition with demonstration of musical instrument skills **IS REQUIRED** for admission to the Bachelor of Science - Theory & Composition program. Even though this program emphasis is based on theory and compositional skills, we encourage each student to audition with primary instrument as it can strengthen your overall application and make you eligible for other music degree programs.

### Theory & composition student:

- Choose 2 selection from the following
  - 1 selection in a Worship, Pop, Jazz, or Blues style
  - 1 selection in a Classical style (if available)
  - Be prepared to demonstrate facility and technique on your instrument with scales and theoretical applications
- Applicants must submit a Manuscript and/or recording:
  - Minimum of 1 recording/manuscript of recent original composition or arrangement
    - *Please submit recordings/scores to: [gerald.fercho@arizonachristian.edu](mailto:gerald.fercho@arizonachristian.edu). Be sure that each media file is formatted as: Your Name /Composer / Date recording was made.*
    - *Acceptable recorded audition formats: AUDIO OR VIDEO*

- In your personal audition or interview be prepared to answer music composition questions in these areas:
  - Composer influences
  - List familiar/available technologies (recording or notation software)
  - Career goals

## MUSIC TECHNOLOGY AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

We strongly encourage you to audition in person.

NOTE: A conventional audition with demonstration of musical instrument skills **IS NOT REQUIRED** for admission to the Bachelor of Science - Music Technology program. However, we do encourage each student to audition with primary instrument (if possible) as it can strengthen your overall application and make you eligible for other music degree programs.

### Technology student with no primary instrument:

- Applicants must submit at least 1 Audio or Video recording of recent project(s)
  - *Please submit recordings to: [gerald.fercho@arizonachristian.edu](mailto:gerald.fercho@arizonachristian.edu). Be sure that each media file is formatted as: Your Name /Composer / Date recording was made.*
  - *Acceptable recorded audition formats: AUDIO OR VIDEO*
- In your personal audition or interview be prepared to answer music technology-related questions in these areas:
  - Musical influences
  - List familiar/available technologies (recording software)
  - Career goals

### AND (optional)

### Technology student with primary instrument (Voice or Musical Instrumental):

- Choose 1 selection from the following.
  - 1 selection in a Worship style
  - 1 selection in a Pop, Jazz, or Blues style.
- Be prepared to demonstrate facility and technique on your instrument with scales.

## MUSIC EDUCATION AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

### Emphasis in Music Education (Piano):

- 2 Classical selections with contrasting styles or tempi.
- 1 selection in a style of your choosing.

### **Emphasis in Music Education (Strings):**

- 2 Classical selections with contrasting styles or tempi.
- 1 selection in a style of your choosing.

### **Emphasis in Music Education (Instrumental):**

- 2 Classical selections with contrasting styles or tempi.
- 1 selection in a style of your choosing.

### **Emphasis in Music Education (Voice):**

- 2 Classical selections with contrasting styles or tempi.
  - At least one piece should be in a foreign language.
- 1 selection in a style of your choosing.

## **PIANO AUDITION REQUIREMENTS**

Direct any questions you have regarding repertoire to [JulianaWitt@arizonachristian.edu](mailto:JulianaWitt@arizonachristian.edu).

### **Emphasis in Piano Performance:**

- Prepare two standard works for solo piano from contrasting periods. Single movements of sonatas or concertos are acceptable.
- One song written in the last 100 years, including worship or pop selections.
- Choose one major and one minor scale hands together (two octave minimum) with triad arpeggios.

### **Emphasis in Modern Worship (Piano):**

- 2 selections in contrasting styles.
  - 1 selection in a Worship style
  - 1 selection in a Pop, Jazz, or Blues style.
- Be prepared to demonstrate facility and technique on your instrument with scales.

### **Emphasis in Music Ministry (Piano):**

- 2 selections in contrasting styles.
  - 1 selection in a Worship style
  - 1 selection in a Pop, Jazz, or Blues style.
- Be prepared to demonstrate facility and technique on your instrument with scales.

### **Emphasis in Music (Piano):**

- 2 selections in contrasting musical styles.
  - It is preferred that one of the selections be Classical.

### **Emphasis in Music Education (Piano):**

- 2 Classical selections with contrasting styles or tempi.
- 1 selection in a style of your choosing.

## **STRINGS AUDITION REQUIREMENTS**

Violin, viola, and cello applicants are responsible for finding a pianist if desiring to play accompanied. Accompaniment is not required but highly recommended for string applicants. Please contact the music department if you need a list of potential accompanists. \*\*\*[keila-llanes@arizonachristian.edu](mailto:keila-llanes@arizonachristian.edu)\*\*\*

### **Emphasis in String Performance:**

- Scales, up to three octaves, all major/minor.
- Two contrasting pieces (solo or accompanied).
- Recommended: A movement of solo Bach or a movement from a Sonata or Concerto as one of the selections which adequately demonstrates musical and technical abilities.

### **Emphasis in Modern Worship (Strings):**

- Scales, up to three octaves, all major/minor
- Two contrasting pieces (solo or accompanied)

### **Emphasis in Music Ministry (Strings):**

- Scales, up to three octaves, all major/minor
- Two contrasting pieces (solo or accompanied)

### **Emphasis in Music (Strings):**

- **All 2 octave scales, G major 3 octaves**
- 2 selections in contrasting musical styles
  - It is preferred that one of the selections be Classical.

### **Emphasis in Music Education (Strings):**

- **All 2 octave scales, G major 3 octaves**
- 2 Classical selections with contrasting styles or tempi.
- 1 selection in a style of your choosing.

# **INSTRUMENTAL AUDITION REQUIREMENTS: Drums, Guitar, Bass, Brass, Woodwinds**

## **Emphasis in Modern Worship (Instrumental):**

- 2 selections in contrasting styles.
  - 1 selection in a Worship style
  - 1 selection in a Pop, Jazz, or Blues style.
- Be prepared to demonstrate facility and technique on your instrument with scales.

## **Emphasis in Music Ministry (Instrumental):**

- 2 selections in contrasting styles.
  - 1 selection in a Worship style
  - 1 selection in a Pop, Jazz, or Blues style.
- Be prepared to demonstrate facility and technique on your instrument with scales.

## **Emphasis in Music (Instrumental):**

- Two octave scales for applicable instruments
- 2 selections in contrasting musical styles.
  - It is preferred that one of the selections be Classical.

## **Emphasis in Music Education (Instrumental):**

- 2 Classical selections with contrasting styles or tempi.
- 1 selection in a style of your choosing.

# **VOICE AUDITION REQUIREMENTS**

Pieces should be memorized. The audition must be accompanied by a pianist. You may bring your own pianist or request an official ACU pianist to be provided for your audition free of charge.

If you are using an ACU pianist, you must submit the titles, names of composers, and keys of your audition repertoire within 24 hours of receiving your audition time. Please contact the music department for a list of potential pianists.

\*\*\*[keila-llanes@arizonachristian.edu](mailto:keila-llanes@arizonachristian.edu)\*\*\*

**On the day of your audition, you are required to bring sheet music of your audition pieces for the pianist. The scores**

**should be double-sided and organized in a three-ring binder.**

For Music Education, Modern Worship, or Voice Performance (Commercial) emphases you may use an accompaniment track for your commercial (pop, rock, R&B, country, etc.) selection. Self-accompaniment is highly recommended.

**Emphasis in Voice Performance (Classical):**

- 2 Classical selections with contrasting styles or tempi.
  - At least one piece should be in a foreign language.
- 1 Legit/Golden Age Musical Theater selection OR a jazz standard from the Great American Songbook

**Emphasis in Music Education (Voice):**

- 2 Classical selections with contrasting styles or tempi.
  - At least one piece should be in a foreign language.
- 1 selection in a style of your choosing.

**Emphasis in Voice Performance (Commercial):**

- Choose 1 selection from the following styles:
  - 1 Classical selection - may be an American or English art song, or a song in a foreign language.
  - 1 Legit/Golden Age Musical Theater selection.
  - 1 jazz standard from the Great American Songbook.
- 2 Commercial (pop, rock, R&B, country, etc.) selections with contrasting styles.

**Emphasis in Modern Worship (Voice):**

- Choose 1 selection from the following styles:
  - 1 Classical selection - may be an American or English art song, or a song in a foreign language.
  - 1 Legit/Golden Age Musical Theater selection.
  - 1 jazz standard from the Great American Songbook.
- 1 Worship style (not Christian pop) selection.
- Choose 1 selection from the following:
  - Second Worship song in a contrasting tempo.
  - 1 Commercial (pop, rock, R&B, country, etc.) selection.

**Emphasis in Music Ministry (Voice):**

- 2 Classical selections with contrasting styles or tempi.
  - At least one piece should be in a foreign language.
- 1 selection in a style of your choosing.

**Emphasis in Music (Voice):**

- 2 selections in contrasting musical styles.
  - It is preferred that one of the selections be Classical.