

## AUDITION GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTED REPERTOIRE

### **Composition**

Submit recordings (separate audio or video files) and score PDFs for at least two representative pieces from your original compositions. For electronic music, a PDF describing the work, software used, and any other pertinent information should be submitted in lieu of a score. Please also include a list of works and performances of your original completed compositions with this information: date of composition, title, duration, instrumentation and date/location of live performance (if applicable).

### **Guitar**

Guitarists should contact the Director of Guitar Studies at [cskachian@stthomas.edu](mailto:cskachian@stthomas.edu) to discuss audition repertoire. Pieces will be determined based on applicant's music orientation, background and goals.

### **Organ**

Organ students should prepare three works from contrasting historical periods, such as a contrapuntal work by J.S. Bach, a nineteenth-century piece, and a piece from the twentieth century. Students should offer a balance of styles, including at least one virtuosic work and one expressive piece. Pieces need not be memorized. On-campus auditions will be held on the [Kney organ](#) in the Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas.

### **Piano**

Pianists should prepare two pieces of contrasting styles and historical periods. Although memorization is required for music scholarship consideration and strongly encouraged for all students, it is not a requirement for admittance.

Examples of preferred repertoire choices are as follows:

- Baroque: A sinfonia, prelude and fugue from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*, or movement from a suite by J.S. Bach.
- Classical: A movement of a sonata by Haydn, Mozart or Beethoven.
- Romantic: A lyrical or technical work by Chopin, Schumann, Schubert, Brahms, Liszt, Rachmaninoff, Scriabin, or other major composer of the nineteenth century.
- Twentieth-Century: A piece or movement from a work by Debussy, Ravel, Bartók, Prokofiev, Ginastera, Copland, Barber, or other composer of art music from the twentieth or twenty-first centuries.

Students who wish to pursue a jazz emphasis should demonstrate proficiency in both jazz and classical styles. Please contact the Director of Keyboard Studies at [vanessa.cornett@stthomas.edu](mailto:vanessa.cornett@stthomas.edu) with any questions about audition repertoire.

### **Popular/Electronic Music**

The University of St. Thomas Department of Music recognizes and embraces all music styles. Prepare a piece that you are comfortable with and displays your strengths as a musician. Contact Music Business program advisor, Dr. Steve Cole, [steve.cole@stthomas.edu](mailto:steve.cole@stthomas.edu), to discuss specific audition repertoire. Pieces will be determined based on applicant's music orientation, background and goals.

### **Voice**

Vocalists should bring a minimum of two memorized selections in contrasting style. One foreign language piece is recommended. One musical theater piece is allowed. Examples of repertoire could include selections from the "Twenty-Four Italian Songs and Arias" collection or "The First/Second Book of SATB Solos," compiled by Joan Boytim. No taped accompaniments or pop songs allowed.

### **Woodwind/Brass/Percussion/Orchestral String**

Applicants should prepare two pieces of contrasting styles. Contrasting pieces could consist of

- A single-movement solo work written specifically for their instrument (either one movement of a concerto or a piece or a work that is entirely one movement) and
- An etude from a book of studies specific to their instrument or
- An orchestral excerpt or
- Another solo piece (a single movement work or a slow movement from a concerto).

Percussionists should perform pieces on two of the following three instruments: snare, mallets, and timpani.