



Shenandoah Conservatory of Shenandoah University

2009-10 UNDERGRADUATE AUDITION GUIDELINES

UNDERGRADUATE APPLICANTS MUST:

1. Complete the undergraduate application for admission at www.su.edu/admission.
2. Submit official transcripts. High school transcript and/or college/university transcripts from each institution attended.
3. Submit official SAT or ACT scores.
4. Submit one letter of recommendation.

REGISTER FOR THE AUDITION

After the student has submitted the required application materials, they must register for an audition or portfolio review.

- Student must register with the on-line audition form.
- Student must follow the Audition Guidelines as they prepare for their audition.
- Students will be Emailed an audition confirmation that includes arrival times and schedule for the day.
Audition times are not assigned until the day of the audition.

UNDERGRADUATE AUDITION FAQs

- All applicants must prepare a complete audition or portfolio as required according to the Shenandoah Conservatory Guidelines: www.su.edu/admission
- Singers are required to perform with live accompaniment and must bring music for the accompanist. An accompanist will be provided, however, applicants are welcome to bring their own, if desired.
- Instrumentalists who wish to audition with accompaniment should bring their own accompanist, however, it is not required.
- Jazz applicants must bring a recorded accompaniment for the jazz portion of their auditions (see guidelines).
- An audition day includes: curriculum sessions with faculty, information sessions for parents, a campus tour, and, of course, the audition.
- Admission decisions are not made until all application materials are received and the audition has been completed. Conservatory applicants must successfully pass their audition in order to be admitted. Talent scholarships are not awarded until the student has been admitted to the university.

UNDERGRADUATE FINANCIAL AID

- Undergraduate students may be eligible for conservatory talent awards. These awards are based upon the student's talent as demonstrated at the audition or portfolio review, as well as the needs of the conservatory.
- Awards are renewable for up to four years (eight semesters) and are reviewed annually. Recipients of talent awards must maintain satisfactory progress in their course of study and are also required to contribute substantially and productively toward the artistic stature of the conservatory.
- Financial aid is awarded once a student has been accepted to the university.

DEADLINES

- Conservatory applicants must successfully pass their audition in order to be admitted.
- Fall applicants must follow the November – February audition schedule.
- Spring applicants must audition no later than November 20 by contacting their admissions counselor.

For complete admission information visit the Office of Admissions at: www.su.edu/admissions.

UNDERGRADUATE AUDITION GUIDELINES

DANCE

All applicants participate in a technique class (ballet, modern dance and jazz combinations) and present a two-minute to three-minute solo dance (applicant's or teacher's choreography; transfer students must choreograph their own solos). A CD player is available to play applicant's accompaniment. Include two current photographs with the application: one in first arabesque position (side view) and a head shot.

MUSIC – CLASSICAL IDIOM

BASSOON

Prepared etude and solo of appropriate difficulty. Scales and sightreading.

CELLO

One concerto movement or concert solo. One contrasting work (e.g., unaccompanied Bach, concert piece, sonata movement, contemporary work). One etude or caprice demonstrating level of proficiency and demonstration of scales in three octaves).

CLARINET

Two contrasting etudes showing level of technical and musical ability and one major solo (e.g., sonata or concerto of the applicant's choice). Single movements are acceptable.

COMPOSITION

All applicants audition in a major instrument or voice in a classical idiom. A composition portfolio is required, including two or three written examples of the applicant's work with CD (MIDI acceptable). Personal interview with a member of the composition faculty is required.

DOUBLE BASS

Two works from the standard solo literature contrasting in both tempo and style. One etude or one orchestral excerpt from the following list of works:

- (1) Mozart, *Symphony No. 35*, movements 1 or 4, (2) Mozart, *Symphony No. 39*, movements 1 or 4,
- (3) Mozart, *Symphony No. 40*, movements 1 or 4, (4) Beethoven, *Symphony No. 9*, last movements (not the recitative or Ode to Joy theme),
- (5) Brahms *Symphony No. 2*, movements 1 or 4, (6) Strauss, *Don Juan*, (7) Strauss, *Ein Heldenleben*.

EUPHONIUM

Prepared etude and solo of appropriate difficulty. Scales and sightreading.

FLUTE

Major and Chromatic (minor, as known) scales required at audition. Two and three octaves (where possible).

Major (minor, as known) arpeggios are required at audition. Two and three octaves (where possible). Perform two pieces (etudes) in contrasting styles from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Contemporary periods (e.g., Mozart and Hindemith) to demonstrate students highest level of technical proficiency and artistic expression.

GUITAR

Selections from the following standard classical guitar repertory are acceptable such as the music of Bach, Sor, Carulli, Carcassi, Villa-Lobos, Lauro, Ponce; music from the lute or vihuela repertory; fingerstyle pieces which feature the guitar in a solo capacity (eg. Classical Gas).

HARP

Prepared etude and solo of appropriate difficulty. Scales and sightreading.

HORN

Prepared etude and solo of appropriate difficulty. Scales and sightreading.

OBOE

Major and minor scales. Ferling Studies, one slow and one fast. Solo such as Marcello, Mozart Haydn concerto or similar sonata, two contrasting movements.

ORGAN

Major and minor scales. Piano performance of a *Two-Part Invention* (Bach) or a movement of a classical sonata. Organ performance of one of the *Eight Little Preludes and Fugues* (Bach) and a Romantic or 20th Century selection. Church Music applicants must also perform sightreading of accompaniments and sightreading of a simple tune. Choral experience helpful.

PERCUSSION

Upper grade solo selection and/or orchestral excerpt to display applicant's technical ability and fundamental technique. Sightreading is required. All applicants must demonstrate proficiency in all three primary percussion areas: snare drum, timpani and keyboard percussion.

PIANO

Performance, Pedagogy, and Accompanying Applicants: Play major and harmonic minor scales, major arpeggios in root position and sight reading. Perform memorized material representing three periods, such as: (1) Bach suite or invention; (2) classical sonata; (3) Romantic or 20th century composition.

Accompanying Applicants: Must also perform one vocal and one instrumental accompaniment; applicants must bring their own performers to accompany.

Musical Theatre Accompanying Applicants: Must also perform two accompaniments from the standard American musical theatre repertoire, one ballad and one up-tempo; applicants must bring their own performer to accompany.

Music Education, Music Therapy, Arts Management, Music Production and Recording Technology, Composition, and Music with Elective Studies Applicants: Play major and harmonic minor scales and sightreading. Perform memorized material representing three periods, such as: (1) little prelude (Bach); (2) classical sonatina (Clementi); (3) a piece from Schumann's *Album for the Young*.

SAXOPHONE (ALTO)

All major and minor scales, (performed full range of the instrument at sixteenth notes = 100) required at the audition. One etude from either the *Voxman Selected Studies* or *W. Ferling 48 Famous Studies*. Perform one of the following selections:
(1) Paul Creston, *Sonata for Alto Saxophone*, movements 1 and/or 3
(2) Jacques Ibert, *Concerto for Alto Saxophone*, movements 1 and/or 3

TROMBONE

Perform an etude and solo of appropriate difficulty. Scales and sightreading is required.

TRUMPET

Perform an etude and solo of appropriate difficulty. Scales and sightreading is required.

TUBA

Perform an etude and solo of appropriate difficulty. Scales and sightreading is required.

VIOLA

A concerto movement or concert solo and a contrasting work (such as an unaccompanied Bach, concert piece, sonata movement or contemporary work). Etude or caprice demonstrating level of proficiency. Scales in three octaves.

VIOLIN

A concerto movement or concert solo and a contrasting work (such as an unaccompanied Bach, concert piece, sonata movement or contemporary work). Etude or caprice demonstrating level of proficiency. Scales in three octaves.

VOICE

Two memorized songs from standard classical solo vocal repertoire, one in English and one in another language; material should be appropriate to the applicant's voice and current musical development. Examples of standard classical vocal music in English include, but are not limited to, solo songs by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Roger Quilter, Aaron Copland, John Duke, Richard Hundley, New Rorem, and Samuel Barber as well as folk song arrangements by Benjamin Britten and John Jacob Niles. Sightreading is also required at the audition.

MUSIC – JAZZ IDIOM

NOTE 1: Applied majors in the jazz idiom are available in the following curricula: Jazz Studies, Music Production and Recording Technology (Jazz Emphasis), Arts Management – Music (Jazz Emphasis), and Music Therapy (Jazz Emphasis)

NOTE 2: All applicants must provide a recorded accompaniment (such as the Jamey Aebersold series) for the jazz portion of the audition.

BASS (ELECTRIC OR ACOUSTIC)

Perform one jazz standard, demonstrating melody and walking bass line; demonstration of walking bass, Latin, rock and funk styles. Play major and minor (natural and harmonic) scales (one octave) and major and minor arpeggios. Sightreading is required.

DRUM SET/PERCUSSION

Perform two pieces using traditional swing pattern (one medium tempo, one up-tempo); one ballad with brushes; one contemporary jazz-fusion piece showing four-way independence; one medium/upper grade snare solo or orchestral excerpt or one medium tempo vibe solo showing melody, improvisation and comping. Sightreading is required.

GUITAR

Perform two jazz pieces including: (1) One jazz solo ballad such as *Misty* or *I Can't Get Started*, where the melody and chords are voiced together and (2) One jazz medium tempo selection demonstrating melody, improvisation and comping. Major scales and sightreading of notation and chord symbols is required.

PIANO

Perform one memorized classical piece (e.g. Bach *Little Prelude*, Clementi *Sonatina*, Schumann *Album for the Young*); major and harmonic minor scales; jazz solo ballad; jazz medium tempo selection in piano trio format, demonstrating melody, improvisation and comping. Sightreading of notation and chord symbols is required.

SAXOPHONE

Perform one fast and slow etude (e.g. *Voxman Selected Studies* or *Ferling 48 Etudes*); one jazz standard, demonstrating melody and improvisation and showing basic knowledge of jazz style through texts comparable to Niehaus, *Basic Jazz Conception*. Major scales (in eighth notes, quarter = 80), and sightreading is required.

TROMBONE

Perform one prepared classical solo (grade 5-6) or two classical etudes of equal difficulty; two jazz standards in contrasting styles, demonstrating melody and improvisation. Major and minor (natural, harmonic, and melodic) scales and sightreading is required.

TRUMPET

Perform at least one of the following: an etude (comparable to Arban characteristic study), the first or third movement of a major work for trumpet (e.g. Haydn or Hummel concerto, Hindemith, or Kennan sonata), or a complete trumpet solo (e.g. *Carnival of Venice*, *Bride of the Waves*); one jazz standard, demonstrating melody and improvisation. Scales and sightreading is required.

THEATRE

ACTING, THEATRE FOR YOUTH

Acting, Theatre for Youth, and Arts Management (Acting Emphasis) Applicants: Perform two memorized monologues, one from a Shakespeare play, 20-28 lines in length; the second from a contemporary play, two minutes maximum, reflecting the applicant's age. Attach a standard 8 x 10 head shot and resumé to the application.

DESIGN

Costume Design, Scenic and Lighting Design, Arts Management (Technical Theatre Emphasis) Applicants: Submit a portfolio that includes photographs of your work, drafting or design sketches and programs. Letters of recommendation in support of the applicant are recommended. Attend an interview with a member of the technical theatre faculty. Attach a resumé to the application.

MUSICAL THEATRE

Perform 16 measures of two songs from the standard musical theatre vocal repertoire (see suggested repertoire); one monologue, one minute or less (age-appropriate and chosen from a contemporary play – Shaw or later); and a dance audition taught to the entire auditioning group and evaluated in small groups. Dance or workout attire is required. Attach a standard 8 x 10 head shot and resumé to the application.

Suggested repertoire: One song must be chosen from Golden Age or pre-Golden Age musicals (1940-1964). Suggested song writers include (but are not limited to); Rodgers and Hammerstein, Rodgers and Hart, Lerner and Leowe, Bock and Harnick, Bernstein, Loesser, Porter, Kern, Herbert, Romberg, Gershwin, etc. One song may be another Golden Age or Pre-Golden Age song, or it may be chosen from more contemporary musical theatre repertoire.

THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Stage Management or Arts Management (Theatre emphasis) Applicants: Attend a personal interview with a member of the theatre faculty; letters of recommendation in support of the applicant are recommended. Attach a standard resumé to the application.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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2009-10 AUDITION DATES

To register for an Audition or Open House program students must complete the on-line registration form at: www.su.edu; go to “**Admissions & Aid**”, then “**Admissions**”, choose either “**For Freshmen**” or “**For Transfer Students**”, then select “**Conservatory Special Requirements**”. Registrations for auditions must be received two weeks prior to the audition date.

Friday, October 16: Senior Shadow Day

High school seniors are invited to attend a day on the Shenandoah campus shadowing a current conservatory student. Audition workshops and admissions/financial aid presentations are a part of the program. Registration by October 9, 2009 is required.

Friday, October 30: Dance Day & Dance Auditions

Friday to Saturday, November 20-21: Musical Theatre Auditions Only

Musical theatre applicants will audition Friday afternoon into Saturday – a two-day process.

Saturday, November 21: Theatre Division Auditions Only

For programs in acting, theatre for youth and theatre stage management as well as portfolio reviews for costume design and scenic and lighting design.

Friday to Saturday, January 15 & 16: Musical Theatre Auditions Only

Musical theatre applicants will audition Friday afternoon into Saturday – a two-day process.

Saturday, January 16: Theatre Division Auditions

For programs in acting, theatre for youth and theatre stage management as well as portfolio reviews for costume design and scenic and lighting design.

Saturday, January 16: Music Division Auditions

For programs in arts management, church music, collaborative piano, composition, conducting, jazz studies, music education, music performance, music production and recording technology and music therapy.

Friday, January 22: Dance Day & Dance Auditions

Friday to Saturday, February 12-13: Musical Theatre Auditions Only

Musical theatre applicants will audition Friday afternoon into Saturday – a two-day process.

Saturday, February 13: Theatre Division Auditions

For programs in acting, theatre for youth and theatre stage management as well as portfolio reviews for costume design and scenic and lighting design.

Saturday, February 13: Dance Day & Dance Auditions

Friday to Saturday, February 26-27: Musical Theatre Auditions Only

Musical theatre applicants will audition Friday afternoon into Saturday – a two-day process.

Saturday, February 27: Theatre Division Auditions

For programs in acting, theatre for youth and theatre stage management as well as portfolio reviews for costume design and scenic and lighting design.

Saturday, February 27: Music Division Auditions

For programs in arts management, church music, collaborative piano, composition, conducting, jazz studies, music education, music performance, music production and recording technology and music therapy.

Friday, March 26: Dance Day & Dance Auditions

Auditions and interviews are restricted to auditionees only and are closed to all others. A video recording may be made of applicants audition for later evaluation by the faculty.

Shenandoah Conservatory
of Shenandoah University
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www.su.edu/conservatory

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