2015 GRADUATE AUDITION, INTERVIEW & PORTFOLIO REVIEW GUIDELINES
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Admission to Shenandoah Conservatory graduate programs is highly competitive and the audition schedule fills rapidly. Early application and audition registration is recommended. All audition correspondence will be sent to the applicant via email.

2015 AUDITION, INTERVIEW AND PORTFOLIO REVIEW SCHEDULE

September 15, 2014
Prescreening materials will be accepted through the online audition link beginning this date.

December 1, 2014
Priority deadline for prescreening of composition applicant portfolio materials. Invitations for interview will be sent by email beginning January 7, 2015.

January 15, 2015
Firm deadline for submission of completed application for admission to all 2015 conservatory graduate programs except Master of Music Education (summers-only program).

January 15, 2015
Firm deadline for composition applicant portfolio materials.

January 15, 2015
Deadline for prescreening materials in voice-related curricula.

January 30, 2015
Deadline for prescreening materials in conducting curricula.

February 2, 2015
Deadline for registration for graduate auditions. Priority scheduling will be given to applicants who have submitted all appropriate admissions materials and documents.

February 7, 2015
Graduate auditions

February 16, 2015
Graduate auditions

March 1, 2015
Deadline for application for graduate assistantships or DMA teaching assistantships.

April 15, 2015
Recommended deadline for submission of application materials for the Master of Music Education (summers-only program). NOTE: Although admission to the MME curriculum is on a rolling basis, applicants who submit materials after the recommended April 15, 2015 deadline may not be fully admitted in time to begin their studies in June.

GRADUATE ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS


2. Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions where credit has been earned.

3. Program-specific materials as outlined in the application and audition requirements are listed by program.

PRESCREENING AND AUDITION REGISTRATION IS ONLINE

- Graduate applicants register for their prescreening (when required) and audition using the online Shenandoah Conservatory audition form: www.su.edu/auditions.

- The graduate audition registration deadline is February 2, 2015, and auditions are scheduled as registrations are received. Early registration is recommended.

- Voice, Composition and Conducting applicants will be provided with instructions on how to register for an on-campus audition once the prescreening has been successfully completed.

- After online registration, applicants will receive an email confirmation with the audition day schedule, including the time and location of the audition, information session and interview or portfolio review, if required.

- Adherence to the graduate audition guidelines is required.

“Shenandoah Conservatory unites aspiring artists and scholars with distinguished and caring faculty in a community that prepares individuals for meaningful, satisfying careers in the arts.”

—Conservatory Mission Statement
RECORDED PRESCREENINGS: SHENANDOAH CONSERVATORY DIGITAL DROPBOX

Graduate Conservatory applicants submit all prescreening materials in recorded video format through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox.

Decision Desk: Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox is an online method for uploading recordings and videos. Materials must be prepared following the Shenandoah Conservatory audition guidelines and may be produced using home recording equipment; studio quality recording is not necessary.

No other type of recorded auditions will be accepted.

Recorded prescreenings must show the applicant and their instrument in full view and be submitted through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox: www.su.edu/auditions.

DISTANCE AUDITIONS

On campus “live” auditions are strongly encouraged, however, applicants living more than 250 miles from Shenandoah University campus are eligible to submit a recorded audition. Applicants must verify the distance requirement with their admissions counselor prior to submitting a recorded audition. Distance auditions must be submitted in recorded format through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox: www.su.edu/auditions. Recorded auditions must show the applicant and their instrument in full view.

GRADUATE AUDITION FAQS

- Invited singers must audition with live accompaniment and are encouraged to provide their own accompanist. A limited number of accompanists are available at the applicant’s expense.
- Instrumentalists are encouraged to provide an accompanist, but live accompaniment is not required. A limited number of accompanists are available at the applicant’s expense.
- The Graduate Audition Day schedule includes a general information session in which assistantships, curriculum and residency are discussed.
- Admission decisions are not made until the application and audition are both complete. Applicants must successfully pass their audition in order to be admitted and considered for a graduate assistantship or post-master’s teaching assistantship.

FINANCIAL AID

- Graduate assistantships, both full and partial, are awarded to master’s, artist diploma and doctoral students. A full or partial tuition waiver and a small stipend accompany these awards. The award is renewable for up to three years pending satisfactory academic progress and the recommendation of the immediate supervisor.
- Post-master’s teaching assistantships are awarded to doctoral students and consist of a full tuition waiver and a $9,000 annual stipend. The award is renewable for three years pending satisfactory academic progress and the recommendation of the immediate supervisor.
- Shenandoah Conservatory strongly recommends that all entering students submit a FAFSA to the Shenandoah University Office of Financial Aid: www.su.edu/financialaid.
- For more information, visit www.su.edu/admissions.
MASTER’S DEGREE PROGRAMS

MASTER OF MUSIC EDUCATION
(SUMMERS-ONLY MME PROGRAM)
- Baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 2.5*
- Curriculum Vitae/Resume
- Essay of 500 words addressing your interest in the program and professional goals
- No audition required
- Applicants are encouraged to submit all application materials by April 15, 2015 in order to be considered for admission to the Summer 2015 cohort.

*Most applicants present a baccalaureate degree in music education and are licensed teachers. Specific teacher licensure requirements are generally met through an approved undergraduate degree. Applicants who do not hold licensure may be admitted under special circumstances.

CERTIFICATE IN CHURCH MUSIC
- No audition required

MASTER OF MUSIC IN CHURCH MUSIC
- Baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 2.5
- Curriculum Vitae/Resume
- Essay of 500-700 words addressing interest in the program and professional goals
- Submit Prescreening Requirements through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox by January 15, 2015 (voice applicants) or January 30, 2015 (conducting applicants).

Prescreening - (see the prescreening requirements box on page 3 for all conducting and voice applicants)

Organ Applied Emphasis
- No Prescreening Audition required.

Conducting Applied Emphasis
- A face-to-the-camera video recording of the applicant conducting a rehearsal and/or a performance. The video should be at least 10 minutes in length.
- Include a repertoire list with representative works conducted.

Voice Applied Emphasis
- Two selections in contrasting styles performed with live accompaniment.
- Applicants who successfully complete the Prescreening Audition will be invited to register for an On-Campus Audition.

On-Campus Audition
Organ Applied Emphasis
- A 20–30-minute recital with formal program, to include stylistically and historically balanced content. The program should include a work by J. S. Bach.
- Memorization is not required.
- The audition committee may request selections from the program presented.
- A demonstration of technique or sight-reading may be requested by the committee.

Conducting Applied Emphasis
- A 20–30-minute session with a choral ensemble: 10–15 minutes of rehearsal, 10–15 minutes of performance.
- Repertoire that includes stylistically and historically balanced content will be chosen from works recently performed by the ensemble.

MASTER OF MUSIC IN COMPOSITION
- Baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 2.5
- Curriculum Vitae/Resume
- 100-word artist statement
- Two letters of recommendation from professionals in the field familiar with the applicant’s work
- See prescreening requirements box, page 3.
- Composition portfolio: Both electronic copy and hard copy of scores are required.
  a. Electronic score materials - submitted through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox
  - Scores in pdf format and recordings for three recent compositions, showing skill in writing for diverse instruments, voices and/or electronic media. At least one of these works should be for large forces: orchestra, wind ensemble or other large ensemble. All scores and recordings must be complete and bound in a manner consistent with professional practices. (MIDI is acceptable. Arrangements and in-progress works will not be accepted.)
  b. Hard Copy Score Materials
  - Audition Scores must be mailed to the Office of Graduate Admissions, Shenandoah University, 1460 University Drive, Winchester, VA 22601.
  - Submit composition portfolio materials by December 1, 2014, in order to receive priority prescreening. Final deadline for submission is January 15, 2015 but applicants should be aware that audition slots may no longer be available at this late date.
MASTER OF MUSIC IN CONDUCTING -
BAND/ WIND ENSEMBLE, ORCHESTRA, CHORAL
- Baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 2.5
- Curriculum Vitae/Resume
- Essay of 500 – 750 words addressing your interest in the program and professional goals
- See prescreening requirements box, page 3.
- Submit prescreening materials through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox no later than January 30, 2015.

Prescreening
- Submit a face-to-the-camera video recorded audition conducting a rehearsal and/or a performance. A resume with a repertoire list of actual works conducted is also required. The prescreening must be at least 10 minutes in length; the applicant should identify him/herself, speak about his/her musical background and describe his/her goals in pursuing graduate studies in conducting. It is acceptable to use a smaller ensemble (e.g., string quartet and piano) performing a reduced version of a composition. Prescreening must be submitted through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox.
- Based on successful completion of the prescreening, the applicant will be invited to register for an on-campus audition.

On Campus Audition
- Applicant will conduct the Shenandoah University Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble or Conservatory Choir for 30 minutes (which includes 10 minutes of rehearsal).
- Repertoire will be determined and chosen from a work that was recently performed by the ensemble.
- On-campus auditions are scheduled at a time mutually agreeable to the applicant and relevant Conservatory conductor.

MASTER OF MUSIC IN CONDUCTING -
MUSICAL THEATRE
- Baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 2.5
- Curriculum Vitae/Resume that includes a repertoire list of actual works conducted.
- Essay of 500 – 750 words addressing your interest in the program and professional goals
- See prescreening requirements box, page 3.
- All recorded audition materials must be submitted through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox by January 30, 2015.

Prescreening
- Submit a face-to-the-camera video recorded audition conducting a rehearsal and/or a performance. The audition must be at least 10 minutes in length; the applicant should identify him/herself, speak about his/her musical background and describe his/her goals in pursuing graduate studies in conducting. It is acceptable to use a smaller ensemble (e.g., string quartet and piano) performing a reduced version of a composition.
- Candidates who successfully pass the recorded prescreening audition will be invited to an on-campus piano audition and interview with the Musical Theatre faculty.

MASTERS OF MUSIC IN PEDAGOGY - VOICE
- Baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 2.5
- Curriculum Vitae/Resume
- Essay of 500 – 750 words addressing previous experiences that led to your interest in the program, area(s) of intended research, and how they relate to your future goals.
- Sample research paper that demonstrates critical thinking, research and writing techniques & methods
- See prescreening requirements box, page 3.
- Submit prescreening materials through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox no later than January 15, 2015.

CLASSICAL VOICE TRACK
Prescreening
- Two selections in contrasting styles performed from memory with live accompaniment
- Based on successful completion of the prescreening, the applicant will be invited to register for an on-campus audition.

On-Campus Audition
- A 15-minute (minimum) recital, with formal program to include stylistically and historically balanced content. The auditioning committee will make a selection from the materials presented.
- A minimum of three languages must be represented.
- Both operatic and art song repertoire should be presented at the audition.
- Memorization is required.
- Invited singers must audition with live accompaniment and are encouraged to provide their own accompanist. A limited number of accompanists are available at the applicant’s expense.

CONTEMPORARY COMMERCIAL MUSIC (CCM) TRACK
Prescreening
- One classical selection and one contrasting piece in the style or genre of your choice (jazz, musical theatre, folk, rock, pop, etc.).
- Based on successful completion of the prescreening, the applicant will be invited to register for an on-campus audition.

On-Campus Audition
- A 15-minute (minimum) recital, with formal program selected by the applicant to include several selections of appropriate genre/style. The audition committee will make a selection from the materials presented.
- At least one classical selection must be included in the program. Choice of repertoire should represent the style/genre of music that best reflects the applicant’s interests and abilities. The music may be chosen from jazz, musical theatre, folk, pop, rock, etc.
- Memorization is required.
- Invited singers must audition with live accompaniment and are encouraged to provide their own accompanist. A limited number of accompanists are available at the applicant’s expense.

ADMISSION TO THE MASTER OF MUSIC IN PEDAGOGY WITH A KEYBOARD OR INSTRUMENTAL FOCUS HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED. THE PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN TERMINATED, BUT NO APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED AT THIS TIME.
MASTER OF MUSIC PERFORMANCE (ALL MEDIUMS)

- Baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 2.5
- Curriculum Vitae/Resume
- Essay of 500 – 750 words addressing your interest in the program and professional goals
- Audition guidelines per medium as follows:

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE - GUITAR
- A 30-minute recital, with formal program, which contains music of stylistic variety and historical range and balance. The auditioning committee will make selections from the recital program presented.
- Applicants may be asked to perform examples of their work with technical exercises addressing scales, arpeggios and slurs.
- Memorization is required.

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE - ORGAN
- A 30-minute recital, with formal program, that contains music of stylistic variety and historical range and balance. The program should include a major work by J. S. Bach.
- Memorization is not required.
- The audition committee may request selections from the program presented.
- A demonstration of technique or sight-reading may be requested by the committee.

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE - PIANO
- A 30-minute (minimum) recital, with formal program, to include stylistically and historically balanced content. The auditioning committee will make a selection from the materials presented.
- Applicants must perform on timpani, snare drum and mallets; multiple percussion is optional.
- Music written specifically for the instruments is preferred although some transcriptions may be included.
- A demonstration of technique or sight-reading may be required at the option of the committee.

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE - STRING, WOODWIND, BRASS
- A 30-minute (minimum) recital, with formal program, to include stylistically and historically balanced content. The auditioning committee will make a selection from the materials presented.
- A demonstration of technique or sight-reading may be required at the option of the committee.
- Instrumentalists are encouraged to provide an accompanist, but live accompaniment is not required. A limited number of accompanists are available at the applicant’s expense.

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE - VOICE
- See prescreening requirements box, page 3.
- All prescreening materials must be submitted through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital Dropbox no later than January 15, 2015.

Prescreening
- Two selections in contrasting styles performed from memory with live accompaniment
- Based on successful completion of the prescreening, the applicant will be invited to register for an on-campus audition.

On-Campus Audition
- A 30-minute (minimum) recital, with formal program to include stylistically and historically balanced content. The auditioning committee will make a selection from the materials presented.
- A minimum of three languages must be represented.
- Both operatic and art song repertoire should be presented at the audition.
- Memorization is required.
- Invited singers must audition with live accompaniment and are encouraged to provide their own accompanist. A limited number of accompanists are available at the applicant’s expense.

PROFESSIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM FOR MUSIC THERAPY CERTIFICATION ELIGIBILITY

- Curriculum Vitae/Resume
- Essay of 500–750 words addressing your interest in the program and professional goals
- A music skills audition, in which the applicant sings and plays two popular (rock, folk, pop, children’s etc.) songs each on piano and guitar (four in total). NOTE: Students who are unable to meet part/all of this requirement will be assigned music skills lessons during their first two semesters of study
- A performance audition is not required of applicants with the equivalent of four semesters of applied study
- An interview with the Director of Graduate Music Therapy Studies is required and includes a transcript review.

MASTER OF MUSIC THERAPY

- Curriculum Vitae/Resume
- Essay of 500–750 words addressing your interest in the program and professional goals
- Must have completed all specific requirements of an undergraduate music therapy degree program or the equivalent, approved by the American Music Therapy Association, including internship,
- Baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 3.0
- An interview and transcript review with the Director of Graduate Music Therapy Studies (either in person or Skype)
- Submit a recording of music skills utilized in music therapy practice, typically demonstrated by singing four songs (two piano, two guitar) from the applicant’s clinical repertoire. (All recorded materials must be submitted through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital Dropbox.) NOTE: AMTA does not permit applicants to share videos that include work with clients.
DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

Acceptance into Shenandoah’s Doctoral programs is based equally upon the student’s abilities as an artist and scholar.

All applicants for Doctoral study must submit:
• Transcripts from all baccalaureate and master’s degree study, documenting successful degree completions with a minimum GPA of 3.25.
• Curriculum Vitae/Resume
• Essay of 500 - 750 words addressing your interest in the program and professional goals.
• Scholarly writing sample that includes citations and a bibliography - standard style format
• Two letters of recommendation from professionals familiar with the applicant’s strengths in the desired area of study.

Master of Science in Performing Arts Leadership & Management
• Official transcript from all post-secondary schools attended from which credit was received
• Applicants must possess a baccalaureate degree in the performing arts or the equivalent with a minimum grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) prior to admission into the program. Persons with baccalaureate degrees in disciplines other than the performing arts may be considered on an individual basis if they have had extensive non-curricular experiences in the arts.

Doctor of Musical Arts in Pedagogy – Voice
• See prescreening requirements box, page 3.
• All prescreening materials must be submitted through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox by January 15, 2015.
  Prescreening
    • Two contrasting selections performed from memory with live accompaniment
    • NOTE: Scholarly writing sample and letters of recommendation MUST be submitted with the prescreening vocal selections!
• Based on successful completion of the prescreening, the applicant will be invited to register for an on-campus audition.
  On-Campus Audition
    • A 30-minute (minimum) recital, with formal program, to include stylistically and historically balanced content is required. The audition committee will make a selection from the materials presented.
    • A minimum of three languages must be represented.
    • Both operatic and art song repertoire should be presented at the audition.
    • Memorization is required.
    • Invited singers must audition with live accompaniment and are encouraged to provide their own accompanist. A limited number of accompanists are available at the applicant’s expense.
    • Interview with the pedagogy faculty

Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance (All Mediums)
• Audition guidelines per medium as follows:
  Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance - Collaborative Piano
• A 30-minute recital, with formal program, to include stylistically and historically balanced content
• A piano solo of 10 to 15 minutes with memorization preferred.
• The remainder of the recital includes both chamber and art song repertoire. Complete chamber works (all movements) are required.
• Applicant is responsible for obtaining support performers and is responsible for the overall quality of the performance.
• Sight-reading is included.
  Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance - Conducting (Instrumental Only)
• See prescreening requirements box, page 3.
• All prescreening materials must be submitted through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox by January 30, 2015.
  Prescreening
    • Submit a recording that includes at least 20 minutes of a performance and 10 minutes of rehearsal with an ensemble. Applicant may select the repertoire.
    • The recording should represent the applicant’s abilities before a full orchestra, wind ensemble or chorus (opera or oratorio is also acceptable).
    • Conducting and rehearsing of a mixed chamber ensemble may be acceptable as determined by the screening committee.
• Based on successful completion of the prescreening, applicant will be invited to register for an on-campus audition.
  On-Campus Audition
    • The applicant will conduct the Shenandoah University Symphony Orchestra or Wind Ensemble for 30 minutes (which includes 10 minutes of rehearsal).
    • Repertoire will be determined and chosen from a work that was recently performed by the ensemble.

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DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE - GUITAR
- A 30-minute recital, with formal program, which contains music of stylistic variety and historical range and balance. The audition committee will make selections from the materials presented.
- Applicant may be asked to perform examples of their work with technical exercises addressing scales, arpeggios and slurs.
- Memorization is required.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE - ORGAN
- A minimum of three works, to include one chorale prelude or prelude and fugue of J.S. Bach and two additional works of contrasting styles.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE - PERCUSSION
- A 30-minute (minimum) recital, with formal program, to include stylistically and historically balanced content. Full concertos and sonatas (all movements) are required rather than single movements. The audition committee will make a selection from the materials presented.
- Applicant must perform on timpani, snare drum and mallets; multiple-percussion is optional.
- Music written specifically for the instruments is preferred although some transcriptions may be included.
- A demonstration of technique or sight-reading may be required at the option of the committee.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE - PIANO
- A 30-minute (minimum) recital, with formal program, to include stylistically and historically balanced content. The auditioning committee will make a selection from the materials presented.
- A demonstration of technique or sight-reading may be required at the option of the committee.
- Memorization is required.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE - STRING, WOODWIND, BRASS
- A 30-minute (minimum) recital, with formal program, to include stylistically and historically balanced content. Full concertos and sonatas (all movements) are required rather than single movements. The audition committee will make a selection from the materials presented.
- A demonstration of technique or sight-reading may be required at the option of the committee.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE - VOICE
- See prescreening requirements box, page 3.
- All prescreening materials must be submitted through the Shenandoah Conservatory digital dropbox by January 15, 2015.

  Prescreening
  - Two selections in contrasting styles performed from memory with live accompaniment.
  - Based on successful completion of the prescreening, applicant will be invited to register for an on-campus audition.

  On-Campus Audition
  - A 30-minute (minimum) recital, with formal program to include stylistically and historically balanced content. The audition committee will make a selection from the materials presented.
  - A minimum of three languages must be represented.
  - Both operatic and art song repertoire should be presented at the audition.
  - Memorization is required.
  - Invited singers must audition with live accompaniment and are encouraged to provide their own accompanist. A limited number of accompanists are available at the applicant’s expense.