



WISCONSIN CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

# SCHOLARSHIP AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

## JAZZ & CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

**Entry Level** – Auditions are open to students entering grades 5 – 12 interested in WCM Jazz & Contemporary Music programs, including students currently enrolled in Jazz Lab, Latin Jazz Ensemble, or Rock & Blues Combo. Winners receive a scholarship that will be applied to Jazz & Contemporary Music program tuition (not private lessons).

**Audition Material** – Students will be expected to prepare all the requirements listed in the appropriate category. Time limit is 10 minutes.

**Evaluation** – Auditions will be judged on the following elements of musical performance: improvisation, accuracy, rhythm, time, technique, stylistic awareness, and harmonic skills. All judges' decisions are final.

**Day of Audition** – Judges reserve the right to ask students to skip sections of selections for the sake of time. Live accompaniment will be provided.

**Questions** – contact Jazz & Contemporary Music coordinator Hannah Johnson at [hjohnson@wcmusic.org](mailto:hjohnson@wcmusic.org).



## Audition Requirements by Grade

### Entering Grades 5 – 8

#### SCALES

- Major Scales up to 3 flats and sharps.
- Chromatic scale, at least one octave.

#### LEAD SHEET

- [Song for my Father \(Horace Silver\) – Click to View](#)
- Play the melody one time. Improvisation is optional and not required. Percussionists can play the melody on vibraphone or piano.

#### BLUES and IMPROVISATION

- Pick a 12-bar blues or riff blues composition (work with your private lesson teacher to select an appropriate composition).
  - **12 Bar Blues EXAMPLES:** Tenor Madness, Solid, Blue Monk, Straight No Chaser, Now's The Time, Blue Train, Mr. PC, Equinox, Birk's Works, All Blues, Cool Blues, Bessie's Blues, Chi Chi, Blues In The Closet, Blues by Five, Pfrancing (No Blues), Things Ain't The Way They Used To Be, etc.
  - **Riff Blues EXAMPLES:** Sonny Moon for Two, Bags Groove, C Jam Blues, etc.
- Follow this arrangement:
  1. Play the melody 2 times
  2. Play 2 choruses of improvisation
  3. Play 2 choruses of trading fours
  4. Play the melody 2 times
  5. Play a classic ending of your choice (short ending, tag ending, Ellington ending, etc.)

#### DRUMS & BASS

- See additional requirements on pg. 4



## **Entering Grades 9 – 12**

### **SCALES**

- All Major and Natural Minor scales and arpeggios (students will be asked to play two major scales and two minor scales)
- Chromatic scale, at least one octave.

### **LEAD SHEET**

- [Blue Bossa \(Kenny Dorham\) – Click to View](#)
- Play the melody one time. Improvisation is optional and not required. Percussionists can play the melody on vibraphone or piano.

### **BLUES and IMPROVISATION**

- Pick a 12-bar blues composition (work with your private lesson teacher to select an appropriate composition).
  - **EXAMPLES:** Tenor Madness, Solid, Blue Monk, Straight No Chaser, Now's The Time, Blue Train, Mr. PC, Equinox, Birk's Works, All Blues, Cool Blues, Bessie's Blues, Chi Chi, Blues In The Closet, Blues by Five, Pfrancing (No Blues), Things Ain't The Way They Used To Be, etc.
  - **DO NOT CHOOSE:** a “Riff Blues” tune like Sonny Moon for Two, Bags Groove, C Jam Blues, etc.
- Follow this arrangement:
  1. Play the melody 2 times
  2. Play 2 choruses of improvisation
  3. **Piano, guitar, banjo, vibraphone:** play 2 choruses of comping chords
  4. Play 2 choruses of trading fours
  5. Play the melody 2 times
  6. Play a classic ending of your choice (short ending, tag ending, Ellington ending, etc.)

### **DRUMS & BASS**

- See additional requirements on pg. 4



**DRUMS & BASS ONLY DEMONSTRATION OF STYLES (select 4 of the following):**

- Swing
  - Slow
  - Medium (2 feel and 4 feel)
  - Medium-up
  - Up tempo
  - Shuffle
  - Waltz 3/4
- Brushes (*Drums only*)
  - Ballad
  - Medium tempo
- American Contemporary
  - James Brown style Funk
  - Classic Rock & Roll
  - Blues Shuffle
  - New Orleans Second Line
  - Hip Hop Backbeat
- Brazilian
  - Bossa Nova
  - Samba
  - Baiao
- Afro-Cuban
  - Mambo
  - Cha Cha Cha
  - Danzón
  - Songo
  - Bembé 12/8
- Caribbean
  - Bomba (Puerto Rico)
  - Soca/Calypso (Trinidad & Tobago)
  - One Drop or Steppers Reggae (Jamaica)