

Simpson College

Department of Music

Audition Requirements

General Information

- The Audition Registration Form must be completed and returned to the music department as soon as the audition is scheduled. The form is available on the web site, or you may request to have one sent to you through the mail.
- Memorization is strongly recommended for vocal and piano auditions.
- Memorization is not required for instrumentalists and organists.
- A faculty accompanist will be provided for your audition if you need an accompanist. You do not need to send your music ahead of time.
- You will have up to 10 minutes for your audition. For piano, organ and instrumental audition, you may use cuts from different pieces to stay within the 10 minute audition time frame, if necessary.
- There will be a short interview (about 5 minutes) following the audition.

Auditioning in more than one area

- A student may audition in more than one area. Prospective music majors who are capable of auditioning in more than one area are encouraged to do so with proper preparation in each area.
- You should follow the guidelines for your major, or strongest, area and choose 1 piece for your secondary areas.
- Total time for the entire audition in all areas should be 10 minutes or less.

Voice Audition

Prepare two or three songs of contrasting style. Art songs, arias and Broadway or musical comedy selections are acceptable. Songs may be sung in the original foreign language, but English translations are acceptable.

Piano Audition

Prepare two or three pieces of contrasting styles. Standard repertoire pieces by Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy, etc. as well as 20th Century composers are acceptable.

Organ Audition

Prepare two or three pieces of contrasting styles. Preparation of one hymn and alternate hymn setting is appropriate for the audition, as well as one or two selections of standard organ literature.

Instrumental Audition

Prepare two or three selections of contrasting styles. One selection may be a technical etude. At least one selection should be considered a standard literature piece for your instrument.