

Undergraduate Audition Requirements

Applied Area Auditions

All music students will select an applied performance area from voice, piano, or guitar. Typically students should have had previous experience in these areas through private lessons, especially in the instrumental area, or ensemble participation. All students who take applied studies will audition for their respective applied area. Students must be accepted into their applied area in order to proceed into a degree program with that applied concentration area. All Audition, Placement, and Proficiency Forms are included at the end of this document.

Students are encouraged to schedule auditions prior to the fall semester. For students who cannot travel to campus for an audition, a video recording may be submitted to auditions@swbts.edu through a variety of means, such as YouTube or Vimeo.

Voice Auditions

For voice concentration students, please prepare two songs including an English and a foreign language piece (if foreign language pieces were studied). One of them should be classical and both songs should be memorized.

For suggestions of suitable songs consider the following resources: *First Book of Soprano Solos*, *First Book of Mezzo-Soprano/Alto Solos*, *First Book of Tenor Solos*, and *First Book of Baritone/Bass Solos*.

For non-voice concentrations and BACS or BAH music concentration students, sing one song or hymn arrangement. For those auditioning to pass the voice proficiency, sing two songs from memory.

Piano Auditions

For piano concentration auditions: be prepared to play two contrasting classical pieces from memory. For non-piano major auditions, if you are attempting to complete the Piano Proficiency, read the proficiency requirements listed below.

Guitar Auditions

BMP students will need to play two contrasting pieces which may include an etude by Fernando Sor or Leo Brouwer (or equivalent). BMWS students will play a solo guitar piece or accompany yourself while singing. Students will need to sight read a basic chord chart for a modern worship song.

Piano Proficiency

The Piano Proficiency must be met by all students in the BA and BM degrees before graduation. If prepared, students with a piano background can audition to satisfy the Piano Proficiency during orientation. Students who do not pass the Piano Proficiency at that time will be placed in the appropriate level of Piano Foundations I-IV (PIA 1301, 1311, 2301, and 2311) based on their performance. Students will remain enrolled in Piano Foundations until the Piano Proficiency is satisfied or until the satisfactory completion of Piano Foundations IV.

The requirements for the Piano Proficiency are as follows:

1. Be prepared to play one major and one harmonic minor scale, 2 octaves, hands separate, in keys up to 3 sharps or flats. The specific scales will be chosen during the exam.
2. Be prepared to play a tonic triad arpeggio in the right hand, 2 octaves, while holding the tonic triad in the left hand, in keys up to 3 sharps or flats. The arpeggio will be chosen during the exam.
3. Be prepared to play one the hymns listed below. The specific hymn you will play will be chosen during the exam.
 - Angels We Have Heard on High (F)
 - Doxology (G)
 - A Mighty Fortress (C)
 - Be Still, My Soul (F)
 - Blessed Assurance (D)
4. Reading either Roman Numerals or Nashville Numbers, be able to sightread chord progressions in keyboard style (bass voice in left hand, upper voices in right hand) in keys up to 3 sharps or flats.
5. Be prepared to provide a simple diatonic harmonization to a given melody line.
6. Be prepared to play an accompaniment to one of the following lead-sheet songs.
 - His Mercy is More (G)
 - In Christ Alone (D)
 - By Faith (A)
 - Facing a Task Unfinished (C)
 - I Stand in Awe (A)
7. Be prepared to play one classical and one sacred solo piano piece from those listed in Piano Foundations 3 and 4. You may use music.