

**Alabama School of Fine Arts  
Department of Music**

**LIVE, ON-CAMPUS AUDITION REQUIREMENTS**

**Piano**

I. Compulsory Scales

The audition committee will request scales and arpeggios for the appropriate grade at random to be executed by memory. The successful applicant will demonstrate use of proper fingering, clarity and accuracy of execution, and the ability to execute the requirements at a consistent tempo.

**Applicants to Grade 7:**

Scales: Applicants should prepare all of the white key major and white key harmonic minor scales. The scales should be executed at minimum two octaves with the hands together **in eighth notes** at MM quarter note = 120.

Arpeggios: For each of the white key major and white key minor scales, the applicant should prepare the corresponding broken chord, tonic triad arpeggios. The arpeggios should be executed 4 octaves, cross hands, **in triplets** at MM quarter note = 76.

**Applicants to Grade 8:**

Scales: Applicants should prepare all of the white key major and white key harmonic minor scales. Additionally, the applicant should prepare the B-flat Major, E-flat Major, and A-flat Major scales. The scales should be executed at minimum two octaves with the hands together **in eighth notes** at MM quarter note = 126.

Arpeggios: Applicants should prepare the following arpeggios: C Major, D Major, B-flat Major, and E-flat Major. The arpeggios should be executed at minimum two octaves with the hands together **in eighth notes** at MM quarter note = 88. **Please note that cross-hand arpeggios are not acceptable.**

**Applicants to Grade 9:**

Scales: Applicants should prepare all of the white key major and white key harmonic minor scales. Additionally, the applicant should prepare the B-flat Major, E-flat Major, A-flat Major, and D-flat Major scales. The scales should be executed at minimum two octaves with the hands together **in sixteenth notes** at MM quarter note = 76.

Arpeggios: Applicants should prepare the following arpeggios: G Major, A Major, A-flat Major, and D-flat Major. The arpeggios should be executed at minimum two octaves with the hands together **in sixteenth notes** at MM quarter note = 60. **Please note that cross-hand arpeggios are not acceptable.**

**Applicants to Grade 10:**

Applicants should prepare all twenty-four major and harmonic minor scales and arpeggios. Scales and arpeggios should be executed four octaves with the hands together **in sixteenth notes** at MM quarter note = 76 (scales) and MM quarter note = 60 (arpeggios). **Please note that cross-hand arpeggios are not acceptable.**

## II. Repertoire

Repertoire is expected to be performed from memory.

### **Applicants to Grades 7 and 8: One required work.**

1) A work by J.S. Bach chosen from one of the following sources: the Two and Three-Part Inventions; a movement from a French Suite, English Suite, or Partita; the *W.F. Bach Notebook*; a more difficult work from the *Anna Magdalena Notebook*; or a movement from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*.

-or-

A sonata by Domenico Scarlatti or Jiri Benda.

### **Applicants to Grade 9: Two required works.**

1) A contrapuntal work of Bach chosen from the Two and Three-Part Inventions or a fugue from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*.

2) A movement of a Classical sonata by Haydn, Mozart, or Beethoven. A movement of an advanced Classical sonatina might also be acceptable, but approval should be secured with the music department prior to the audition.

### **Applicants to Grade 10: Two required works.**

1) A prelude and fugue from *The Well-Tempered Clavier* by J.S. Bach or any other work by Bach containing a fugue.

2) A movement of a Classical sonata by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, or Schubert.

## III. Free-Response Repertoire

Repertoire is expected to be performed from memory.

### **Applicants to Grades 7 and 8:**

A work of contrasting style of the applicant's choice. Works from method books are not acceptable for this requirement. Suggestions for repertoire would include a movement of a sonata or sonatina, a Romantic character piece by Schumann, or twentieth-century works by Dello Joio, Kabalevsky, or Khatchaturian. Appropriate sources of repertoire would also include *Piano Literature* Volumes 3 and 4 edited by James Bastien, which are published by Kjos.

### **Applicants to Grade 9:**

A contrasting work of the applicant's choice, which represents a composer from the

nineteenth or twentieth centuries.

**Applicants to Grade 10:**

A contrasting work of the applicant's choice, which represents a composer from the nineteenth or twentieth centuries.

All applicants are encouraged to prepare the required repertoire for each grade level. Any exceptions MUST be approved by the department prior to the audition. The interview and audition committees reserve the right to dismiss immediately any applicant who has failed to prepare any of the required repertoire without prior approval.

IV. Sight-Reading

The applicant will be given 60 seconds to study and then perform a musical excerpt of commensurate difficulty.

V. Repertoire List

Please list all repertoire you have played in the last three years and bring this list with you to the audition. It is not necessary to name the method books from which you have studied, just as many representative pieces as you can recall.

Examples:

J.S. Bach—Invention No.13 in A Minor  
Scarlatti—Sonata in F Minor, K. 238  
Beethoven—Sonata in G Major, Op. 49 No.2 (Movement I)  
Chopin—Mazurka in B-flat Major, Op.7 No.1  
Debussy—Golliwog's Cakewalk from *Children's Corner*

**Questions regarding this Live, on-campus audition should be directed to:**

Alex Fokkens, Music Department Chair

[afokkens@asfaschool.org](mailto:afokkens@asfaschool.org)

(205) 252-9241 ext 2248