

## McMaster Music Auditions - Frequently Asked Questions!

Q: How many and what type of pieces do I need to prepare for my audition?

A: We typically request two or three different pieces of your own choosing that ideally exhibit a range of styles (historical and/or genres) and techniques i.e. One piece each from the baroque, romantic, 20<sup>th</sup> century eras -Or- one classical, one Jazz etc..

Q: What level of ability/pieces do I have to display in the playing audition?

A: We expect successful applicants to be at a Royal Conservatory Grade Eight (or equivalent) for voice and all other instruments (including piano).

Q: How long should the pieces be?

A: The ultimate length of each piece is not important though the playing audition will typically last roughly half an hour.

Q: Do I have to memorize the works for my playing audition?

A: No, though you can if you prefer (whatever you are most comfortable with)

Q: Do I have to provide my own accompanist for the audition if I need one?

A: Yes, though prerecorded/taped accompaniments are also acceptable!

Q: I don't play a traditional classical instrument, can I still audition and will lessons be available to me?

A: Yes on both counts. We will find appropriate teachers to judge your audition and provide lessons on the instrument of your choice (Please note: in some extraordinary circumstances this may not be possible)

Q: Can I bring my parent/s for support?

A: We encourage you to do so! (There is a waiting lounge with coffee and snacks – we look forward to meeting and talking with them as well)

Q: Will I be able to warm up before the audition?

A: Yes, practice facilities will be made available to you up to an hour before the time of your scheduled audition time (remember, however, that your scheduled audition time does not include warm up time...it is up to you to arrive early to take advantage of warm up facilities)

Q: How difficult are the ear and theory portions of the audition?

A: We expect successful applicants to reflect a Royal Conservatory Grade Two rudiments – or equivalent ability (see the sheet on Audition requirements for more specific details)

Q: What is the interview about?

A: In a relaxed atmosphere you will meet one on one with a faculty member in the School. The interview is intended find out a little more about who you are, assess your strengths and to determine how our Music Programme can best serve you.