

Music Scholarship Audition and Application Instructions

About the scholarships

Northwest University is pleased to offer music scholarships to talented musicians for participation in a musical ensemble during enrollment. Scholarship amounts vary by instrument and ensemble at the discretion of Music Department faculty. Scholarships are renewable for a maximum of eight semesters when scholarship recipients remain in good standing with the University. Successful participation is required in at least one music ensemble as determined by Music Department faculty each semester for the duration of enrollment at Northwest University. Instrumental scholarship recipients additionally take private lessons on their scholarship instrument for each semester enrolled. Failure to meet these requirements may result in loss of scholarship.

Out of caution due to COVID-19, we will be offering video and Zoom auditions in place of in-person auditions.

For 2021, all music scholarship auditions have three parts:

1. Online application (via your Admission Application User Account)
2. Video audition
3. Zoom interview

Application Deadlines (choose one)

- Submit your application and video by Friday, January 22, 2021 at 5pm for a virtual interview on Friday, January 29, 2021.
- Submit your application and video by Friday, February 12, 2021 at 5pm for a virtual interview on Friday, February 19, 2021.

Video Audition Information

- Position your camera so your instrument and face are well lit and in view. Please also minimize any background noise—we want to hear you clearly!
- Your audition should be unedited and in one take
- **Introduce yourself** at the start and **announce each piece** you play before beginning (song title and composer)
- **Perform your instrument-specific requirements**, as detailed in the next section.
- Accompaniment is not required, but you are welcome to audition with a backing track, have someone accompany you, or, where applicable, accompany yourself.
- Your video should be a maximum of eight (8) minutes.
- Email your video to music@northwestu.edu by the submission deadline for your Zoom interview date. Please send your video in a widely accessible format, such as a YouTube link, .mp4, or .mov.

If you're an instrumentalist:

Applicants interested in Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, and/or Jazz Band (*all pianists and any rhythm instruments interested in Northwest Choralons, please see the following section*):

- Perform a solo of your choice (5 minutes maximum)
- Play the following scales (in your key; do not transpose to concert pitch):

- Orchestral strings: 2 octave A Major, 2 octave A melodic minor
- Woodwinds/Percussion*: 2 octave D Major, 2 octave D melodic minor
- Brass (except French horn): 2 octave Bb Major, 2 octave Bb melodic minor
- French horn: 2 octave G Major, 2 octave G melodic minor

**Percussion: access to a pitched instrument is preferred; contact naomi.fanshier@northwestu.edu if you have problems with instrument access. Drum set players interested in Jazz Band should provide a video playing multiple styles.*

If you're a pianist (all pianists) or are a rhythm instrument interested Northwest Choralons (worship/gospel):

- Perform a solo of your choice, showing technique and musicianship (5 minutes maximum)

If you're a vocalist:

- Perform a solo of your choice that demonstrates your vocal range and abilities (5 minutes maximum).

(For example: a hymn, a gospel or worship song, or a classical piece)

Zoom Interview Information

A few weeks before your interview date (as requested on your application), someone in the Music Department will be in contact with you to schedule the time for your interview. Interviews will be conducted on Zoom, a video conferencing platform. This part of the audition is more casual—we want the chance to meet you and for you to meet us! We also want to hear more about your musical background, so we might ask you a few questions about that. Feel free to bring your own questions to ask us, too!

Questions? Please ask:

Northwest University
 Admissions Office
 Phone: 800-669-3781
 Email: admissions@northwestu.edu

