

HANDBOOK

Auditions for the Jazz Studies Program

Auditions for entrance to the George Mason University School of Music are arranged through the School of Music office. Please visit www.music.gmu.edu for admission and audition requirements. Specific audition requirements for the Jazz Studies Department can be found <http://music.gmu.edu/jazz-studies/jazz-auditions/>.

Auditions for the Jazz Ensembles

The Jazz Ensembles are open to all George Mason University students regardless of degree. Auditions for placement in the Jazz Ensembles (Big Bands, Combos, Afro-Cuban Ensemble, Traditional Jazz Ensemble and Mason Jazz Vocal Ensemble) occur the first week of every semester. The audition includes a prepared piece, improvisation, sight-reading and scales. Please refer to the School of Music web site (www.music.gmu.edu) for specific requirements and to sign up electronically for an audition time.

Scales typically called at auditions are:

- Major
- Pentatonic (Major and Minor)
- Blues (Major and Minor)
- Bebop (Major and Dominant)
- Dorian
- Phrygian
- Lydian
- Mixolydian
- Aeolian (Natural Minor)
- Locrian
- Harmonic Minor
- Melodic Minor
- Jazz Minor (Real Minor, Ascending Melodic Minor)
- Chromatic
- Whole Tone
- Diminished (We are a half-step first school)
- Augmented (1 b3 3 5 #5 7)
- Lydian Augmented
- Lydian Dominant
- Locrian #2
- Diminished Whole Tone (Altered scale, Super Locrian)



Jazz Studies

Performance Dress

Unless a specific uniform is chosen (Jazz 4 Justice), the dress code is coat and tie for men and dresses, skirts and blouses, or dressy pant suits for women.

Rehearsal Department

1. Be on time!!! We have a limited number of rehearsal times together in ensembles so let's not waste a second.
2. Use the "Leave it better than you found it" rule with regards to chairs and stands.
3. Assume leadership roles when they come.
4. Listen. Listen. Listen.

Outside Gigs and Course Conflicts

The policy of the George Mason University Jazz Department is to support outside work and gigs. We are lucky that there are so many opportunities to play so take advantage of them. Horn players --- Learn tunes. Jam sessions and service to the community are especially encouraged. With that said, commitment to your education and degree must come first. Check your university ensemble performance schedule at the beginning of each semester and make sure to square away conflicts immediately. It is **YOUR** responsibility to speak with your professors if you have a conflict with an ensemble or class.

Mason School of Music Equipment/Instruments for Outside Gigs

Borrowing University owned equipment for outside work or gigs is **NOT** allowed. Mason School of Music owned instruments and equipment are for university functions only.

End of Semester Juries

Requirements for juries are specific to each applied music studio. Please check with your Applied Music Instructor regarding their requirements. All music must be memorized, unless it is a lengthy transcription. **YOU** are responsible for bringing three (3) completed Jazz Jury forms to your jury. This form may be obtained online at www.music.gmu.edu.

3 Credit Applied Music Jury

3 Credit "Applied Music" juries are performed at the same time as end of semester juries. Sign up for two (2) time slots. Requirements for these 3 Credit juries are specific to each studio so please check with your Applied Music Instructor.

Percussion

Drummers must provide their own cymbals and are in charge of keeping their practice spaces clean and organized. Please take care of the equipment and report any missing and/or damaged items to Director of Jazz Studies, Dr. Darden Purcell.