

MMUS

Music Performance

LCCM
Where music matters

AUDITION GUIDE- LINES



MMUS MUSIC PERFORMANCE AUDITION GUIDELINES

Your audition is the opportunity for you to showcase your current level of musical skills for this level of study. We also want to assess your growth potential, your ability to succeed in LCCM's learning environment and your potential to develop further specialist skills as a performer, musical director, composer and arranger to an industry-leading standard through the creation of original work demonstrating a distinctive artistic personality.

You will complete an audition process with an LCCM staff member. This can be either face to face, or virtually via a dedicated platform.

This process is divided in two parts:

1. **Prepared Pieces Performance (Portfolio Submission if Virtual)**
2. **Musical Aptitudes Test & Conversation**

If your audition is face-to-face it will take around 45 to 60 minutes where we will go with you through both sections.

If your audition is virtual you will first submit your portfolio and then you will be able to book a 30-minute time slot with an LCCM assessor for your Musical Aptitudes Test and conversation.

1 - YOUR PORTFOLIO

You must prepare **two prepared pieces** that showcase your musical abilities as a performer at a professional level. This will help us assess you in the correct way. Also:

- It is your own choice which songs you want to perform, but they should demonstrate contrasting styles to show the breadth of your ability.
- It is very important that you perform both songs from beginning to end.
- The pieces can be original material. You can choose to perform solo or a cappella, with a backing track or a band (only if virtual)
- It should be performed on your main instrument. For specific instrument information please see '*Specific Instrument Information*' section at the end of this document
- Each should be between two to four minutes in length. and you should perform both songs from beginning to end
- They can be in contemporary popular style

If your audition is to be held **virtually** please:

- **Your two prepared pieces** should be part of a portfolio in the form of two videos recordings

→ The performance in your videos should be performed live (it cannot be pre-recorded as it should demonstrate live performance skills).

Please share your audition portfolio in the form of a link to the material. YouTube, SoundCloud, G Drive, your website or any other platform where we can view it easily. Make sure they are public so we can see them.

LCCM will not download materials. Do not share via WeTransfer, Dropbox or any other platform.

The LCCM team will review your submission and then you will be invited for the live part of your audition.

2 - Musical Aptitudes Test & Conversation

As well as preparing your audition pieces for your course, we will be assessing your overall musical abilities. This will enable us to see your strengths, weaknesses and see how your skills can be developed. For this course you will have to be prepared for the following:

- Questions and/or feedback from your portfolio submission.
- A short, advanced music harmony and theory examination. You should identify easily the following topics:
 - Treble or Bass Clef
 - Reading and understanding of the stave
 - Even and odd meter time signatures
 - Key Signatures
 - Chord qualities and extensions
 - Major & Minor scale harmony & Modes
 - Basic understanding of how to arrange/write music for other instruments

- Ear training (exercises such as chord and extension recognition, call and response or playing/singing back)
- Sight Pitch/Rhythm notation reading.
- Technical questions and knowledge of your instrument
- Discussion of strengths, weaknesses and see how your skills can be developed, and your professional aims.

If your audition will be held virtually, after your portfolio submission, a 30-to-40-minute virtual session will be scheduled with a member of staff of LCCM. This session enables us to assess your skills above.





SPECIFIC INSTRUMENT INFORMATION

The following list includes things that we would expect to see for each instrument portfolio or live audition at postgraduate level. You don't need to cover all in your prepared pieces or portfolio, as some will be discussed in your live audition. Remember you can only submit two pieces.

Bass

- Ability to play bass lines at a professional level in contrasting feel and styles, such as Rock, Funk, Jazz, Pop, Neo Soul, Latin, Bossa, Soul etc.
- Showcase any different techniques or playing styles if any.
- Please bring your own instrument, lead cable, and tuner if in person
- Ability to improvise a bass line or solo in common popular music chord progression

Drums

- Ability to play at a professional level contrasting common grooves, styles and feels such as Rock, Funk, Jazz, Pop, Neo Soul, Latin, Bossa, Soul etc.
- Time - Even 1/8 note pattern (strictly 1&3 bass

drum, 2&4 snare, hi-hat 1/8th very simple) - 100 bpm for 3 minutes.

- Odd time - 5/4, 7/8, 3/4.
- Ability to improvise

Guitar

- Ability to play at a professional level comping and/or lead in contrasting feel and styles, such as Rock, Funk, Jazz, Pop, Neo Soul, Latin, Bossa, Soul etc.
- Showcase any different techniques or playing styles if any.
- Ability to improvise comping or a solo common popular music chord progression
- Please bring your own instrument, lead cable, and tuner if in person.

Keys

- Ability to play at a professional level comping, lead or solo pieces in contrasting feel and styles, such as Rock, Funk, Jazz, Pop, Neo Soul, Latin, Bossa, Soul etc.
- Ability to play different types of scales with both hands, with both hands, in different keys.
- Ability to improvise comping or a solo common popular music chord progression

Sax and Brass

- You can use a backing track. You are welcome to have an accompanist for the performance if you do not want to play to a backing track.
- Ability to play at a professional level in any chosen style a lead melody and a solo improvisation.
- Ability to demonstrate current technical ability via scales and arpeggios.
- Please bring your own instrument if in person.

Vocals

- You can use a backing track, to self-accompany yourself, to have an accompanist for or sing a cappella.
- Vocal ability at a professional level, to sing contrasting feels and styles such as Rock, Funk, Jazz, Pop, Neo Soul, Latin, Bossa, Soul etc.
- Ability to improvise or ad lib in common popular music chord progression
- You don't need to use/bring a microphone.



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