Jazz Studies Recorded Audition Requirements

SEND RECORDED AUDITION TO:

Judy Barber
MUSICADMISSIONS@ecu.edu

Additional application materials must be sent to the address above:
- ECU School of Music application (E-mail the address above for application)
- Statement of Purpose (essay about why you want to be a music major)
  - Two music-related letters of reference
Questions? E-mail the address above

The auditioning student should select one composition from each stylistic category. Prepare, perform and record (audio/video) a sample demonstrating jazz stylistic characteristics including jazz feel, jazz interpretation, jazz expression and jazz improvisation. Special attention to melodic (head) accuracy, song form and jazz nuance is particularly important.

Additionally, the auditioning student should demonstrate the ability to improvise (spontaneous composition) over the pre-existing and altered chord progressions. Submit the audition recording via online delivery: Up-loaded Music File, YouTube Channel Recording link, Live Stream Recording, Facebook, etc.

Rhythm Section Instruments: Please see additional specific requirements next to each instrument listed below.

Piano/Keys – Audition recording must include one chorus of pianist playing the melody, two choruses of soloing and one chorus of comping in a medium swing style

Guitar – Audition recording must include one chorus of guitarist playing the melody, two choruses of soloing, and one chorus of comping in a medium swing or bop style. Send questions to professor of jazz guitar (listed here https://music.ecu.edu/about-us/faculty-staff-information/) or MUSICADMISSIONS@ecu.edu with questions

String Bass – Audition recording must include performance of the head, walk a minimum of two choruses or Latin groove, improvise a minimum of two choruses

Electric Bass – Audition recording must include fingered and “thumping-popping” examples over grooves: Swing, funk, bossa, samba and reggae

Drums – Audition recording must include demonstration of the following:
- Performance styles (4 beats per measure): Medium-tempo (bp=112) swing; up-tempo (bp=192) swing; medium-tempo (bp=126) bossa nova; up-tempo (bp=192) samba; moderate-tempo (bp=104) funk.
- Select a jazz composition from the swing category, play time for 4 bars and alternate trading 4 bars of solo a minimum of 4 choruses; play time for 8 bars and alternate trading 8 bars of solo a minimum of 4 choruses; (bp=112 and bp=192)
- Demonstration of brushes technique
- Optional: demonstrate the “jazz waltz” 3 beats per measure (bp=174)
INSTRUMENTALISTS

COMPOSITIONS

CONCERT KEY

Swing

Satin Doll  C
All of Me  C

BeBop

Confirmation  F
Au Privave  F

Bossa

Ceora  A-flat
Invitation  C-minor

Ballad

Lush Life  D-flat
My Foolish Heart  B-flat

Contemporary

Run for Cover  E
Mr. Magic  C-minor

VOCALISTS

Vocalists should prepare one song from each of the categories listed below. The applicant may substitute with another song if approved by advance by the audition committee at MUSICADMISSIONS@ecu.edu.

COMPOSITIONS

CONCERT KEY

Swing

Autumn Leaves  - Choose your own key, bring in charts in that key for piano/keys, bass, and drums. All vocalists: head down plus one chorus of scat.

Swing

Like Someone in Love  E-flat
Lullaby of Birdland  A-flat

Ballad

Prelude to a Kiss  C
Lush Life  D-flat

Bossa

Night and Day  C
One Note Samba  B-flat

Contemporary

The Greatest Love of All  C
Sweet Love  B-flat

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