

Please review the following expectations as you prepare for your audition with the Collinsworth School of Music at California Baptist University. The expectations below apply to both in-person and video-based auditions. For auditions submitted by video, please utilize the criteria below when preparing your submission.

For all non-music major auditions:

VOICE

Prepare two songs in contrasting style (i.e., art song, aria, hymn, a “legit” Broadway song, or a modern worship song). An assessment in ability to read music and tonal memory will be included.

INSTRUMENTAL

For all non-music major instrumental auditions, please follow the criteria outlined in the applicable instrumental section below for guidance in preparation for your audition.

For undergraduate degrees in Music Education, Performance and Composition:

VOICE

Prepare two songs of contrasting style, preferably with one of the two in a foreign language (Latin, Italian, German or French). Appropriate styles include art song, music theater, or arias from operatic or oratorio works. An accompanist will be provided for the audition.

BRASS / STRINGS / WOODWINDS

Prepare two contrasting pieces from the standard solo literature of your instrument. Be prepared to play major scales (two octaves as appropriate) up to 4 sharps and 4 flats.

GUITAR / ELECTRIC BASS

Prepare two pieces in contrasting styles demonstrating classical and/or contemporary abilities. Jazz bass players should demonstrate a walking bass line. Be prepared to play major scales (two octaves) up to 4 sharps and 4 flats.

PERCUSSION

Prepare pieces in at least one of the five following categories:

- Snare: showing rudiments
- Mallet: (2 or 4 mallets) major scales (two octaves) up to 4 sharps and 4 flats
- Timpani: showing tuning
- Drum Set: various styles (swing, Latin, etc.)
- Marching Percussion: (snare, multi-toms or bass)

PIANO

Prepare two contrasting pieces from the standard piano solo repertoire featuring two of the following periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and 20th Century. Be prepared to play major scales (two octaves) up to 5 sharps and 5 flats.

NOTE: Sight-reading and/or scales may be requested during live auditions

For graduate degrees in Music Education, Performance and Composition:

VOICE

Prepare four songs of contrasting style, demonstrating foreign language proficiency (Latin, Italian, German or French). One selection may be Broadway. Appropriate styles include art song, music theater, or arias from operatic or oratorio works. An accompanist will be provided for the audition.

BRASS / STRINGS / WOODWINDS

Prepare three contrasting pieces from the standard etude and solo literature of your instrument. Be prepared to play major and minor scales (two octaves as appropriate).

GUITAR / ELECTRIC BASS

Prepare four pieces in contrasting styles (eras) demonstrating classical and/or contemporary abilities. Jazz bass will include jazz lead sheet realization and funk and RnB styles. Be prepared to play major and minor scales as well as modes (two octaves). Jazz bass and contemporary guitar will demonstrate improvisation abilities.

PERCUSSION

Prepare pieces in all five following categories:

- Snare: demonstrating mastery of rudiments
- Mallet: (2 or 4 mallets) major and minor scales (two octaves).
- Timpani: one etude
- Drum Set: various styles (swing, Latin, Funk, RnB, etc.)

PIANO

Prepare four contrasting pieces from the standard piano solo repertoire (one selection of Bach and Beethoven is required) featuring at least two of the following style periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, and 20th Century.

For graduate degrees in Choral and Instrumental Conducting:

CHORAL CONDUCTING

Prepare two vocal selections of contrasting style, with one of the two in a foreign language (Latin, Italian, German or French). Audition will also include a demonstration in conducting from a score provided in advance. Assessments will be made regarding sight reading, aural acuity, piano and language proficiency.

INSTRUMENTAL CONDUCTING

Prepare two contrasting pieces from the standard solo literature of your instrument. Be prepared to play major scales (two octaves as appropriate) up to 4 sharps and 4 flats. Live audition will also include a demonstration in conducting from a provided score ahead of time. Assessments will be made regarding transpositions, instrumentation and knowledge of orchestral score reading.

For all degrees in Worship Arts:

Sing one modern worship song or hymn of your choosing without accompaniment. Song should be chosen to demonstrate artistic sensibility and vocal range.

Demonstrate any guitar and/or piano skills by:

- Singing a worship song or hymn of your choosing while accompanying yourself on guitar or piano.
- Playing a piece of your choosing on guitar or piano that highlights range of skill.

For degrees in Commercial Music:

VOICE

- Prepare 3-5 musical selections of contrasting styles with backing track (a capella auditions are not suggested)

GUITAR

- Prepare 3-5 musical selections in contrasting styles with backing track
- Major, pentatonic, minor scales, and modes (2-octaves)
- Seventh chord voicing and extended chords
- Improvisation
- Sight reading and chord realization of a lead sheet

BASS

- Prepare 3-5 musical selections of contrasting styles with backing track
- Scales (Major, minor, modes)
- Demonstration of grooves (blues, funk)
- Sight reading—walking bass (Jazz)

DRUMS

- Prepare 3-5 selections of contrasting styles and grooves with backing track
- Rudiments
- Sight reading
- Demonstration of grooves (blues shuffle, rock, swing)

KEYBOARD

- Prepare 3-5 musical selections of contrasting styles with backing track (performance of one classical and one jazz is suggested).
- Scales (major, minor, modes—2 octaves)
- Sight reading, including chord realization in different styles
- Improvisation

WIND / STRING INSTRUMENTS

- Prepare 3-5 musical selections of contrasting styles with backing track (performance of one classical and one jazz is suggested).
- Scales (major, minor, modes—2 octaves)
- Sight reading
- Improvisation

SINGER / SONGWRITER

Prepare & perform 3-5 original compositions (lead or lyric sheet must accompany audition)

STUDIO PRODUCTION

Audition not required for admittance to program, but highly suggested.

500-word essay or five-minute video addressing: Introduction—providing brief background of musical experience; rationale and goals for studying studio production; career aspirations and goals. May also be done in-person if auditioning.