

Conducting (Instrumental and Vocal)

All applicants for the M.M. in conducting must submit an audition video with their application materials. The video should include 15 minutes of conducting an ensemble in rehearsal and 10 minutes of conducting an ensemble in performance. The conductor must be in full frontal or a partial profile view and at least part of the ensemble must be in view. The repertoire selected for the video must be appropriate to the musical and technical abilities of the ensemble. While preference will be given to applicants with prior teaching experience, this is not a requirement for admittance into the degree program.

Cello

- First movement of a standard concerto
- Two contrasting movements of a solo Bach Suite
- One Popper Etude from the High School of Violoncello Playing

Bass

- First movement of a major concerto
- Two contrasting movements of a Bach Suite (transpositions are acceptable)
- Two standard orchestral excerpts

Violin/Viola

- A movement of a concerto
- A movement of a solo work by J. S. Bach, and
- A piece demonstrating technical proficiency, such as an etude or show piece

Percussion

All applicants should prepare a solo/etude on snare drum, mallets (2 and/or 4 mallets) and timpani. The candidate may also demonstrate a variety of musical styles on drum set (jazz, funk, Latin, etc.). The audition may also include works on other instruments (multiple percussion, vibraphone, hand drums, etc.) to showcase their unique abilities.

Trumpet

Candidates for the MM in Trumpet Performance should be prepared to present at least 20 minutes of standard trumpet repertoire that best demonstrates the candidate's current level. Suggestions for repertoire include but are not limited to:

- One movement of a standard trumpet concerto or sonata or 5-8 minutes from a single-movement work
- Standard Trumpet etudes from the Arban's, Charlier, Tyrell, Brandt, Vannetelbosh, or Concone studies
- Standard orchestral excerpts

Voice

Applicants for the M.M. in voice should prepare a program of music that includes the following:

1. Opera or oratorio aria
2. Art song in English
3. French mélodie
4. German lied
5. Additional selection

One selection must be in Italian.

All repertoire except oratorio arias must be memorized.

Piano Performance

Applicants for the Master's in Piano Performance must present at least 30 minutes of music with at least three contrasting styles. All pieces must be memorized.

No prescreening required. Applicants may schedule a live in-person audition or submit a video audition. Live in-person auditions and video auditions will be given equal consideration.

Collaborative Piano

1. Two contrasting movements from a standard instrumental sonata.
2. Two art songs in contrasting styles and languages.
3. An aria or a movement from an instrumental concerto.
4. Solo repertoire: one significant memorized solo movement or work that shows your technical and artistic capabilities.
5. Sight-reading

Audition Logistics:

1. Applicants can choose either an on-campus or online audition option. Auditions must be completed on or before the graduate audition day listed each year by the Department of Music.
2. If an applicant chooses to do an on-campus audition, he or she is encouraged to bring their partner to the live audition. USD may provide partner, subject to availability.
3. To schedule your audition, please contact Dr. Eun-Hee Park at EunHee.Park@usd.edu.
4. Please submit a current repertoire list that includes all collaborative and solo works.

Woodwind and Brass

Candidates for the MM in Brass or Woodwind performance should be prepared to present at least 20 minutes of contrasting standard repertoire that best demonstrates the candidate's current level.

Suggestions for repertoire include but are not limited to:

- One movement of a standard concerto or sonata or 5-8 minutes from a single-movement work
- Standard etudes
- Standard orchestral/band excerpts

Auditions can be completed in-person or by submitting a video recording. The use of an accompanist for your audition is preferred but not required. Arrangements can be made to provide an accompanist for those auditioning in-person.