

GENERAL AUDITION INFORMATION

Auditions are **required** for admission to the following undergraduate degree programs:

- BM Performance
- BM Jazz Studies
- BM Music Education*
- BA/BS Music: Applied Voice concentration
- BA/BS Music: Applied Piano concentration
- BFA Dance

Auditions are **optional** for the following programs:

- Admission to the **Composition** and **Music Technology** programs do not require an audition but do require a portfolio.
- For admission to our programs in **History and Culture**, **Music Theory**, or **General Music**, an audition is not required but may be performed for scholarship consideration if desired.
- For admission to the **BA or BS Dance degree**, an audition is not required but is encouraged.

Audition requirements vary by performance medium. In general, you should be prepared to perform repertoire that best displays tone, technique, and overall musicianship. Scales and sight-reading may be required. Most instrumental and voice auditions are between 10 and 15 minutes in duration.

Accompanists/collaborative musicians are provided for live voice, jazz, and dance auditions. With the exception of voice auditions, we strongly prefer you do NOT use/bring an accompanist when performing a live audition.

Unless you make prior arrangements, you are expected to provide your own instrument to live auditions. Exceptions include pianists and percussionists (who should bring their own sticks and mallets).

If you have repertoire-specific questions, please contact the appropriate studio teacher directly. You can find faculty email contact information [on the SOMD website](#).

***NOTE FOR MUSIC EDUCATION APPLICANTS – Introductory Meeting**

Applicants for the Bachelor of Music Education degree should attend a Music Education Introductory Meeting in addition to an audition on their instrument/voice. During the meeting, applicants will be meeting with our Music Education faculty and may be asked to speak about their goals for the degree program. This meeting will be held during each of our live audition days.

ABOUT RECORDED AUDITIONS

We strongly encourage you to audition in person. In-person auditions provide an opportunity to see campus and connect with faculty, and typically provides the best audition experience. However, if an in-person audition is not possible, we can consider a recorded audition for admission consideration.

You will have to option to choose your audition type (in-person or recorded) on your SOMD application. **If you choose a recorded audition, we will email you details on how to submit your recording.**

Some performance areas have special requirements for recorded auditions. Be sure to review your requirements carefully.

AUDITION/PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS BY AREA

Dance

BFA Dance applicants are required to audition either by attending a live audition (see SOMD website for audition dates) or by submitting an audition via video. **BA and BS** applicants are required to take a technique assessment class during a live audition or just prior to the beginning of the Fall term during Week of Welcome.

Live Audition overview:

For BFA candidates there are three components to the audition: a technique assessment class, performance of a solo, and a brief interview with the dance faculty. Dancers interested in the BA and BS will only participate in the technique assessment class. Please wear attire for the audition that allows you to move freely and allows us to appreciate the artistry of your movement.

1. **Technique assessment class (BFA, BA, BS):** Class will include instruction in the four primary movement idioms offered in the UO Dance department: African, ballet, contemporary, and hip hop. Approximately 30 minutes of instruction will be given in each idiom. Please be prepared to change easily between:
 - Soft slippers or thin cotton socks for ballet (no pointe shoes)
 - Bare feet for contemporary and African
 - Clean sneakers for hip hop (cleaning solution and wipes will be provided to clean the bottom of your sneakers in order to protect the marley dance floor).
2. **Solo (BFA only):** Perform a 2-3-minute solo that vibrantly captures your dance artistry and presents you in your very best light. The movement can be choreographed by you or someone else, or it can be improvised. We will provide aux cable and adapters to play your music from your phone or other device during the audition.
3. **Interview (BFA only):** Be prepared to share your thoughts on the following questions with the UO Dance faculty.
 - What personal experiences, mentors, or moments have shaped your decision to pursue a professional path in dance?
 - Why do you believe the University of Oregon's BFA in Dance is the right environment for your growth as an artist, thinker, and community member?
 - The BFA is a rigorous and immersive program. How do you approach challenges when you encounter them?

Recorded audition guidelines (BFA applicants only)

If you are unable to attend a live audition, you may submit a recorded audition. Recorded auditions should be submitted as **four separate videos** (two that show you performing in a specific movement style, one that shows you performing a solo, and one that records your response to the questions outlined in the Verbal Response section below).

1) Technique (two videos)

Record yourself performing in two different movement idioms of your choice. The primary idioms in our program are African, ballet, contemporary, and hip hop. The guidelines below focus on these but can also be applied to other idioms such as jazz, salsa, tap, etc. as appropriate. Choose the idioms you feel best represent your skills.

African

- Record your expression of a traditional dance from any region in Africa.
- Record yourself sharing the cultural and historical significance of the dance.

Ballet

Center work only (no barre) that includes the following:

- An adagio that incorporates a grand plié in second position, a développé à la seconde that moves into first arabesque, a penché, and a slow pirouette en dedans. Add additional movements and transitions that work best for you.
- A short waltz phrase that incorporates pirouettes both en dehors and en dedans (you can choose the positions in the turns – attitude, arabesque, passé, etc.)
- A brief petit allegro
- A grand allegro

Contemporary

- Record yourself dancing 2-3 minutes in a contemporary style of your choice. Elements we are looking for include strong use of level change, getting in and out of the floor, traveling through space, and articulation of the entire body that includes spine, head, and arms.

Hip Hop

- Watch and groove with the Bounce and Rock warm up of hip hop pioneer, Buddha Stretch, at the link below:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMKYpKpf2IU> (0:00 to 2:47)
- After you are familiar with his warm-up, record yourself moving with Buddha and expressing your own interpretation of the movements. We are not looking for an imitation of Buddha, but rather YOUR full embodiment of the bounce and rock within the hip hop aesthetic.

2) Solo (one video)

Please submit a 2-3 minute solo that vibrantly captures your dance artistry and presents you in your very best light. The movement can be choreographed by you or someone else, or it can be improvised.

3) Verbal Response (one video expressing your thoughts on the questions below):

- 1) What personal experiences, mentors, or moments have shaped your decision to pursue a professional path in dance?
- 2) Why do you believe the University of Oregon's BFA in Dance is the right environment for your growth as an artist, thinker, and community member?
- 3) The BFA is a rigorous and immersive program. How do you approach challenges when you encounter them?

Upload your audition videos to YouTube, Vimeo, Google Drive, or similar, and submit links to the videos via our Admissions File Upload Page. You will receive a link to this page within a few days of submitting your SOMD application. Be sure videos are not classified as "private" and are accessible for us to view. In YouTube, these could be either "public" or "unlisted."

For questions about the audition, please contact dance@uoregon.edu