

# Standards for Minimum Achievement and Competency in Applied Piano Lessons

Intended as a guide for teachers, students, and juries.

Applied instructors must have their own syllabi that reflect these standards.

| <b>PIANO</b>  |   |   |   |
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| <b>Note: At all levels, technique and sight-reading are tested as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> jury performed at that level (100, 200, etc.).</b> |   |   |   |
| <b>Entry Level</b>  | <b>Program of Study</b>   | <b>General expectations of skills before enrolling at 100 level</b>   |   |
|   | Non-major or minor  | Acceptance and level determined by the piano faculty.<br>Auditioned minor must demonstrate fluency in notation and basic technique in repertoire representing different periods of piano literature.  |   |
|   | BA Music<br>pre-BM Music Ed   | Fluent technique and basic repertoire representing different periods of piano literature.   |   |
|   | pre-BM Performance  | Fluent technique, maturing musicality, and experience in public performance. Thorough repertoire list representing four periods of piano literature.  |   |
| <b>100 Level</b>  | <b>Program of Study</b>   | <b>Minimum repertoire and technique studied each semester.</b>  | <b>Before entering 200 level, student must:</b>   |
|   | Liberal Arts minor or non-major   | Selected scales and triads.<br>Repertoire determined by instructor.   | Achieve goals agreed upon between instructor and student (depending on purpose of study).   |
|   | Auditioned minor  | All major and harmonic white key minor scales and arpeggios.<br>Repertoire from 4 periods, 10-15 minutes memorized for jury.  | Achieve goals agreed upon between instructor and student (depending on purpose of study).   |
|   | BA Music<br>pre-BM Music Ed<br>pre-BM Performance                                   | All 4-octave major and harmonic white key minor scales and arpeggios.<br>Repertoire from 4 periods, 15-minutes memorized for jury.<br><u>Music Ed:</u> Scales at quarter = 92<br><u>Performance:</u> Perform in public once each semester. Scales at quarter = 100  | Demonstrate functional knowledge of performance technique.<br>Begin to use musical knowledge and understanding to make interpretive decisions.<br>Students planning to seek admission to the <u>Performance</u> program should show a level of initiative, musicianship and musicality – including interest in exploring the repertoire for instrument.   |
| <b>200 Level</b>  | <b>Program of Study</b>   | <b>Minimum repertoire and technique studied each semester.</b>  | <b>Before entering 300 level, student must pass major standing and:</b>   |
|   | BA Music<br>pre-BM Music Ed<br>pre-BM Performance                                   | All major and harmonic minor scales and arpeggios<br>Memorized repertoire from 4 periods represented at semester-end juries and in public performances once each semester.<br><u>BA:</u> scales at quarter = 92.<br><u>Music Ed:</u> scales at quarter = 100. Major standing jury is a 15-min program of memorized solo repertoire.<br><u>Performance:</u><br>All major and harmonic minor scales in contrary motion.<br>Repertoire to include a complete sonata and a J.S. Bach fugue.<br>Major standing jury is a 20-min memorized, solo program of music from 3 style periods. | Without prompting, demonstrate healthy performance technique.<br><br>Use musical knowledge and understanding to make interpretive decisions (may not be “right” decisions, but need to engage in musical decision-making).<br><br>Students planning to seek admission to the <u>Performance</u> program should show a level of initiative, musicianship and musicality – including interest in exploring the repertoire for instrument. |
|   | Requirements for acceptance into the Performer’s Certificate in Undergraduate Piano | Mainly substantial and significant solo repertoire.   | Outstanding technique and musicianship with potential for a career in performance. Must possess not only significant ability, but also a determination and motivation to achieve these goals.   |

**Note: At all levels, technique and sight-reading are tested as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> jury performed at that level (300, 400, etc.).**

| <b>300 Level</b> | <b>Program of Study</b>                        | <b>Minimum repertoire and technique studied each semester.</b>   | <b>Before entering 400 level, student must:</b>  |
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|                  | BA Music                                       | All major and minor scales and arpeggios at quarter = 96.<br>Memorized repertoire from 4 periods, including a complete classical sonata and a J.S. Bach contrapuntal work, represented at 15-min. semester-end juries and in public performances once each semester.   | Demonstrate healthy performance technique.<br><br>Demonstrate a growing sensitivity to sound and color.  |
|                  | BM Music Ed                                    | All chromatic scales, major and minor contrary motion scales and arpeggios at quarter=104.<br>Same as above, but including a complete sonata and a J.S. Bach Prelude & Fugue.  | Use musical knowledge and understanding to make interpretive decisions.  |
|                  | BM Performance                                 | All major and minor scales, arpeggios and inversions, and scales at a 3rd and 10th.<br>Prepare a 30-minute solo recital of memorized repertoire, including a virtuosic etude, a complete sonata, and a complete concerto (during 300 or 400-level study).  | Show progress toward ability to perform with musical depth and sophistication such that they should be able to meet 400-level standards with one more year's study.  |
|                  | Performer's Certificate in Undergraduate Piano | 30 min. of memorized solo rep. (15 min. heard at jury) including a virtuosic etude and a substantial piece from the Romantic period. Complete concerto during 300 or 400-level study. Perform in public once each semester and frequently in Masterclass.<br><br>Full recital, end of 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester.                    |  |
| <b>400 Level</b> | <b>Program of Study</b>                        | <b>Minimum repertoire and technique studied each semester.</b>   | <b>To graduate (or earn a certificate), student must:</b>  |
|                  | BM Music Ed                                    | All major & minor scales, scales at a 3rd and 10th, arpeggios & inversions, and dom. & dim. 7th chords and arpeggios.<br>Perform a 15-min. jury of memorized music from 3 style periods (1st sem.) and a 30-min. recital of memorized repertoire (2nd sem.), including a sonata and a virtuosic etude.                             | Demonstrate well-rounded, healthy technique and musicality, with sensitivity to sound and color.<br><br>Select some of their own repertoire for performance.<br><br>Use their understanding of relationships among historical perspective, theoretical analysis, and performance practices to perform in a variety of settings informing their ability to be musical decision-makers and collaborators of music.<br><br><u>Performance &amp; Certificate:</u><br>Demonstrate musical depth and sophistication appropriate for a student who wishes to continue study or begin a professional career. |
|                  | BM Performance                                 | All major & minor scales in 6ths, 3rds, 10ths, and all arpeggios.<br>Perform a 15-min. jury of memorized music (1st sem.) and a full recital of memorized solo repertoire reflecting all style periods (2nd sem.).   |  |
|                  | Performer's Certificate in Undergraduate Piano | Prepare a program of 60 minutes of memorized, contrasting solo repertoire (from which 15 min. will be heard at juries) reflecting 4 style periods, including a virtuosic etude and a substantial piece composed after 1900. Perform in public once each semester and frequently in Masterclass. Full recital, end of 2nd semester. |  |

| 500 Level | Program of Study                                | Minimum repertoire and technique studied each semester.  | Competencies Expected  |
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|           | Acceptance into MM in Pedagogy Program          | N/A  | Well-rounded and healthy technique, musicality, and a passion for teaching.  |
|           | Acceptance into MM in Performance Program       | N/A  | Well-rounded technique, mature musicianship, and a broad knowledge of standard piano solo and chamber literature from different style periods.   |
|           | Acceptance into Performer's Certificate Program | N/A  | Candidate is a highly gifted and accomplished musician who seeks intensive training beyond the undergraduate level that focuses on the practical aspects of music performance. Candidate shall have developed substantial piano repertoire prior to the entrance audition.   |
|           | MM Pedagogy (major instrument)                  | Perform a 15-minute jury of memorized piano repertoire at the end of each semester.<br>A recital is encouraged at the conclusion of the program of study (can be combined with the required master's project).   | Thorough grasp of performance technique.<br>Perform with sufficient musical and interpretive depth to demonstrate understanding of how to and teach others to make interpretive decisions.<br>Performance should reflect the high level of musical and technical skills expected of a teacher prepared to enter a professional teaching career or more advanced musical study. |
|           | MM Performance (major instrument)               | Perform music from all style periods including a full piano concerto, regular participation in Masterclass, and a public performance each semester.<br>Perform a 15-min jury at the end of each semester that represents a program of 30 min of repertoire.<br>Full recital at end of program.     | Thorough grasp of performance technique.<br>Perform with musical and interpretive depth.<br>Performance should reflect the high level of musical and technical skills expected of a performer prepared to enter a professional performance career or more advanced musical study.  |
|           | Performer's Certificate in Graduate Piano       | Perform a complete concerto during every 2 semesters of study.<br>One public performance of a complete concerto required during course of study.<br>30 min. of memorized solo rep. for juries (15 min will be heard).<br>Public performance each semester.<br>Full recital at end of 2nd semester. | Thorough grasp of performance technique.<br>Perform with musical and interpretive depth.<br>Performance should reflect the high level of musical and technical skills expected of a performer prepared to enter a professional performance career or more advanced musical study.  |