



HILLSDALE COLLEGE

John E.N. & Dede Howard Department of Music

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP AUDITION & MUSIC SUPPLEMENT PROCEDURES and APPLICATION:

Auditions may be given live on campus OR remotely via unlisted youtube links.

All materials and correspondence should be sent to Stacey Jones-Garrison: sjones@hillsdale.edu

If you would like your music background and accomplishments as well as your intent to participate in music at Hillsdale College to be included as a supplement to your general Hillsdale application, you may send me all the materials below, but *do not have to take the audition*. The essay is required for the music supplement.

Checklist for Scholarship Application: CONTACT/INFORM – SCHEDULE – SUBMIT APPLICATION – AUDITION

CONTACT: To begin candidacy for a music scholarship, please email the following information:

- 1) Title with your full name, year of application, primary performance medium, where you are from, and best phone and email contact information (include parent's name if using a family/parental phone or email)
- 2) Your current or planned admissions status at Hillsdale College (i.e. Early Decision or Regular Decision, Application in progress, Application Complete, Admitted, etc)
- 3) If you are considering music as a major, minor, double major or non-major participant
- 4) Any initial music background you'd like to share
- 5) **Pianists:** *your music resume is required for pre-audition eligibility.* In addition to the requirements listed in our sample resume below, your resume must also include a list of at least your past 2 years of performed, studied or most relevant repertoire, and your accompanying experience if any.

You will receive a confirmation email with the contact information of the professor you will be auditioning for. Please feel encouraged to contact the respective area professor prior to your audition concerning repertoire and technical demonstration requirements. Individual areas may have varying requirements.

SCHEDULE AN AUDITION:

Request a live on-campus audition, or a remote audition.

Auditions are scheduled on an individual basis, and can be coordinated with a formal visit to campus. Typically instrumental auditions are available M-F, and voice auditions M-Th with some exception possible. Please check with the music department before scheduling a visit to campus, as some instrumental music instructors are available 1 or 2 days a week. A remote audition can be requested in the case that a student can't visit campus prior to the audition deadline.

SUBMIT APPLICATION:

Sending the paperwork via email is most convenient. Please send at soonest convenience, preferably at least 2 weeks prior to the audition date. If you are also sending these materials as a MUSIC SUPPLEMENT, please make sure to send me your materials at or before the completion of your general application. Letters of recommendation can also arrive via email as long as they are sent directly from your references email address. **Details for each portion of the application can be found below this list.**

- 1) Music Resume**
- 2) Essay (not required unless submitting as a music supplement)**
- 3) 1-2 Letters of Recommendation**

RESUME:

Below is a suggested format for a high school level music resume. We recommend including dates as often as possible, and organizing your resume in reverse chronological order (most recent activity within each category first). This template would work for most performing musicians – a composition resume might look a little different.

A sample resume format:

- 1) Title with your full name, primary performance medium, mailing address, best phone and email contact information (include parent's name if using a family/parental phone or email)
- 2) Heading PRIVATE INSTRUCTION: list private instructors for your primary performance medium, years of study and contact information.
- 3) Heading ENSEMBLE EXPERIENCE: list large and chamber ensembles you have participated in. Include both school sponsored and extracurricular ensembles. If available, include chairs held.
- 4) Heading REPERTOIRE LIST: list major solo or chamber ensemble pieces performed and/or studied on your primary instrument over at least the past 2 years.
- 5) Heading AWARDS: list awards you have won (other scholarships, solo/ensemble participation and ratings, etc).
- 6) Heading MUSIC EMPLOYMENT: list any work experience you have in music, i.e. paid accompaniment, private teaching experience, etc.
- 7) Heading MISCELLANEOUS: list any other relevant information that represents your personal music experience, i.e. music clubs/associations, theory courses completed, special projects, etc.
- 8) Heading SECONDARY EXPERIENCE: list secondary instruments and brief description of background

ESSAY TOPICS:

Write briefly on some or all of the questions below that seem most relevant to you, 1-2 pages maximum:

- a. What impact has music made in your life and education thus far?
- b. What inspired you to continue music studies after high school?
- c. What do you hope to gain by continuing your music education and performance at the college level and into your future? If you are planning a career outside music, what role does music play in your life while pursuing other goals?
- d. Ideally, how do you see yourself participating in music while attending college?
- e. Anything else you want us to know about your music background or future?

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:

Send 1-2 letters of recommendation from music references. Letters may be sent directly from your reference's home OR email address.

AUDITION DAY and PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS:

All applicants are required to perform a minimum of 2 contrasting solo pieces for scholarship eligibility. Some departments have further requirements. When you submit your initial information, I will get you contact information for the appropriate professors to discuss scales, vocalization or any other demonstrations that may be required.

Live on-campus auditions:

Auditions take place in a private lesson format between you and the instrumental/vocal area instructor. Voice applicants should bring piano sheet music for the provided accompanist. Accompaniment is not necessary or provided for instrumental auditions. All applicants are invited to arrive early and warm-up in any of the open practice rooms in the lower level of the Howard Music Hall.

Remote auditions:

Please submit as 'unlisted' youtube links. Remote auditions must be in video format. Edited or audio recordings are not accepted other than as supplemental. Vocalists must perform with appropriate piano accompaniment to be eligible. Accompaniment for instrumental auditions is optional. Recordings of past live solo performances are acceptable. Jazz auditions may include video from a group/combo performance where individual improvisational skills are demonstrated.

SCHOLARSHIP NOTIFICATION, CONTRACT and OBLIGATIONS:

When a student has been admitted to the college and completed their audition, music scholarship awards will appear along with or as an addendum to the official college financial aid and/or merit package within a month of the audition. By signing your new financial aid package, you are agreeing to the requirements of your music scholarship:

- 1) Maintain good overall academic standing
- 2) Enrollment in private lessons for each semester receiving a scholarship
- 3) Enrollment in an ensemble of the music department's highest need or priority.

*If you would like to submit *optional* supplemental materials such as DVD, CD, music programs, solo/ensemble adjudication sheets, etc., please send them in one package to:

Stacey Jones, ATTN: Music Scholarships
c/o Hillsdale College Howard Dept. of Music
79 E. College Street, Hillsdale, MI 49242
E-file attach: sjones@hillsdale.edu

**Materials submitted by mail are returned only upon request.*

ADD TO WEBSITE SCHOLARSHIPS:

Voice: 2 contrasting pieces of classical style, preferably at least one in a foreign language.

Jazz: Perform 2 jazz standards on your instrument or on voice, option to accompany yourself on piano or guitar.
Demonstrate improvisation within the chord changes of the 2 tunes.