

Requirements for practical entrance exam Bachelor of Music

Voice Jazz & Pop

Preliminary round

After your application via Studielink, you will receive an e-mail with instructions for uploading a video clip. This will include a link for backing tracks. Make a short film clip (max. 7 minutes), in which you show as much of your playing and musical passion as possible. One of the pieces you play will be an assignment, for which you will use the backing tracks (available in different keys). The other song you play is your choice. We would appreciate it if that is in a completely different style. On the basis of the entries, the admissions committee (consisting of course teachers) will decide who is invited to the live audition.

You will be notified of the results of the preliminary round through Studielink. In view of the large number of applications, no further communication about this result is possible.

Live audition

At your audition, you can play either with your own band or with students from the J&P course. In the latter case, please bring along four copies of legible parts (preferably no more than 2 pages long) in the correct key (the ensemble will consist of students; don't make the pieces too hard to play). The audition room will contain the following items: microphone, sound installation(s), grand piano, basic drum kit (make sure your drummer brings his own cymbals, clutch and felt pads) and music stands.

You will have taken a theory test prior to the live audition. The live audition takes about 30 minutes and consists of three parts:

Musical skills:

- You have prepared 3 pieces of music, preferably with your own band, in a variety of styles and characters, including one a capella piece (read more about this further on) and no more than one piece from the preliminary round. You will play the pieces by heart.
 - In choosing your pieces, ensure that they show off your voice optimally;
- The committee would like to hear you play the music to which you feel the closest affinity, preferably one of your own compositions.
 - The committee expects you to be open to broad development in both jazz and pop-oriented music.
- Your playing must express a reasonable degree of rhythmic, melodic and harmonic insight;
 - If desired, the committee can do an exercise with you on the spot.

Musical versatility

For the purpose of assessing this, you must choose one piece from the list of standards below and rehearse it. At the audition, the committee will ask you to sing the piece you have chosen a capella in a particular tempo/feel/key.

- o I thought about you (J. Mercer – J. VanHeusen)
- o This masquerade (L. Russell)
- o Black coffee (P.F. Webster – S. Burke)
- o Here's that rainy day (J. Burke – J. VanHeusen)
- o But not for me (G. Gershwin – I. Gershwin)
- o Close to you (Burt Bacharach)
- o Big yellow taxi (Joni Mitchell)
- o Too late now (Carol King)
- o I guess that's why they call it the blues (Elton John)
- o Moondance (Van Morrison)

Listening skills

These skills can be tested at the audition through a short practical aural test.

Assessment

If you pass both the theory test and the live audition, the committee may declare you admissible.

This is a provisional result. You will be informed as soon after the audition as possible whether you have actually received a place on the course.

The committee will take the following aspects into account in their assessment:

- feeling for text and language
- feeling for melody and harmony
- feeling for rhythm and phrasing
- posture and breathing
- playing together and communication
- personal interpretation and improvisation
- technical singing skills
 - vocal development (registers and smoothness)
 - strength of the voice
 - versatility and flexibility
 - sound formation and articulation
 - any vocal weaknesses you may have