

Music Department Audition Requirements: Bass

In-person auditions

Once Algoma University receives applications, a Music Department representative will contact applicants to arrange an audition/interview.

Pieces

Performance of two contrasting selections demonstrating the full extent of the candidate's musical and technical ability. If desired, one of the two selections can be a study. Minimum level: intermediate (grade 4 to 7). ***Please note:** for candidates studying at a level below grade 4, an audition is still recommended and encouraged, as often, Algoma Music Department is in a position to recommend admission based on exceptional potential, artistry, and commitment, regardless of level. In addition, for students whose training has not been classically based, all genres are welcome. Algoma Music Faculty can establish instrumental level regardless of genre performed. For those who are curious about the level of their audition selections, the Director of Music, Dr. Turgeon, is happy to make a level determination. Candidates are welcome to send Dr. Turgeon scanned copies of their music (edward.turgeon@algonau.ca).

Technique

Candidates should demonstrate fluency and technical facility in the performance of:

- One major scale (key of candidate's choice) and one minor scale (harmonic and melodic form, key of candidate's choice), one octave, bowed in quarter note pairs, played at metronome speed quarter note = 96.
- One major and one minor arpeggio (keys of candidate's choice), bowed in groups of three quarter notes, played at metronome speed quarter note = 96.

Sight Reading

A simple 6 to 8 measure piece in 2/4, 3/4 or 4/4 time. Approximately difficulty: grade 2 (RCM). Rhythmic continuity will be expected in addition to observance of musical elements and details such as key signature, accidentals, tempo markings and changes, dynamics and articulations.

Interview

Faculty will inquire regarding the candidate's musical experiences and goals. Candidates are encouraged to ask questions regarding Algoma's programs, financial aid packages, course offerings, Music Faculty credentials, transfer options, campus structure and life, student accomplishments, residences and other living options in the beautiful city of Sault Ste. Marie.

Examples of possible questions that may be asked by Music Faculty members:

- For how long have you played the bass?
- For how many years (total - not including breaks) were you enrolled in private lessons?
- Do you play any other instruments?
- With which ensembles have you been involved (if any)?
- How and where did you acquire your background in music theory?
- Have you taken any practical or theory examinations through the Royal Conservatory of Music, Conservatory Canada, Western Conservatory or ABSRM?
- In what years were the exams taken, and what were the results?
- What are your musical interests and goals?

Scores and Collaborative Pianist Arrangements

Candidates are asked to bring all music scores to the audition. Works written for bass and piano must be performed with a collaborative pianist. A list of approved Algoma University collaborative pianists is available from Dr. Edward Turgeon (705-989-6879; edward.turgeon@algonau.ca). Collaborative pianist reservations must be made at least two weeks prior to any audition date. The fee for the services of an Algoma University collaborative pianist is \$75, which includes a one hour rehearsal plus the audition. Candidates are welcome to bring their own collaborative pianist.

Video Auditions

While in-person auditions are preferred and recommended, if a live audition is impractical, Algoma University Music Department will accept DVD's or auditions performed via SKYPE. Audition DVD's and copies of music scores (if using the services of an on-site, Algoma University collaborative pianist) should be sent to Dr. Edward Turgeon, Director of Music, Algoma University, 1520 Queen Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, P6A 2G4.

Scholarships

In addition to Algoma University's generous scholarship opportunities, the Music Department is often able to award substantial additional scholarship money based on the merit of an audition.