

Algoma University Music Department Audition Requirements: Violin

In-Person audition

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

Audition requirements include:

Repertoire

The candidate will be expected to perform 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 (RCM grade 4 to 7). ***Please note:** for candidates studying at a level below RCM grade 4, or for candidates who are not in a position to articulate their playing level, an audition is still recommended and encouraged, as often, the Music Department has been in the position to recommend admittance to the Music Program based on artistry, exceptional potential and commitment. In addition, though students may not have received training in the classical tradition, all musical genres are most welcome in auditions, as Algoma Music Department faculty can establish level regardless of genre performed.

Technique

- The candidate will be expected to demonstrate rhythmic stability and technical facility and proficiency in the execution of the following technical requirements:
- One major scale (key of candidate's choice) and one minor scale (harmonic and melodic forms; key of candidate's choice), two octaves, bowed in groups of four eighth notes, played at metronome speed quarter note = 60.
- B major scale one octave on the A string, bowed in groups of two slurred quarter notes, played at metronome speed quarter note = 84
- E major scale one octave in fourth position, bowed in groups of two slurred quarter notes, played at metronome speed quarter note = 84
- E flat major double stops (broken sixths), one octave, bowed in pairs of slurred quarter notes followed by the double stop harmonic sixth, played at metronome speed quarter note = 60
- One major and one minor arpeggio (keys of candidate's choice), two octaves, played in groups of three slurred quarter notes, played at metronome speed quarter note = 96.

Sight Reading

A simple eight to twelve measure piece in 2/4, 3/4 or 4/4 time and in key of C, F, G, or D major, played in first position. Approximately difficulty: grade 2 level (RCM). Rhythmic continuity will be expected in addition to observance of details such as key signature, accidentals, tempo

markings and musical elements including dynamics, articulations, ritardandos and phrase markings.)

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.

Here are some examples of possible questions asked by faculty:

- For how long have you played your instrument?
- Do you play any other instruments?
- For how many years (total – not including any breaks) were you enrolled in private lessons?
- 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 such organizations as the Royal Conservatory of Music, Western Conservatory, Conservatory Canada or the ABSRM?
- What were the results of those examinations?
- 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 violin and piano must be performed with a collaborative pianist. A list of approved Algoma University collaborative pianists are 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 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