

VCASS MUSIC AUDITION CRITERIA 2020

Voice Applicants

Voice applicants will be required to complete a first round voice audition. If you receive a call back, you will then need to complete an aural and written test, along with a follow up audition.

Instrumental Applicants

You will be required to complete an aural and written test, along with an audition.

Key Dates

Voice: Scheduled for end of July / early August 2020

Instrumental: Scheduled for week of August 10th 2020

Aural & Written Test: Early August 2020

*Please Note: All audition dates are subject to change due to the availability of specialist panel members and room accessibility.

All Applicants

Audition Location

- All music auditions are held at VCASS, 57 Miles Street Southbank.
- There is no parking available on the premises. The closest car parks are at the Arts Centre and the Australian Ballet Centre. There is also secure parking at 21 Bank St South Melbourne.

Audition requirements

- Applicants must arrive at least 15 minutes before scheduled audition time.
- On audition day, you will need to bring along a written list of pieces and technical work you will perform.
- On audition day, all applicants **must** bring a copy of your **Semester 1, 2020 Reports**.
- In the audition, applicants will be given a sight reading test and aural test. Aural tests will involve rhythm, pitch and harmony.

Audition format

- Music auditions are 15 minutes long.
- 5 minutes is set aside for set up and presenting your prepared repertoire and technical work
- 5 minutes for aural testing and
- 5 minutes for interview.

Entry Criteria

Entry to the VCASS music program is by audition (including an aural and written test).

Applicants should be musically literate. The ability to read and understand music notation is essential.

Instrumental proficiency

Applicants are not required to have taken any prior music examinations. It is advisable however to be at the following AMEB levels:

Piano (classical), Violin, Cello	Entering Years 7/8: AMEB Grade 6 Entering Years 9/10: AMEB Grade 7 Entering Year 11: AMEB Grade 8 Entering Year 12: AMEB Associate Diploma
Other instruments including improvisation stream	It is advised that applicants have had several years of tuition by a suitably trained and qualified instrumental music teacher.
Voice	Whilst vocal training is not mandatory, it is advisable applicants have received some vocal training within a choir or private lessons. The policy of VCASS Music is that students will not enter years 7, 8 & 9 specifically as a contemporary or improvisation student. If they are deemed to be a suitable candidate for VCASS, the early voice pathways are focused on voice building.

Music Theory Knowledge

Whilst formal music theory tuition is not mandatory, it is expected that applicants have a minimum music theory knowledge entering the following year levels:

Year 7: AMEB Grade 1

Year 8: AMEB Grade 2

Year 9: AMEB Grade 3

Year 10: AMEB Grade 4

Years 11 – 12: AMEB Grade 5

Additional Information

What do I need to play in my audition?

Repertoire: Perform two - three contrasting pieces. One may be a study.

NB. In the audition the panel will select excerpts from your prepared material

Technical work: Scales and arpeggios (demonstrating control and prowess) in 3-4 keys related to your repertoire.

Additional Instruments

Whilst there is no expectation that an applicant is highly skilled on a second instrument, presentation of one work on an additional instrument may be appropriate.

Accompaniment

Typically, applicants auditioning on piano, guitar, drums and percussion may not need an accompanist.

If your two performance pieces require accompaniment, we recommend you use an accompanist.

Applicants are required to provide their own accompanist.

For a list of freelance accompanists refer to the vmta.vic.au website.

Recorded accompaniment is **not** permitted.

A piano for accompanists will be available.

Amplifiers for improvisation accompanists will be available.

The following instruments have **specific audition requirements**:

<p>Voice</p>	<p>Vocalists must sing without a microphone.</p> <p>Recorded accompaniment is not permitted.</p> <p>All vocalists should select a work that displays your middle and upper register.</p> <p>It is important to sing without force.</p> <p>Non-Improvising Vocalists entering Year 7-9: at least one song should be selected from any book from AMEB Grade 1-4 "Singing Series 2", or ABRSM Songbook, books 3-5.</p> <p>Non-Improvising Vocalists entering Year 10-12: at least one song should be selected from "26 Italian Songs and Arias: Authoritative Edition by Paton", or a comparable song in Italian, French or German.</p> <p>Improvising Vocalists should include one of the following jazz standards as one of your two contrasting works: <i>All the Things You Are</i>, <i>Autumn Leaves</i>, <i>God Bless the Child</i>, <i>One Note Samba</i> or <i>Black Orpheus</i>.</p> <p>Improvising Voclaists should be prepared to improvise over a blues progression and a ii-V-I chord progression.</p>
<p>Piano - Classical</p>	<p><i>One work of your choice; One Study (from any period) or Baroque work (c.1600-1760); and one Classical work (c.1730-1820).</i></p>
<p>Improvisation Applicants</p>	<p>Prepare one work of your own choosing.</p> <p>In addition prepare two contrasting well known jazz standards (eg: <i>All the Things You Are</i>, <i>Autumn Leaves</i>, <i>Black Orpheus</i>, <i>God Bless the Child</i>).</p> <p>Be prepared to improvise over a blues progression and a ii-V-I chord progression.</p>
<p>Electric Guitar and Electric Bass</p>	<p>Prepare one work of your own choosing.</p> <p>In addition prepare two contrasting well known jazz standards (eg: <i>All the Things You Are</i>, <i>Autumn Leaves</i>, <i>Black Orpheus</i>, <i>God Bless the Child</i>).</p> <p>Be prepared to improvise over a blues progression and a ii-V-I chord progression.</p> <p>Amplifiers will be supplied. Effects pedals are not permitted.</p> <p>Please supply your own instrument lead.</p>
<p>Drum Kit</p>	<p>Drummers must play with sticks and brushes and demonstrate a variety of feels and grooves including Latin, Swing, Balad and Jazz Waltz.</p> <p>Technical work must include basic drum rudiments, plus one solo from the book "<i>The All-American Drummer</i>" by Charley Wilcoxon.</p> <p>In addition prepare two contrasting well known jazz standards (eg: <i>All the Things You Are</i>, <i>Autumn Leaves</i>, <i>Black Orpheus</i>, <i>God Bless the Child</i>).</p> <p>A Drum kit with cymbals will be supplied. Drum kit applicants may bring their own cymbals. Double kick pedals are not permitted.</p>

Percussion	Once you receive your confirmation of the date and time of your audition, Percussion applicants must email music@vcass.vic.edu.au to confirm which instruments, if any, you require us to provide at your audition (i.e. classical snare, marimba, vibraphone). You need to bring your own sticks and/or mallets.
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Feedback

During your audition you may be provided with some immediate feedback. However, it is VCASS policy that applicants will not be provided with detailed individual feedback.

Music curriculum information

To view detailed information about the Music curriculum at VCASS, please visit the Music page under 'Programs' on our website: [Music Handbook 2020](#)

Contact

General enquiries

For any general enquiries call our office on 03 8644 8644