



School of Music  
University of Missouri

## Fall 2025 Ensemble Audition Information

### Choral Ensembles (New Students)

Choral Hearings for choral ensembles will take place **Thursday and Friday, August 21-22, from 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM and 1:30 - 4:00 PM in Sheryl Crow Hall located in the Sinquefeld Music Center room 132**. Hearings are for all new students interested in joining a choral ensemble for the Fall Semester, as well as any returning students interested in auditioning into University Singers who did not audition this past Spring. Returning members of University Singers are not required to audition in the first round but will participate in call-back auditions. **University Singers' callbacks are scheduled for Sunday, August 24, 4:30-6:00 pm in SMC 132 (Sheryl Crow Hall)**. Music to prepare for callbacks will be emailed one day in advance. Students interested in ensembles not requiring an audition (Choral Union and Sankofa Chorale), should still sign up for a hearing time listed below to ensure proper vocal part assignment.

#### MU Choral Ensembles and Meeting Times

- Choral Union Symphonic Chorus, Thursdays, 7:00-9:00 PM
- Concert Chorale, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:15-1:45 PM
- Hitt Street Harmony Vocal Jazz Ensemble, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 2:00-2:50 PM
- Sankofa Chorale, Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 PM
- University Singers, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 12:15-1:45 PM

For more information about each ensemble, visit the website here: <https://music.missouri.edu/ensemble/choirs>

Please sign up for an audition time here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B4BAFA823A0FF2-57105762-choral>

At the hearing, singers are asked to:

- Fill out an audition form provided at the audition time.
- Perform a solo of any style that best demonstrates your vocal abilities. Feel free to sing a classical, musical theater, original composition, or folk/traditional song. If you cannot prepare a solo, we will vocalize you to determine your range for your ensemble placement. A collaborative pianist will be provided. Please bring printed music for the accompanist.
- Demonstrate your sight-reading skills.
- Demonstrate your tonal memory skills.

The entire process takes about seven minutes. The choral faculty will still be hearing late auditions during the first week of classes. If you missed the audition dates, please email Dr. Boyd ([boydba@missouri.edu](mailto:boydba@missouri.edu)).

Rosters will be linked via School of Music social media and posted outside SMC 132 by Monday, August 25 at 10 AM. MyZou permissions will be assigned by 5:00 pm Monday, August 25 and students may enroll after 5 pm. All rehearsals will begin as scheduled on Monday, August 25.

Please contact Dr. Brandon A. Boyd, Director of Choral Activities, at [boydba@missouri.edu](mailto:boydba@missouri.edu) for questions regarding Choral Ensemble Hearings.



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**Voice Studio Placement/Opera Auditions (New Students)**

Lesson placement for new voice majors and non-music majors (space permitting) along with optional Opera Workshop auditions, will take place **Friday, August 22, 2:00-5:00 pm in McKee 204**. Auditions will be six minutes in length. Please sign up for an audition time here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B4BAFA823A0FF2-57105784-voice>

Preparation: for voice studio placement only (no Opera Workshop) please prepare a song or aria that has printed sheet music (Classical, Musical Theater, Standard). If you do not have a prepared selection, you will be asked to sing the first verse of "My Country, 'Tis of Thee." A collaborative pianist will be provided: please bring a copy of your music for them.

If, in addition to studio placement, you want to sing for placement in Opera Workshop, you should bring two selections, one in English and the other in a foreign language, Italian preferred.

Acceptance: Music Major teacher assignments will be posted by Tuesday, August 26. Non-major acceptances will be posted by Thursday, August 28. Private lessons will begin no later than the second week of classes.

Questions? Please contact Prof. Steven Tharp at [Tharpst@missouri.edu](mailto:Tharpst@missouri.edu).



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University of Missouri

**Concert Bands and Orchestra**

All new and returning instrumental students are required to audition for ensemble placement at the beginning of the Fall Semester. Non-music majors interested in joining University Band will not need to audition.

**Friday, August 22**

- 9:00 AM-12:00 PM – Violin/Harp (SMC 385)
- 11:30 AM-2:30 PM – Saxophone/Clarinet (SMC 383)
- 10:00 AM-1:00 PM – Percussion (SMC 130)
- 1:00-3:30 PM – Viola/Cello/Bass (SMC 385)
- 3:00-5:00 PM – Flute/Oboe/Bassoon (SMC 383)
- 3:00-5:00 PM – Trombone/Tuba/Euphonium (SMC 130)
- 5:00-6:30 PM – Horn (SMC 130)
- 7:00-8:30 PM – Trumpet (SMC 130)

Please sign up for an audition time here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B4BAFA823A0FF2-57105761-concert>

The audition process will take approximately four minutes. Audition excerpts are posted at <https://music.missouri.edu/news/fall-2025-audition-information>

**Incoming first-year string players** should prepare the excerpts for their instrument **and** one excerpt from a solo work of their choice not to exceed 2 minutes in length demonstrating technical command and expressive range. Returning string players should prepare the excerpts for their instrument only.

Rosters will be linked via School of Music social media and posted outside SMC 132 by Monday, August 25 at 10 AM. MyZou permissions will be assigned by 5:00 pm Monday, August 25 and students may enroll after 5 pm. All rehearsals will begin as scheduled on Monday, August 25.

Questions? Please contact Brooke Danielsen at [danielsenb@missouri.edu](mailto:danielsenb@missouri.edu).



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University of Missouri

**Jazz Ensembles**

**Auditions for big bands** will include 1-3 sight-reading examples selected from classic jazz charts. Students are also encouraged to learn one (or two) of the posted jazz etudes. Improvisation is also encouraged, but optional for students comfortable with soloing. Chord changes for the etudes are provided and can be used to improvise over. **Auditions for combos** will include improvisation on 1-2 tunes of the student's choice. Students should select tunes that they are comfortable with and demonstrate their abilities. Jazz big bands and combos are open to students of any major. The audition process will take approximately 10 minutes.

**Thursday, August 21 (SMC 385)**

- 11:30 AM – 12:50 PM – Bass
- 1:10-2:00 PM – Guitar
- 2:20-3:10 PM – Piano
- 5:20-7:00 PM – Drums
- 7:20-8:00 PM – Bass/Guitar/Piano/Drums/Vocals

**Friday, August 22 (SMC 306)**

- 12:00-2:00 PM – Trumpet
- 2:30-4:50 PM – Saxophone
- 5:15-6:55 PM – Trombone
- 7:15-7:55 PM – Trumpet/Saxophone/Trombone/Vocals

Please sign up for an audition time here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B4BAFA823A0FF2-57105783-jazz>

**Audition Requirements**

**Instrumentalists:**

- Sight-reading (big band only)
- Improvisation (required for combo, optional for big band)
- Players select a tune of their choice. Performers newer to improvisation are encouraged to improvise over a blues. More advanced improvisers are encouraged to select a more challenging tune.
- Prepared Etude (optional for big band - available at <https://music.missouri.edu/ensemble/jazz-ensembles>) *Prepared etudes can be used to help determine chair and/or band placement. They are encouraged but not a required part of the audition process.*

**Rhythm Section Members:**

- Various grooves at a variety of tempos (swing, shuffle, bossa nova, funk, ballads, etc.)
- Sight-reading (big band only)
- Soloing (optional – if demonstrating solo ability, be prepared to solo over the form of a song, as well as trade 4 or 8 bar phrases).

**Vocalists:**

- Two pieces, memorized (one medium-up tempo swing, 32 bars maximum; one ballad, 16 bars maximum)
- Improvisation is optional
- If you have selected a tune that falls outside the Great American Songbook, please have your own accompaniment prepared.

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## School of Music

University of Missouri

rehearsals will begin as scheduled on Monday, August 25. Contact Dr. Sam Griffith at [GriffithSV@missouri.edu](mailto:GriffithSV@missouri.edu) with questions.

### Marching Mizzou

Visit <https://music.missouri.edu/ensemble/marching-mizzou> for more information about Marching Mizzou auditions.

### Piano Area Auditions: Lesson placement for non-music majors

Auditions will take place **by appointment only on Friday, August 22**. Please email Dr. Peter Miyamoto at [miyamotop@missouri.edu](mailto:miyamotop@missouri.edu) by Thursday, August 21 to schedule an appointment on Friday.

Requirement to audition: 3 years of previous classical-style study.

Preparation: Be prepared to play two contrasting classical-type selections – at least one must be memorized.

Neither has to be long—in fact, shorter is better. You will be asked to sight-read a simple piano piece.

Acceptance: If qualified, student is placed on waiting list until the third day of class, pending space in piano studios.

Piano students who have previously auditioned and been accepted to a piano program do not have to audition again in August. If you have not already auditioned on piano as a music major or minor, please contact Dr. Peter Miyamoto at [miyamotop@missouri.edu](mailto:miyamotop@missouri.edu) to schedule an audition.

### Ensemble Schedule – Fall 2025

#### M/W/F

9:15-10:45 AM: New Music Ensemble (SMC 130)

12:15-1:45 PM: University Singers (SMC 132)

12:15-1:45 PM: Wind Ensemble (SMC 130)

2:00-2:50 PM: Hitt Street Harmony (SMC 132)

2:00-3:30 PM: Concert Jazz Band (M/W; SMC 130)

4:00-7:00 PM: University Percussion Ensemble (M; SMC 130 //Sectionals held W 5-7 PM)

7:00-8:30 PM: Studio Jazz Band (W; SMC 130)

#### T/TH

12:15-1:45 PM: Concert Chorale (SMC 132)

12:15-1:45 PM: Symphonic Band (SMC 130)

2:00-2:50 PM: World Percussion (TH; SMC 130)

6:30-8:30 PM: Sankofa Chorale (T; SMC 132)

7:00-9:00 PM: University Band (T; SMC 130)

7:00-9:00 PM: Choral Union (TH; SMC 132)

#### Irregular

4:15-6:00 PM: University Symphony Orchestra (T/TH; SMC 130)

7:00-8:30 PM: University Symphony Orchestra Sectionals (W; Location TBA)

3:00-5:00 PM: Opera Workshop (M/F; McKee 204)

4:00-6:00 PM: Opera Workshop (T/W/TH; McKee 204)

4:15-6:00 PM: Marching Mizzou (T-F; Marching Mizzou Practice Field)