NIU Voice Audition Requirements

Please review and prepare all requirements thoroughly. Auditions are held in person at NIU in January and February, unless otherwise determined. Please register for an audition date on our website. If you are unable to attend NIU’s audition days, you will need to contact the Music Admissions Coordinator (bcrawford@niu.edu) to schedule an independent audition or obtain approval to submit an unedited video audition. Please bring copies of your music for the adjudication panel.

**Undergraduate Vocalists**
Two songs or arias from the classical music tradition with piano accompaniment.

- Music must be memorized
- One song must be in English
- One song must be in a foreign language
- Sight-reading exam, given at the audition

Music Minor applicants follow the requirements above. However, you may sing the second song in a language of your choice. While it is encouraged it be in a foreign language, it’s not required.

**Graduate Vocalists**
Graduate applicants must sing three selections, following the guidelines above, adding an oratorio aria in any European language including English, or a second song or aria.

Prospective graduate students will also need to provide a repertoire list and a copy of their senior recital program. These documents can either be brought with you to your audition or emailed to bcrawford@niu.edu prior to your audition date.

**Repertoire Guidelines**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggested aria composers</th>
<th>Suggested song composers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mozart</td>
<td>Schubert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rossini</td>
<td>Schumann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handel</td>
<td>Vaughan Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purcell</td>
<td>Roger Quilter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The English selection may be chosen from the musical theatre repertory in the operetta tradition, Gilbert and Sullivan, Friml, Romberg for example, or from the era of Rodgers and Hammerstein (e.g., Carousel, Oklahoma), Lerner and Lowe (e.g., My Fair Lady), Cole Porter (e.g., Kiss Me, Kate) and comparable material from Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Rodgers and Hart. No patter arias or belt songs.

Comparable material in the classical music tradition may be substituted, for example Arie Antiche (Italian Art Songs) or folk song arrangements from composers like Quilter or Benjamin Britten. No original material will be accepted.

An accompanist will be provided for school auditions. Please come prepared with legible sheet music. If photocopies are used, kindly present them in a three-ring binder. Recorded accompaniment is not acceptable at school auditions.

Questions? Contact Dr. Orna Arania (parania@niu.edu) or Professor Robert Sims (robertsims@niu.edu).