

## **Idaho State University Music Department**

### **Audition Activities and Requirements for Piano Majors and Minors**

1. The performance of two or three contrasting works by memory is required for the audition, depending on the degree sought and length and difficulty of the pieces. Selections should be from different historical periods. Performance majors should perform at least one piece that shows a high level and variety of technical skills at the upper advanced level. Applicants who are applying for the BME, Bachelor of Arts or Science, or piano minor, should perform pieces at the lower advanced or upper intermediate level. Choices should be in the Standard Classical Repertoire, which includes Modern, Post-Modern, and Minimalist styles and rags. See below for examples.
2. Applicants will be asked to play a few scales and arpeggios. Applicants for the performance major should aim to perform all 12 major scales and harmonic minor scales and arpeggios for four octaves, with at least some of the scales at a tempo of metronome=92, 4 notes/beat and arpeggios 3 notes/beat.
3. All applicants will be asked to sight-read two or three pieces at the lower intermediate level.
4. Applicants will be invited to ask questions, and will be asked questions about their experience, plans for collegiate study, and career aspirations.

#### **Examples of Upper Advanced Repertoire:**

J.S. Bach: Preludes and Fugues, except for C major, WTC I  
Any Toccata  
Any opening or closing movement from a suite

Any outer movement of a sonata by Mozart, except for K. 283 or 545  
Any outer movement of a middle or late sonata by Haydn  
Any outer movement of a sonata by Beethoven, except for Op. 49 or 79

Any ballade, scherzo, or sonata movement by Chopin  
Most any piece by Liszt or Schumann, except for *Album for the Young*  
Any of the late piano pieces by Brahms

#### **Examples of Upper Intermediate Repertoire:**

Any invention by J.S. Bach  
Beethoven Sonata Op. 79  
Mozart Sonata in G major, K. 283  
Clementi Sonatina in D major, Op. 36, No. 6  
Mendelssohn Venetian Boat Songs