

## ***School of Music***

### ***Voice Department Sophomore Review Policies***

The BFA in Music Performance (Voice) undergraduate program requires a comprehensive review for all sophomores at the end of the academic year. This review replaces the second semester jury. The review committee consists of the members of the voice faculty, and it may include additional faculty from academic areas who have direct contact with the students during their first two years of study.

Meetings scheduled during the school year provide students with the opportunity to discuss the review policies and procedures in preparation for the review. After the review, the committee submits a review report to be filed in the student's permanent record. A copy of this report is placed in the student's School mail folder.

#### **Review Description**

All students will be in their fourth semester of private studio instruction. At this juncture, a strong sense of self-direction should be evident. They should be able to demonstrate a substantial level of musicality and a foundation of technical skills should be in place.

The Sophomore Review gives the students an opportunity to reflect upon their work and understand its patterns, strengths and deficiencies. It then provides the faculty an opportunity to assess the students' body of work and academic progress, in order to make recommendations regarding the individual's future course of study.

Each sophomore will prepare provide the review committee with the proper number of Sophomore Review evaluation forms, and a neatly arranged three-ring black binder, that includes the following materials:

- List of six pieces to be performed from memory: emphasis on the German language, including one selection from an oratorio (any language), and an example of secco recitativo (this may be connected to an aria selection, or a stand-alone recitativo, i.e. excerpts from Bach's *Johannes-Passion*)
- Word for word, *and* poetic translations for each of the six pieces
- One paragraph, structured as a program note, on one selection that discusses the piece stylistically, historically, and interpretively
- A summary of vocal performance activities from the last two years, including summer activities
- A statement of goals for the next two years
- Comprehensive repertoire list (including composers' dates), studied during the freshmen and sophomore years
- Resume (optional)

Students will begin their review with a repertoire selection of their choice, and then may be asked to sing any or all, of the rest of the selections on their program. This singing presentation should reflect excellence in musical preparation, vocal technique, performance practice, and the vocal stamina required to present a 25-30 minute recital program in the following year. The remainder of the session is a discussion between the student and the review committee.

#### **Review Evaluation**

The singing and non-singing portions of the students' presentation will be discussed and assessed upon the criteria above.

#### **Review Decision**

After the review, the committee will issue a written recommendation for one of the following courses of action:

- Continue in the program as scheduled
- Re-Review at the beginning of the next semester (you may not register for your junior recital until you are approved to continue in the program as scheduled)

Students who fail the Re-Review will be dismissed from the Voice Major Program at the College for Fine Arts.