

Lessons, Juries, Recitals

Collaborative Pianists

It is the School's very strong preference that student piano majors or graduate assistants accompany as many of their colleagues as possible.

For recitals, it is the student's and the studio teacher's responsibility to:

- a. find an available student, graduate assistant, or collaborative staff pianist (see guidelines for collaborative pianists below) before the recital request form can be processed.
- b. if using a staff pianist, it is up to the student and the studio teacher to allow sufficient time to follow the guidelines for their use when scheduling. If the student misses the deadline for engaging a staff pianist, it is his/her responsibility to find an accompanist and to assume the cost if a staff pianist is used.
- c. provide music for the collaborative pianist as soon as possible. It is expected that the pianist has agreed to the repertoire before committing to the recital.
- d. find available rehearsal space well before the rehearsals begin.

For juries, it is the student's and the studio teacher's responsibility to:

- a. secure a collaborative pianist, student or staff, as early as possible.
- b. if using a staff pianist, it is up to the student and the studio teacher to allow sufficient time to follow the guidelines for their use when scheduling. If the student misses the deadline for engaging a staff pianist, it is his/her responsibility to find an accompanist and to assume the cost if a staff pianist is used.
- c. provide music for the jury pianist by mid-semester break. (This is especially advisable when using students to allow sufficient time to learn, rehearse and schedule coaching sessions with the studio teacher. Early selection also allows the teachers in charge of collaborative playing classes to include jury selections in the curriculum of regularly scheduled class periods.)
- d. secure rehearsal space and times.
- e. include participation by the studio teacher.

Staff pianists have been contracted by the School of Music to collaborate on only required recitals and juries, and only if students or graduate assistants are not available.

Students who are required to give a recital or jury and who cannot engage a student or graduate assistant may use one staff pianist without charge for the required recital or jury.

For full recitals, staff pianists, if needed, will play a maximum of 6 lesson hours and 2 rehearsal hours outside of lessons.

For half recitals, 3 lesson hours and 1 rehearsal hour outside of lessons. The staff pianists will also play a dress rehearsal (for full recitals, 2 hours; for half recitals, 1 hour) and the recital for one set fee. Additional lesson or rehearsal time will not be provided by the School.

For juries, staff pianists, if needed, will play a maximum of 2 hours including the jury. Additional lesson or rehearsal time will not be provided by the School.

All staff pianists are free to say “No” when their schedules are full. It is the studio teacher’s responsibility to make certain their students have taken care of all recital arrangements within the first three weeks of the fall semester and all jury arrangements by mid-semester break. If a student misses the deadline for engaging a staff pianist, it is his/her responsibility to find a pianist and to assume the cost if a staff pianist is used.

If the student is late or cancels a rehearsal at the last minute, the time will be lost. If the staff pianist has an emergency, he/she will be expected to reschedule the rehearsal.

Mark Carver is the coordinator of all student and staff collaborative pianists for the School of Music. It is the responsibility of the coordinator to assure that the guidelines are followed and to assist students and faculty in securing collaborative pianists when required. Staff must present proper documentation and secure Mr. Carver’s signature on all time cards in order to be compensated. Only authorized staff pianists will be paid by the School of Music. If studio teachers or students wish to use non-staff pianists, they are free to do so, but the school cannot be responsible for compensation.

Please remember that the School can only support required recitals and juries. If the studio teacher wants a student to perform when the student is not required to do so (for example, for elective recitals, elective juries, competitions, or master classes), the student may compensate a staff pianist or student pianist directly.