

# Tiffin University Music Department

## Scholarship Audition Guidelines

Audition guidelines for vocalists, instrumentalists, emcees, DJ's, beatmakers, marching auxiliary, dancers, and those interested in concert production and audio engineering are provided below.

**If auditioning in multiple areas, please prepare one piece in each area.**

### **Vocalists**

- Prepare two songs of contrasting styles (pop, jazz, classical, musical theatre, gospel, etc.), two minutes in length each, that best demonstrate your abilities.
- It is preferred that you sing the prepared pieces a cappella (without accompaniment). If your piece requires accompaniment, you may use a recording or have your own accompanist join you.
- You will be asked to do ear-training exercises.

### **Woodwinds, Brass, Strings**

- Prepare a solo of your choosing that demonstrates your ability to play music expressively. Lyrical etudes or excerpts from band/orchestra works are acceptable.
- Prepare a solo of your choosing that demonstrates your technical ability. Technical etudes or excerpts from band/orchestra works are acceptable.
- As you are able, play two or three major scales, and the chromatic scale.

### **Guitar, Bass**

- Prepare two selections that demonstrate your technical ability and your ability to play in multiple styles. Styles may include pop, jazz, rock, hip hop, funk/R&B, country, blues, or classical.
- As you are able, demonstrate a basic understand of different stylistic grooves, such as funk rhythm, country pickin', jazz rhythm guitar, walking bass, etc.
- As you are able, play major and minor blues pentatonic scales.
- Please provide copies of all sheet music, lead sheets, and /or jam tracks that you will need. If you are using recorded tracks, you are required to provide them on a CD or on your own MP3 player.

### **Drumset**

- Prepare to play in three or more contrasting musical styles with a metronome or click-track (80bpm-120bpm). Styles may include swing, rock, hip-hop, bossa, samba, funk, and/or gospel.
- As you are able, play an extended drum solo (no less than 32 bars) in a style of your choice.
- Please provide your own sticks, mallets and music.

### **Percussion**

- Prepare a solo excerpt that demonstrates your ability level on at least two of the following: Concert/Marching Snare, Mallet/Keyboard, Timpani, Multiple Percussion/Tenor Drums/Bass. Solos, methods exercises, and parts from band/orchestral works are acceptable.
- As you are able, demonstrate basic drum rudiments, a copy of which will be provided
- Please provide your own sticks, mallets and music.

### **Piano**

- Prepare two solo selections, either memorized or written, that best demonstrate your abilities. Music may be in any style, but one selection should demonstrate your highest level of technical skill, and the other your highest level of musical sensitivity.
- As you are able, play two or three major scales in two octaves, both hands simultaneously, ascending and descending.

### **Dancers**

- Prepare two routines of contrasting styles (hip hop, ballet, jazz, tap, modern, lyrical), at least two-minutes in length each that demonstrate your dance experience and interests.
- You are required to provide your recorded music tracks on a CD or on your own iPod/MP3 player.

### **Marching Auxiliary**

- Prepare a two minute routine demonstrating your abilities to your choice of song.
- You are required to provide any auxiliary equipment you plan to use, as well as your recorded music tracks on a CD or on your own iPod/MP3 player.

### **DJs**

- Be prepared to discuss your DJ setup (i.e. software, interface, turntables, etc.)
- Please provide a DVD or YouTube recording of you DJing in a performance or at home practicing (5-10min). Bring a CD of a 30 minute DJ mix, formatted to one audio file. The music should have seamless transitions through beat matching or creative use of interlude. Please include a tracklist.
- Please bring your own laptop and interface.

### **Beatmakers**

- Be prepared to discuss your beat-making process (software, interface, MIDI controller, sampler, etc.)
- Bring a disc of at least five beats without vocals, and five beats with vocals.
- Please provide a DVD or YouTube footage of your home recording or beatmaking (5-10min).

### **Emcees**

- Prepare at least three original verses and two original hooks to rhyme over instrumentals of your choice. Be prepared to rhyme with a beat a cappella.
- Bring a disc of at least five recorded original demos or songs.
- Please provide a DVD or YouTube footage of your home recording or performances (5-10min).
- You are required to provide your recorded music tracks on a CD or on your own iPod/MP3 player.

### **Audio Engineering & Concert Production**

- Be prepared to discuss your experience as an audio engineer or in the field of concert production, promotion or stage management.
- Provide a detailed written description of your experience in the field.
- Be prepared to discuss how you will contribute to Tiffin University's Audio Engineering Team and Concert Production Team.

### **Art Team**

- Be prepared to talk about your experience with art and design, particularly any work that you have made for others or under the direction of others, as opposed to personal art or design work.
- Be prepared to present and discuss a portfolio of 8-10 pieces.
- Be prepared to discuss how you will contribute to Tiffin University's Art Team

## **Equipment Provided**

The TU Music Department will provide the following equipment:

- Music stands
- Piano
- CD Player with aux input for MP3 player
- 4-piece Drumset with hardware and cymbals
- Amplified Speaker
- Guitar/Bass Amplifier(s)

*\*If you require items not listed, please email [gig@tiffin.edu](mailto:gig@tiffin.edu)*