

Audition Requirements for MSU Denver at DIME Denver Degree Programs

Bachelor of Arts in Individualized Studies: Commercial Music Performance

Part I - Important General Information

SCHEDULING AN AUDITION

To schedule your audition, call us at **303-623-1600** or contact a member of our recruitment and admissions team:
James Ashbury jamesashbury@dime-denver.com

WHAT TO EXPECT

- ◆ Auditions are organized as follows:
 - Interview** (30 minutes)
 - Audition with Faculty** (15 minutes)
- ◆ **About the Interview:** The interview consists of a discussion detailing any previous formal musical training, past performances on stage and in studio, knowledge of music history and repertoire, self-directed practice in composition/improvisation, leading bands and promoting projects, booking and managing shows and sessions, and applying synthesis of skills towards musical goals. Additionally, applicants will discuss their overall career aspirations in the music industry.
- ◆ **About the Audition:** The assessment consists of demonstrations of performance, musicianship, composition/improvisation, and accurate understanding of musical terminology and notation.
- ◆ **Provisional Acceptance into your chosen Program:** In some cases, applicants who perform well but are not able to successfully complete all portions of the audition may be given Provisional Acceptance into the MSU Denver at DIME Detroit program. This will require a student to re-audition after their second semester in order to continue in the program.
- ◆ **After Your Audition:** If a student successfully completes their audition and is recommended for an MSU Denver at DIME Detroit BA degree program, they will be asked to submit a formal application to Metropolitan State University of Denver. The recruitment and admissions team will provide instructions on how to apply, and students will have the opportunity to apply on site if requested. MSU Denver requires a \$25 application fee.
- ◆ **Please Note:** Students may be accepted to MSU Denver and begin their coursework with a provisional pass of their audition; however, they must successfully re-audition prior to being accepted into any of the following degree programs. Students will be expected to work on sight-reading, improving technical ability on their instrument, or other aspects of the audition as required.

Part II - Audition Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts in Individualized Studies:

1. Commercial Music Performance Guitar	2
2. Bass	2
3. Drums	3
4. Vocals	3

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GUITAR

- ◆ **Perform two prepared songs, at least 3 minutes in length per song, chosen from the applicant's current known repertoire:**
Applicants should choose pieces that accurately portray their personal styles, display their current level of musicality, and demonstrate an understanding of timing, technique, intonation, dynamics, and comfort on stage. Songs should be performed with a backing track if possible.
- ◆ Identify the key and basic chord progression of each song performed.
- ◆ Play two octave major, minor, and pentatonic scales with corresponding arpeggios.
- ◆ Play a I-IV-V progression in 2 styles (examples: blues, rock, funk, soul) and demonstrate understanding of transposition.
- ◆ Demonstrate knowledge of chord extensions (examples: C7, Am9, F#maj7 b5, Am7, etc.)
- ◆ Improvise a solo over a blues progression.
- ◆ Sight-read a provided piece of notated music.

BASS

- ◆ **Perform two prepared songs, at least 3 minutes in length per song, chosen from the applicant's current known repertoire:**
Applicants should choose pieces that accurately portray their personal styles, display their current level of musicality, and demonstrate an understanding of timing, technique, intonation, dynamics, and comfort on stage. Songs should be performed with a backing track if possible.
- ◆ Identify the key and basic chord progression of each song performed.
- ◆ Play a one octave major, minor, and pentatonic scale of your choice with corresponding arpeggios.
- ◆ Play a I-IV-V chord progression in 2 styles (examples: blues, rock, funk, soul) and demonstrate understanding of transposition.
- ◆ Improvise a bass line over a blues progression.
- ◆ Sight-read a provided piece of notated music.

DRUMS

- ◆ **Perform two prepared songs, at least 3 minutes in length per song, chosen from the applicant's current known repertoire:**
Applicants should choose pieces that accurately portray their personal styles, display their current level of musicality, and demonstrate an understanding of timing, technique, dynamics, and comfort on stage. Songs should be performed with a backing track if possible.
- ◆ Identify the time signature and estimated tempo of each song performed.
- ◆ Demonstrate basic rudiments (doubles, ruffs, flams, paradiddles, double-paradiddles, etc.)
- ◆ Play grooves in several different time signatures (4/4, 5/4, 6/8, 7/8, etc.)
- ◆ Play grooves in various styles (Rock, Funk, Blues, Bossa, Samba, Swing, Ballad, etc.)
- ◆ Improvise a short drum solo demonstrating technical knowledge and musicianship.
- ◆ Sight-read a provided piece of notated music.

VOCALS

- ◆ **Perform two prepared songs, at least 3 minutes in length per song, chosen from the applicant's current known repertoire:**
Applicants should choose pieces that accurately portray their personal styles, display their current level of musicality, and demonstrate an understanding of timing, technique, intonation, dynamics, and comfort on stage. Songs should be performed with a backing track if possible.
- ◆ Identify the key of each song performed.
- ◆ Sing major and minor scales in 1 octave, ascending and descending.
- ◆ Improvise a melody over a chord progression played by the assessor.
- ◆ Match vocal pitch to notes played on piano.
- ◆ Sight-read a provided piece of notated music.