

BMS Bassoon Curriculum

To pass any level for a Young Artists Certificate, a student must receive an average score of “pass” (from a scale of needs improvement / pass / pass with honors) from three faculty judges.

Repertoire, Methods, Collections, etc. are samples and establish technical and artistic benchmarks. Faculty may use any resources that achieve these benchmarks.

Repertoire alternatives for the evaluation must be approved by the department chair by the start of second semester.

LEVEL ONE:

Essential skills to be attained by completion of level and demonstrated in level evaluation:

- Learn to read bass clef
- Develop proper embouchure and comfortable body position
- Scales and arpeggios through two sharps and flats
- Chromatic scale, two octaves
- Begin Slama, 66 Studies, easy exercises

Level One Evaluation Requirements:

- Two major scales and arpeggios, one octave
- Chromatic scales, one octave
- Etude
- Two contrasting pieces
- Sight-reading

Examples of Repertoire and Teaching Materials for Level One:

- Weissenborn Method for Bassoon, including 50 Advanced Studies
- First Book of Practical Studies for Bassoon, D. McDowells
- Merle J. Isaac, The Jolly Dutchman,
- Dondeyne , Prelude • Classic Festival Solos

LEVEL TWO:

Essential skills to be attained by completion of level and demonstrated in level evaluation:

- Scales and arpeggios through three sharps and flats, two octaves
- Relative natural minor scales
- Chromatic scale, two octaves

Level Two Evaluation Requirements:

- Two major scales and arpeggios, two octaves
- One natural minor scale
- Chromatic scale, two octaves
- Etude
- Two contrasting pieces
- Sight-reading

Examples of Repertoire and Teaching Materials for Level Two:

- Weissenborn, Fifty Advanced Studies
- Second Book of Practical Studies for Bassoon, D. McDowells

LEVEL THREE:

Essential skills to be attained by completion of level and demonstrated in level evaluation:

- Introduce tenor clef
- Begin vibrato
- Scales and arpeggios through five sharps and flats, two octaves
- Relative harmonic and melodic scales

Level Three Evaluation Requirements:

- Two major scales and arpeggios, two or three octaves
- One harmonic and one melodic minor scale, two or three octaves
- Chromatic scale, three octaves
- Etude
- Two contrasting pieces
- Sight-reading

Examples of Repertoire and Teaching Materials for Level Three:

- Slama, intermediate exercises
- Jerome Besozzi Sonata
- Gailliard Sonatas 1-6
- Mozart Concerto in Bb Major

- Bozza Recitative, Sicilian, et Rondo

LEVEL FOUR:

Essential skills to be attained by completion of level and demonstrated in level evaluation:

- Scales in thirds
- Continued development of vibrato

Level Four Evaluation Requirements:

- Two major scales and arpeggios, two or three octaves
- One harmonic and one melodic minor scale, two or three octaves
- Chromatic scale, three octaves
- Etude
- Two contrasting pieces
- Sight-reading

Examples of Repertoire and Teaching Materials for Level Four:

- Studio Solos and Difficult Passages
- Vivaldi Concerto in F Major
- Mozart Concerto in Bb Major

PRE-CONSERVATORY LEVEL:

Essential skills to be attained by completion of level and demonstrated in level evaluation:

- Develop vibrato
- Introduce Piard Scale and Arpeggio Studies
- Introduce Giampieri Sixteen Daily Exercises

Pre-Conservatory Evaluation Requirements:

- Two major scales and arpeggios, and chromatic scales, three octaves
- One harmonic and one melodic minor scale, three octaves
- Etude
- Two contrasting pieces
- Orchestral excerpt(s)

- Sight-reading