



NIU Voice Audition Requirements

Please review and prepare all requirements thoroughly. Auditions are held in person at NIU in February, unless otherwise determined. Please register for an audition date on our website or at go.niu.edu/musicaudition.

If you are unable to attend NIU's official audition days, contact the Music Admissions Coordinator (avmenk@niu.edu) for permission to schedule an independent audition or obtain approval to submit an unedited video audition. Please bring copies of your music for the adjudication panel.

Undergraduate

- Two pieces in contrasting styles with accompaniment*.
- Music should be memorized
- One song in English from either classical, musical theater, or folk genres
- One art song or aria in a language of your choice
 - It is very helpful if the audition repertoire shows different musical styles and languages.
- The audition will also include short exercises to assess pitch matching and music reading skills. You may review our [Music Theory toolkit](#) for additional resources.

Repertoire guidelines for undergraduate candidates

Suggested classical composers

Quilter
Purcell
Vaughan Williams
Barber
Donaudi
Tosti
Mozart
Schubert
Schumann

Suggested musical theater composers

Rodgers and Hammerstein
Lerner and Lowe
American Songbook (Arlen, Berlin,
Gershwin, Porter)
Bernstein
Sondheim (Non-belting songs)

Suggested resources:

24 Italian arias

First book of solos series

Hal Johnson: *Thirty Spirituals*

Singer's Musical Theatre Anthology series

Graduate

- Four pieces in contrasting styles with accompaniment*. At least one selection needs to be an aria and at least one selection an art song.
 - One art song or aria in English
 - One art song or aria in Italian
 - One art song or aria in French
 - One art song or aria in German
 - One of the above foreign language pieces may be substituted with another foreign language of your choice
 - Arias can be chosen from Opera, Operetta and Oratorio repertoire.
- Music should be memorized
- The audition will also include short exercises to assess pitch matching and music reading skills.

Repertoire guidelines for graduate candidates

Suggested aria composers

Oratorio:	Opera:
Bach	Handel
Handel	Mozart
Mozart	Rossini
Haydn	Bellini
Mendelssohn	Puccini
	Gounod
	Bizet

Suggested art song composers

Schubert	Donaudi
Schumann	Tosti
Brahms	Quilter
Wolf	Vaughan Williams
Faure	Britten
Debussy	Beach
Ravel	Price
Poulenc	

All applicants:

*An accompanist will be provided for school auditions. Please email PDF copies of your repertoire to avmenk@niu.edu one week before your audition. You will also need to bring paper copies of your music in a three-ring binder.

Questions? Contact Dr. Orna Arania (oaranja@niu.edu), Professor Sam Handley (shandley@niu.edu), or Professor AJ Wester (jwester@niu.edu).