NIU Steelpan 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 (bcrawford@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.

All Auditionees

• Major and harmonic minor scales, two octaves (when possible) at quarter note = 100. These should be played as sixteenths.
• All major and minor arpeggios.
• At least 2 audition pieces should be performed.
  • If the applicant has the ability to improvise and/or can play multiple steelpan voices (lead, double seconds, cello, etc.) those should be demonstrated in the audition
  • Undergraduates will complete an aural skills assessment at the time of audition. Sight reading exercises may be given at the time of audition for all applicants.

Suggested repertoire for undergraduate and graduate applicants is included below. If different audition pieces are chosen, they must demonstrate the applicant’s highest quality of musicianship and technique. Music is available at www.panpress.com and www.maumaumusic.com.

Music Minor applicants will prepare all scales and arpeggios, but will only need to prepare one solo piece, though are welcome to prepare two.
Undergraduate:

- J.H. Fiocco
  - Allegro (quarter-note = 100).
- J.S. Bach
  - Violin Concerto in A minor, Mvts.1 & 3
  - Violin Partita 11 BWV 1004, “Giga” (Double Seconds/D. Tenor & Lead Pans)
  - Violin Sonata 1, BWV 1001, “Presto” (Double Seconds/Double Tenor)
- Liam Teague
  - Raindrops
  - A Visit to Hell
  - The Honey Bee
  - Tryin’ ah Ting

Graduate

- JS Bach
  - Violin Sonata 11 BWV 1003, “Allegro” (Double Seconds/D. Tenor & Lead Pans)
  - Violin Sonata 11 BWV 1005, “Fuga” (Double Seconds/D. Tenor & Lead Pans)
  - Violin Sonata 11 BWV 1005, “Allegro assai” (Double Seconds & Lead Pans)
- Liam Teague:
  - Impressions
  - Cell ‘O Vibes for Cello Pan
  - El Rio (The River)

Questions? Contact Professor Liam Teague (lteague@niu.edu).