

## **Guidelines for the Junior and Senior Musical Theater Track Recitals**

These guidelines have been developed to assist the Musical Theater student in the preparation of a properly formatted recital. Please read these guidelines carefully as you plan your recital as there are many details that need to be observed to successfully pass your hearing.

### **Recital Content**

Each recital should contain the following general time limits and proportions, a recital that is not reasonably within these guidelines will not pass the hearing. We strongly advise that you time your recital before you come to your hearing to make sure you have the correct amount of content for each section.

Junior Recital 45 minutes total Senior Recital 75 minutes total

Music 60% (18 minutes Junior, 36 minutes Senior)

Monologues & Scenes 30% (15 minutes Junior, 25 minutes Senior) Dance 10% (4 minutes Junior, 7 minutes Senior)

### **Additional Guidelines**

#### **All**

- Must contain at least three songs written in or prior to 1960.
- Must contain monologues or scenes that are published in print form as a play or musical book.
- Any unpublished or original material must be submitted to the committee at least three weeks prior to the jury to be considered, material not submitted three weeks in advance will not be considered.
- Students may request the use of additional instruments in their recital which do not count as “additional performers,” however all instrumentalists must be present at the hearing, otherwise they will not be approved for the recital.
- Any significant alterations between the approved hearing and subsequent recital which have not been seen by MT committee members will be cause for immediate interruption and failure of the recital.

#### **Junior Recital**

- May include only one multiple person scene
- May include up to two duets
- May include one instance of unapproved material that is not supported by the guidelines such as movies, TV, etc, not to exceed more than two minutes of the total recital.
- May have the maximum of two additional performer

#### **Senior Recital**

- May include up to two multiple person scenes
- May include up to three duets
- May include two instances of unapproved material that is not supported by the guidelines such as movies, TV, etc, not to exceed four minutes of the total recital.
- May have the maximum of two additional performers

### **Recital Hearing**

#### **Guidelines**

Each recital must pass a Recital Hearing prior to performance. Recital Hearings occur at least three weeks in advance of the recital date. The purpose of the Recital Hearing is twofold. First, the hearing panel wants to ensure that the recital is well-prepared to reflect the student's own talents as well as the quality expected by the Musical Theater track. Secondly, in giving the student an early target date for performing the Recital Hearing, the student is able to use the subsequent time to hone and fine-tune the recital on a deeper level. The panel on the Recital Hearing not only passes or fails the student, but also coaches him/her and offers suggestions to improve the recital. The student then has at least two more weeks to contemplate the suggestions and make decisions and improvements. If the student fails his/her hearing it is the student's responsibility alone to coordinate a make-up hearing with the faculty.

### What to bring to the Hearing

- 1) **Dramatic Text Sources** - Although the student will have already submitted any unpublished monologues to the committee, he/she must also bring one copy of ALL source material to the hearing.
- 2) **Hearing Program** - Three copies of the program order with ample space between each song and scene for the panel to write comments
- 3) **Official Recital Program** - One copy of the program that the student is planning to submit as the actual handout at the recital. This includes all songs, monologues, scenes, dance numbers with exact titles, composers, and lyricists, and recital personnel including accompanists, choreographers, lighting designer, stage manager, and anyone else involved in the recital. It is the student's responsibility to check that all credits are spelled correctly.

Failure to produce any of these items before the hearing will result in the student being ineligible to pass the hearing.

### Performing for the Hearing

The recital will be performed in full at the hearing. Every recital hearing must be in a finished and rehearsed state with all costumes, props, and personnel. **ALL** material (other than instrumental music) in the hearing must be fully memorized including the material presented by the student *as well as any guests that the student chooses to include in the hearing*.

Dances, if performed, must be finished and ready with the proper shoes, clothing and music (including the means in which to play the music). Recital clothing should be worn and all costume changes (if any) need to be seen at the hearing. If any elements are missing, the student runs the risk of failing the recital and having to reschedule it for a different date. You *must* have all personnel who will be seen/heard in your recital at your hearing. A hearing will not be passed as presented if the performing personnel are not present.

### Hearing Results

If all aspects of the recital are in order and conform to the guidelines a student will be passed. If the hearing is generally in an unrehearsed state or does not properly conform to the guidelines then the student will fail and need to be reheard. In the event of a complete rehearing the student will be required to hire the pianist for an additional fee which is determined by the general recital fee. In the event that only a small portion needs to be reheard or if a small amount of material needs to be added the student will not have to pay an additional fee to the pianist, but will be responsible to arrange the rehearing with at least one original hearing member.

The Music Department hopes that these guidelines will help in the planning of the recital and eliminate the stress of last-minute performance preparation. If the student prepares well for the recital hearing, the performance of the recital will be much more meaningful to both the student and the audience. The goal is to make the recital a joyous celebration of the student's accomplishments in Musical Theater.

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Please contact Vocal Performance Track and Musical Theater Advisor **Robert Duff** at [RDuff@brandeis.edu](mailto:RDuff@brandeis.edu) with any questions.