Jazz Bass & Guitar Audition Requirements

For both undergraduate and graduate applicants:

In-Person Auditions

-- Scales: Be prepared to play 2 octave major scales in all 12 keys.

-- Blues: Choose a 12 bar blues in F, Bb, Eb, or C, with backing tracks, where you play 1 chorus melody, 3 choruses accompaniment, 3 choruses soloing. Suggested tunes: Now's The Time, Au Privave, Billie's Bounce, Straight No Chaser, Blues For Alice, or another of your choosing.

-- Standards: Be prepared to play 2 jazz standards, with backing tracks, where you play 1 chorus melody, 2 choruses accompaniment, 2 choruses soloing. Suggested tunes: There Will Never be Another You, All the Things You Are, All of Me, I Love You, Confirmation, Stella By Starlight, Indiana (Donna Lee), Cherokee, Green Dolphin Street, How High The Moon, Just Friends, What Is This Thing Called Love, Blue Bossa, Ceora, or others of your choosing.

The “accompaniment” choruses refers to what you would play under a soloist, i.e. walking/bossa bass, chord comping guitar.

Note: We will only have 15 minutes with you, from walking in and setting up, to splitting. So, have a tuner or tuning app, and tune up quickly before starting, or before entering the audition room. Have your backing tracks ready, at quick access, and if using your phone for playback, put your phone in Airplane Mode before entering the audition room. We will have a playback system, cables and dongles for iPhones/Android/laptops. And we will have amps for bass and guitar students.
Video Auditions

1) Scales: Play 3 major scales of your choosing, 2 octaves, in ONE video take.

2) Play a 12 bar blues and 2 standards, using either backing tracks or live accompaniment:

-- Blues: Play a 12 bar blues in F, Bb, Eb, or C, where you play 1 chorus melody, 3 choruses accompaniment, 3 choruses soloing. Suggested tunes: Now's The Time, Au Privave, Billie's Bounce, Straight No Chaser, Blues For Alice, or another of your choosing.

-- Standards: Perform 2 jazz standards back to back -- in ONE video take -- where you play 1 chorus melody, 2 choruses accompaniment, 2 choruses soloing. Suggested tunes: There Will Never Be Another You, All the Things You Are, All of Me, I Love You, Confirmation, Stella By Starlight, Indiana (Donna Lee), Cherokee, Green Dolphin Street, How High The Moon, Just Friends, What Is This Thing Called Love, Blue Bossa, Ceora, or others of your choosing.

The “accompaniment” choruses refers to what you would play under a soloist, i.e. walking/bossa bass, chord comping guitar.

Note: At the start of your video, tell us your name, and briefly, some things about yourself, such as: how long you've been playing, including how long you've been playing jazz, other instruments you play, what experience you've had in bands, what lessons you've had and for how long. Tell us any other pertinent information, such as if you have studied classical music or played in classical ensembles, etc. And tell us what you are going to play before starting.

Please contact Steve Rodby (srody@uw.edu) directly with any and all questions and concerns regarding the auditions.

________________________________________