



SCHOOL OF FINE & PERFORMING ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

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## Undergraduate Audition Requirements: Oboe

Barbara Heilmair, Woodwind Area Coordinator, (503) 725-3199, ❖ E-mail: heilmair@pdx.edu

Karen Strand, Oboe Advisor, (503) 725-3179 ❖ E-mail: strandk@pdx.edu

The Department of Music at Portland State University requires that all students wishing to declare themselves as a music major or minor must first pass an entrance audition in their chosen instrumental or vocal area. Students wishing to transfer in at higher levels (290, 390, 490) should consult the area coordinator before preparing for their audition.

### TECHNIQUE

- # Major scales (at least 2)
- # Minor scales (at least 2)
- # Chromatic scale (low B-flat to high F, as for the All-State audition tapes)
- # Scales should be played from memory. Accuracy, tone, and pitch are more important than speed.

### REPERTOIRE

Two contrasting pieces of solo repertoire (which may include an etude) that best demonstrate the student's skills. These pieces do not need to be memorized. One piece should feature the applicant's technical agility; the other slower piece should demonstrate lyrical and artistic playing.

All of the following factors are considered by faculty when listening to an oboe audition:

- # technique (speed, articulation)
- # accuracy (pitch, rhythm)
- # tone quality (color and consistency)
- # dynamic range and control
- # understanding of style, musical line

Examples of repertoire (a single movement from two different pieces is acceptable):

Sonatas and concertos by Handel, Telemann, Vivaldi, Albinoni, Marcello; Schumann Romances, sonatas by Saint-Saëns, Hindemith, Poulenc; Mozart *Concerto in C*, or *Oboe Quartet in F*; Haydn *Concerto in C*; Cimarosa *Concerto in C minor*; other repertoire similar in difficulty level. Many successful applicants in the past have used the same repertoire prepared for district or state solo contests.

### SIGHT-READING

A brief melodic excerpt from an etude book or solo repertoire will be presented to the student to sight-read. Sight-reading is an opportunity to demonstrate the solidity of your basic musical skills – rhythm, meter, key signature, etc., independent from the process of preparing a piece over a long period of time