

PIANO PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

NASM requirements dictate that all music majors must acquire keyboard competency through the piano proficiency examination. Students **MUST** complete this exam before the end of their sophomore year. Failing to do so will result in the inability to enroll in future music courses.

Students may take this exam throughout their freshman and sophomore years by signing up on a weekly spreadsheet.

Those students unable to complete the exam during the first week of their freshman year will be enrolled in the year-long Piano Class I and II.

Each area of the exam must be performed accurately. Students will not be allowed to practice during the exam.

Below are the required components of the proficiency exam.

HARMONIZED MELODY EXAMPLES

- Harmonize these melodies using I, IV, and V (V7) chords
- Please do not write in the chords

The image displays three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Fast' and 'America' with a first ending bracket. The second staff is marked 'mp'. The third staff contains three distinct melodic phrases, each with a first ending bracket and dynamic markings: 'f', 'mf', and 'mp'.

With bounce Pomerania

Two staves of music in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The melody features a triplet of eighth notes (marked with a '3') and a pair of eighth notes (marked with a '2'). The second staff continues the melody with another triplet of eighth notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Moderato Italy

Two staves of music in 8/8 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a five-measure rest (marked with a '5') at the beginning. The melody is characterized by eighth and sixteenth notes. The second staff features a triplet of eighth notes (marked with a '3') and a five-measure rest (marked with a '5') at the end. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Allegretto England

Two staves of music in 2/4 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and contains a four-measure rest (marked with a '4') and a five-measure rest (marked with a '5'). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The second staff continues the melody with eighth and sixteenth notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

TRANSPPOSITION

Transpose the following example to the following major keys: G-flat, B, B-flat, A-flat, D-flat, E-flat

Michael, Row the Boat Ashore
(Chords in LH)

5-25 (67) United States

Andante *mf*

1. 

5

C7

CHORD PATTERNS

- Perform the following chord progressions in ALL 12 MAJOR AND MINOR KEYS
- Metronome tempo of Quarter note = 60
- Perfection expected first time

Tempo: Quarter note=60

In major:

Piano

4

In minor:

MEMORY

- Perform from memory Happy Birthday in the key of F – melody with LH harmony

IMPROVISATION

- Below is a chord progression to which you will improvise a melody
- Give each chord 3 beats in 6/8 time
- Your improvised melody should be simple and creative
- Play the improvisation in the following MINOR keys: a minor, d minor, g minor

Here is the chord progression: | I V7 | i i | iv V7 | iv iv | V7 V7 | i V7 | i i |

REPERTOIRE

- Intermediate level (Clementi sonatinas, Kuhlau sonatinas, Burgmüller)
- Must be approved by a professor

SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS

- All MAJOR AND HARMONIC MINOR scales performed without mistakes in notes or in fingering
 - o 2 octaves, hands separately
- All MAJOR AND MINOR arpeggios performed without mistakes in notes or in fingering
 - o 2 octaves, hands separately

PERFORMANCE OF THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

- Perform the following arrangement without hesitation or mistakes

The Star Spangled Banner

Oh say, can you see, By the dawn's ear - ly

light, What so proud - ly we hailed at the

twi - light's last gleam - ing? Whose broad stripes and bright

stars, Through the per - i - lous fight, O'er the

ram - parts we watched, were so gal - lant - ly

stream - ing! And the rock - ets red glare. The bombs

burst - ing in air; Gave proof through the

night that our flag was still there. Oh

say does that star spang - led ban - ner yet wave O'er the

land of the free And the home of the brave.