

School of Music Illinois State University

Bachelor of Music (BM) in Performance

Program Objectives

The objectives of the BM in Performance degree program are to assist students to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and skills regarding performing on a specific instrument or voice;
 - Demonstrate knowledge of music literature and the various musical styles;
 - Demonstrate knowledge and skills regarding performing in both chamber ensembles and large ensembles;
 - Demonstrate knowledge and skills regarding requisite skills (such as diction or singers) needed for demonstrating musical excellence.
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Assessment of Student Outcomes

The BM in Performance degree program has a number of assessments all students must pass before they can graduate.

- A most critical initial step is that all students desiring to enter the BM curriculum must first be admitted to the School of Music in some performing medium. It is at this point that a “casual” music student would be eliminated. Only students demonstrating sufficient performance skills and also promise for future growth are admitted to the program.
 - Subsequently, all students must progress successfully through the core curriculum at the freshman and sophomore levels. In addition, students must show progress in their applied music studies.
 - At the conclusion of their second year all students take the Senior College Exam, a comprehensive music test. The test assesses an appropriate level of mastery of aural dictation, music literature, sight singing, and performance. Failure in one or more areas means that the student will have to re-take the part(s) of the exam failed. Students are given two opportunities to pass this examination. If they fail, they are dismissed from the BM program.
 - The audition for permission to enroll in applied music at the 200 level is a critical assessment point in the degree program. Students that do not pass this barrier are not allowed to continue in the curriculum.
 - Two capstone experiences for the degree program are the Junior and Senior recitals. At the Junior level, students are required to present a full or half recital. During the Senior year, students are required to present a full recital. Students must pass a recital hearing prior to scheduling each of these recitals.
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