

Harrison School for the Arts

*Piano Department
Handbook*



Harrison Piano Department

Mission Statement:

The curriculum and activities within the piano department are created to nurture the student's artistic talents and intellectual development so they may reach their full artistic and academic potential.

Departmental Performances

All piano students are required to perform in two major concerts each year demonstrating their assigned solo or ensemble repertoire. The students are also provided opportunities in collaboration with the instrumental and vocal departments, chamber ensembles, musical theatre department, guitar, and numerous community service events. Our piano students are given master classes with area and visiting artists as part of their curriculum. Every effort is made in scheduling master classes to meet during the school day, however, those occasional after-school classes will be considered mandatory in attendance.

Cross-Departmental Attendance

Each student must attend a minimum of **TWO** Harrison concerts or gallery shows per semester in which they are **NOT** participating. At least **ONE** of the events must be outside of the music department. Students must submit a written critique within one week of the performance to receive credit. Each critique is valued and averaged within the semester grade.

Piano Jury

Students must pass a "piano jury" at the end of each semester representing their artistic development in piano repertoire. Jury repertoire must be from Harrison assigned literature and not that used in the piano concerts. Failure to complete this exam may result in the student's placement on Artistic Probation for one semester and/or possible recommendation for dismissal from the Harrison piano program.

Concert Preparation and Attire

Concert repertoire must be memorized and prepared at a performance level two weeks prior to a public concert. Ensemble pieces may or may not require memorization (teacher assessment). Those students who are not adequately prepared will not be allowed to perform, subsequently resulting in Artistic Probation.

Appropriate concert attire reflects on one's overall performance and will be included as part of the assessment process for the concert grade. The following guidelines will be required:

Boys: (tux may be rented from the school for \$25.00. Shirt is not included.)

Black tux (school can supply)

Black bow tie (school can supply)

White tux shirt (*Student purchase*)

Black dress socks (no sports socks)

Black dress shoes (no casual shoes)

Girls: (rental fee - \$25.00)

Black dress

Students must wear dresses supplied by the piano department. This is simply to keep dress lengths and styles similar.

Black dress shoes (no casual shoes)

No "flip-flop" type sandal.

Be careful of high heels...very unstable on slippery stage floor, combined with nerves. I suggest short pump style.

2016-17 Piano Concert Dates

Fall Piano Concert	Thursday, October 20, 2016	7:00 p.m.
Spring Piano Concert	Thursday, April 6, 2017	7:00 p.m.
Senior Jury Exam Recital	Friday, May 19, 2017	6:00 p.m.

All piano concerts are held in the Harrison Auditorium

Piano Department Competitions & Awards

Harrison Concerto Competition

This competition is open to students, grades 9 – 12, currently enrolled in the music department of Harrison School for the Arts. Winners from previous years are not eligible. Applicants may only apply within their accepted arts discipline. Repertoire: One movement of a concerto or concerted work for soloist and orchestra.

Certificates:

Outstanding Progress in Piano

Certificate recognizing significant growth in repertoire, musicianship, and work ethic.

Outstanding Musicianship

Certificate recognizing excellence in musical style, nuances, with a high standard of repertoire development and work ethic.

Harrison Piano Award

The Harrison Piano Award is given to a graduating piano student *who exemplifies* the integrity and dedication to their art, the piano department, and the overall student body of Harrison School of the Arts.