

# Premier Audition Application Requirements for Jazz Piano/Guitar/Bass/Vibes Instrumentalists

All applicants to Performers National Signing Day are required to record an audition video which includes the content outlined below.

- Each performance segment must be recorded in one take with no editing (though you may and should select the best of several takes).
- All videos must be recorded within the six months prior to the application deadline.
- Professional equipment and/or studio space is not necessary for a successful application to Performers National Signing Day. With attention to a few details, your music making can be conveyed using readily available consumer electronics; even iPhone or other smartphone recordings are acceptable.
- Please refer to [Audition Tech Tips](#) for additional information and suggestions for effectively recording your audition.

## Required Video Segments for Jazz Piano/Guitar/Bass/Vibes

### Video 1

**Introduction:** Before you record your first musical selection, please include a spoken introduction in which you state your name, instrument, hometown, and state.

**Required Musical Selections:** You are asked to record only one video.

- Select from the following: “Billie’s Bounce” or “My Little Suede Shoes,” “Now’s the Time,” or “Anthropology” (medium up-tempo): one chorus of melody, two choruses comping or walking, and two choruses soloing
- One chorus of a ballad—either “Body and Soul” “What a Wonderful World,” “Strange Fruit,” “Mood Indigo,” “Kansas City” or “In a Sentimental Mood”—improvising loosely off the melody
- Melody and solo from an odd-meter composition—either “Take Five,” “Blue Rondo a la Turk,” “or “Nommo”
- Guitar Only: Demonstrate comping to a swing tune in the style of Freddie Green.
- Bass Only: If you play electric bass, please demonstrate one minute of the following:
  - Afro-Cuban or Brazilian
  - Funk or hip-hop
- One selection of choice

### **Strongly Recommended:**

Provide an excerpt of your playing in an ensemble—preferably a big band—in either rehearsal or performance. *(If not possible due to the cancelation of school due to the Covid-19 Virus then omit this recommendation.)*

- Announce the title of the piece and composer and/or arranger before you begin each required selection.
- If you wish to demonstrate proficiency on a doubling or secondary instrument, you must include one or two additional examples.
- Applicants may perform unaccompanied, with a live rhythm section, or with prerecorded rhythm tracks.

### **Video 2**

**Video Essay:** Please record a 2 to 3-minute answer to **one** of the following questions:

- What is a non-musical interest or activity about which you are passionate and why?
- What jazz musician (of any time) most inspires you and why (or how)?
- What do you anticipate your professional life to look like in 5 years, 10 years, and 20 years?
- What musical experiences have influenced your life and will continue to shape you as a person?

### **Print Music Resources**

Lead sheets for the required titles can be purchased online:

- SheetMusicPlus.com
- Amazon.com

Also, here are two sources for finding public domain sheet music:

- Educational Music Service ([www.emsmusic.com](http://www.emsmusic.com))
- Kalmus ([www.efkalmus.com](http://www.efkalmus.com))