

Audition Requirements for The National Youth Jazz Combo Piano

Demonstrate the ability to play the melody and improvise on three contrasting pieces in a jazz style. You may perform with a group or play along with a pre-recorded track (eq. Jamie Aebersold play along).

1) Blues – Medium Tempo (quarter note=104-168)

Perform the melody (line) and improvise 4-8 choruses on the blues form (12bar). Play a minimum of 4 choruses soloing in a traditional jazz/bebop style.

Suggested list: Billie's Bounce, Blues for Alice, ChiChi, Barbados, Blue Monk, Blues in the Closet, Sonnymoon for Two, C Jam Blues, etc. (or something in a similar style).

2) Ballad

Play 1 full chorus of the melody followed by 1 full chorus of improvisation on the tune.

Suggested list: Body and Soul, You Don't Know What Love Is, I Can't Get Started, Everything Happens to Me, When I Fall in Love, If you Could See Me Now, Round Midnight, Darn That Dream, The Nearness of You, I Fall in Love To Easily, In a Sentimental Mood, Ask me Now, etc.

OR Shorter Form Tunes: Play 2 full choruses of melody, followed by 3-4 choruses of improvisation on the tune (minimum 3 choruses).

Suggested List: Blue In Green, Central Park West, Peace, etc.

3) Standard or Jazz Standard – Medium to Medium Up Tempo (quarter note=120-184)
Play the melody followed by 3 choruses of improvisation on the tune (minimum 3 choruses). Comp for 2 choruses after solo.

Suggested list: Autumn Leaves, All the Things You Are, There Will Never be Another You, Stella By Starlight, Bye Bye Blackbird, It Could Happen to You, Have You Met Miss Jones, On Green Dolphin Street, What is This Thing Called Love, I Mean You, I Hear A Rhapsody, Stompin' at the Savoy, Just Friends, Out of Nowhere, I Got Rhythm, Oleo

OR Longer Form Tunes: Play 1 full chorus of melody, followed by 2 choruses of improvisation on the tune. Comp for 2 choruses after solo.

Suggested list: Speak Low, I'll Remember April, The Song Is You, Just One of Those Things, Cherokee, It's Alright With Me

You may choose songs that don't appear on the list but they should be similar in style to the suggested material. Each Requirement should be no longer than approximately 5 minutes.