

The Lois Cowles Harrison Center for the Visual and Performing Arts

2016-17 Audition Procedures

Deadline for Application Packet: On or before January 8, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

A completed application packet includes:

- Complete Application (must be signed by parent and applicant)
- Personal resume (with photo attached or embedded)
- 2 Recommendation Forms (in sealed envelopes with signatures across the back flap)
- Report Card (most recent) or other grade documentation (transcript, Parent/Student Portal printout)

All materials, including the application, recommendation forms, resume, and verification of academic progress must be returned to the office together in order for the applicant to be scheduled for an audition. Submitted applications become property of Harrison School for the Arts.

Students may submit completed application packets PRIOR to January 8, 2016 if they so choose.

Audition Appointment Schedules Mailed: January 15, 2016

Students may audition for the following departments: Chorus, Creative Writing, Dance, Guitar, Jazz Band, Motion Picture Arts, Musical Theatre, Orchestra, Piano, Theatre, Technical Theatre, Visual Arts

Audition Dates:

<u>1/26/16</u> Chorus	<u>1/27/16</u> Chorus	<u>1/28/16</u> Chorus	<u>1/29/16</u> Motion Picture Arts	<u>2/1/16</u> Theatre Tech	<u>2/2/16</u> Musical Theatre	<u>2/3/16</u> Musical Theatre	<u>2/4/16</u> Musical Theatre
Theatre	Theatre	Theatre Tech	Theatre Tech	Creative Writing	Guitar	Motion Picture Arts	Theatre
Piano	Piano	Orchestra	Orchestra	Guitar	Motion Picture Arts	Dance	Jazz
Visual Arts	Orchestra	Cr. Writing	Cr. Writing	Visual Arts	Dance	Jazz	

Students may not audition for more than two (2) areas. If a student is auditioning in more than one area, he/she must check both departments on the application form in order to have an audition time/date assigned.

Complete only one (1) application.

If you have a conflict with one of the dates assigned for your department, write the date in the upper left hand corner that is a conflict. If possible, we will try to schedule your audition on the other audition date(s).

Applications due:	January 8, 2016
Audition Schedules mailed:	January 15, 2016
Status Letters Mailed:	March 7, 2016
New Student Parent Meeting:	March 29, 2016, 7:00 p.m.
Return Signed Contract:	April 1, 2016, 4:00 p.m.
Student 2016-17 Course Requests due:	April 1, 2016

Students auditioning will be notified by letter regarding his/her acceptance status. Please do not call the office for this information. Notification of status will be by letter only. Students not accepted may audition again the following year.

There will be a required New Student/Parent Meeting on March 29, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Harrison Theatre. The Harrison procedures, guidelines, and contract will be reviewed at this time. At the conclusion of the meeting, the signed contract may be submitted. Contracts may also be submitted to the Harrison office prior to 3:00 p.m. on April 1, 2016. Contracts not received by April 1, 2016 will be invalid and a student on the waiting list will be offered that enrollment space in the respective department.

The Lois Cowles Harrison Center for the Visual and Performing Arts

Audition Requirements: Visual Arts

(ALL AUDITIONS ARE CLOSED TO OBSERVERS)

Applicants have varying backgrounds and differences in their arts areas. These variances are understood and taken into consideration by all adjudicators; however, applicants are urged to request advice and help of an arts area teacher in preparing for an audition.

Requirements

1. Portfolio (See below)
2. Each participant will be interviewed by a qualified visual arts committee.

Applicants must bring a portfolio. Each portfolio should include **ten (10) examples** of artwork using various art media. Applicants are encouraged to submit their portfolio prior to the date of audition. The ten (10) pieces should include the four portfolio requirements plus six (6) additional works that demonstrate basic artistic skills and creativity.

PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED BY ALL APPLICANTS

1. Draw a bicycle. Use pencil on white drawing paper no smaller than 9" x 12".
2. Choose a group of interesting objects from around your home and arrange them in any manner you like. Use any media you like: pencil, pen and ink, paint, colored pencils, crayon or charcoal to create a composition. Your format should not be smaller than 9" x 12".
3. Do a self-portrait using any media you like. Although you may describe your physical features, try to describe other aspects of yourself. This may be achieved through color, facial expression, clothing, body gestures, etc. Do not work from a photo, work from a mirror.
4. Create something totally from your imagination. You choose the subject and the media. Work done on paper should be no smaller than 9" x 12".

Two-dimensional works should be packaged in one portfolio. Each piece of art should be individually labeled on the back with the student's name, address and, if desired, title of work. Three-dimensional work may be presented by 2" x 2" slides or photographs. Slides must be labeled and presented in a plastic slide page.

SUGGESTED FOR PORTFOLIO

Suggested reading: *Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain*, and *Drawing on the Artist Within*, by Betty Edwards. Two-dimensional works may include: drawing, painting, print making, scratch board or any combination of media. It is strongly recommended that students work from observation. Three-dimensional works may be included. Any kind of personal visual journals or evidence of art-related activities, such as contributions to yearbooks, literary journals, stage productions and public art are also acceptable. These items can be in addition to the maximum ten items in the portfolio.

Keep in mind, the remaining six (6) pieces are of your choice but should demonstrate artistic skill as well as creativity. If you have artwork that you have done at home, at school or in some other art-related activity, we would like to see it. Pick your best work that shows your special skills, originality and imagination. During the audition, applicants will have three thirty minute timed exercises. The audition time will be approximately two hours and a half and will include a personal interview.

The Lois Cowles Harrison Center for the Visual and Performing Arts

Audition Requirements: Dance

(ALL AUDITIONS ARE CLOSED TO OBSERVERS)

The audition will consist of a ballet barre followed by modern across-the-floor and center floor work. Acceptance and placement in the program is determined by this audition and each student will be placed in the level commensurate with training and demonstrated skills.

The audition process may take approximately three hours, including short rest breaks.

Each applicant will have an interview with a panel of evaluators. The interview will focus on the applicant's interests, activities, experience, and goals for the future.

The dance attire for the audition is as follows:

1. **Ballet Barre:** Solid color leotard, pink or black, tights, (tights need to be footless or split sole), ballet shoes or white socks if you do not have shoes.
2. **Modern Center:** Dress, same as Ballet. Center combination will be done in bare feet.
 - White T-shirts and sweat pants are acceptable if you do not have dance attire.
 - No exposed midriff.
 - No jewelry.
 - Long hair must be in a bun. All hair must be pulled off face and neck.

Audition Requirements: Motion Picture Arts

(ALL AUDITIONS ARE CLOSED TO OBSERVERS)

Applicants should prepare a writing sample proposing a five-minute film to be produced. The sample may be submitted in any one of the following formats: 5 page screenplay, 2 to 5 page short story, 1 page story synopsis, or a 20-30 frame story board.

The applicant will have an on-site essay to complete. The prompt will be related to the applicant's personal connectivity to film.

Applicants may bring a sample of his/her best film or video work on DVD or flashdrive (not required). The compilation may be of several short films or a single work. Whether showing a single work or clips of multiple films, works should not exceed five minutes in length. Applicants should submit a copy of the video as it will not be returned. Screenplay samples should be submitted in proper script format. (You may consider use of the free screenwriting software found at www.celtx.com if you do not already own script writing software.)

Each applicant will have an interview with a panel of evaluators. The interview will focus on the applicant's interests, activities, experience in video production, and aspirations for a career in film or television.

The Lois Cowles Harrison Center for the Visual and Performing Arts

Audition Requirements: Jazz

(ALL AUDITIONS ARE CLOSED TO OBSERVERS)

(Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Piano, Bass (Electric or Acoustic), Guitar, Drums/Percussion)

All applicants, except percussion and piano, must bring their own instrument(s). Please complete a separate application for each instrument for which you wish to audition. Applicants will participate in a personal interview.

Applicants may demonstrate improvisational skill using 12 Bar Blues in F major (not required). Tracks may be found on Aebersold Volume II “*Nothin’ But Blues*,” which can be purchased at www.jazzbooks.com

Saxophone/Trumpet/Trombone/Percussion

1. Scales and Sight Reading
 - a. Major scales with arpeggios, according to the F.B.A. All-State requirements: Concert keys of: G, C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, and Db – performed from memory
 - b. Chromatic scale covering the range for the instrument, according to the F.B.A. All-State requirements – performed from memory.
 - c. Sight-reading will be required.
2. All-State Concert/Symphonic Band Etude
Technical etude for the present grade level. **Percussion** should play the Snare Drum etude. All-State etudes are available at: www.flmusiced.org/fba/dnn/AllState/AuditionRequirements.aspx
3. Jazz Repertoire (Percussion should play on a mallet instrument).
 - a. Two standard songs of contrasting styles (latin, swing, or ballad). Songs may be chosen from the suggested song list below and may be found in “*The New Real Book, Volume I*” published by Sher Music Co. <http://www.shermusic.com/new/0961470143.shtml>
 - b. Other standard songs may be used in place of the suggested songs.
 - c. Songs should be performed at a consistent tempo and with proper style.
Suggested Song List: All the Things You Are, Autumn Leaves, Blue Bossa, Don’t Get Around Much Anymore, Imagination, Misty, Satin Doll, Stormy Weather, Take the “A” Train, Wave, Witchcraft.
4. Drum set– Additional Requirements:
In addition to the above requirements, the following styles/tempo are required on **drum set**: Rock, quarter note = 92; Bossa Nova, quarter note = 120; Swing, quarter note = 144; and Jazz Samba, quarter note = 100.
Percussionists must bring their own sticks and mallets.

Bass*/Piano*/Rhythm Guitar*

1. Scales and Sight Reading
 - a. Major scales with arpeggios: Keys of: G, C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, and Db – performed from memory
 - b. Sight-reading will be required.
2. Jazz Repertoire
 - a. Two standard songs of contrasting styles (Latin, swing, or ballad). Songs may be chosen from the suggested song list below and may be found in *The New Real Book, Volume I* published by Sher Music Co. <http://www.shermusic.com/new/0961470143.shtml>
 - b. Other standard songs may be used in place of the suggested songs.
Songs should be performed at a consistent tempo and with proper style.
Suggested Song List: All the Things You Are, Autumn Leaves, Blue Bossa, Don’t Get Around Much Anymore, Imagination, Misty, Satin Doll, Stormy Weather, Take the “A” Train, Wave, Witchcraft.

***Bass (Electric or Acoustic)**

Bassists must demonstrate a stylistically correct bass line (i.e. walking, etc.). Example: “Autumn Leaves” play two times; first time – play melody, second time – play stylistically correct bass line.

***Rhythm Guitar & Piano**

Rhythm guitarists and pianists must demonstrate stylistically correct comping. Example: “Autumn Leaves” play two times; first time – play melody (with chords in left hand if possible), second time – play stylistically correct comped chords.

The Lois Cowles Harrison Center for the Visual and Performing Arts

Audition Requirements: Orchestra

(ALL AUDITIONS ARE CLOSED TO OBSERVERS)

Applicants, except those who will perform on mallet instruments, tympani or piano, must bring their own instruments. Percussionists must bring their own sticks and mallets. If applicants want to be heard on more than one instrument, they must bring all instruments to the audition. Please note on the application that you will be auditioning for more than one instrument.

One prepared selection of at least three minutes duration is recommended (Check FBA or FOA music list for suggestions). All-County and/or All-State material may be used as additional material.

Winds: Eight major scales from memory, complete with arpeggios, at a minimum tempo of MM *quarter note* = 120. Scales are to be performed a minimum of 2 octaves where possible. Students who wish to play a 3rd octave may do so. Scales must be performed in complete octaves. The scales are to be tongued (winds) ascending and slurred descending where applicable. The student will be asked to perform scales in their transposed form. Scales will be performed in the following order, starting with the concert key of: A, D, G, C, F, Bb, Eb, and Ab.

Strings: The following major scales and arpeggios must be performed from memory: C, G, D, A, E, F, Bb, Eb, Ab. Violins must be able to perform the G major scale three octaves, all others scales two octaves. Violas and cellos must be able to perform the C major scale three octaves, all others scales two octaves. Double bass must be able to perform E, F, and G scales two octaves, all others scales one octave.

Wind and percussion applicants must memorize a chromatic scale covering the range for the instrument (as given in the All-State Middle School Audition Requirements.) The scale will be performed in even eighth notes at a minimum tempo of MM *quarter note* = 144. The scale will be tongued (winds) ascending and slurred descending where applicable.

Sight-reading will be required. Judges will supply material, which will demonstrate knowledge of rhythm, articulation and dynamics. An accompanist is highly desirable in order to enhance the applicant's audition. Recordings or tapes will be permitted as accompaniment only if the sound quality is acceptable. A play-back system will be provided. A piano and music stand will be provided for all others. The applicant will also participate in a personal interview.

Audition Requirements: Guitar

(ALL AUDITIONS ARE CLOSED TO OBSERVERS)

Guitar applicants shall perform two contrasting selections. Applicants are encouraged to play one classical guitar selection and one selection in a style of their own choosing.

Applicants should be prepared to perform 4 major scales of choice in two octaves. Applicants may substitute a pentatonic and/or blues scale for 2 of the major scales.

Sight-reading of standard notation or tablature will be required. Judges will supply the material. Reading tablature but not standard notation will not be grounds for disqualification, however all students admitted must be willing to learn to read standard musical notation.

Each applicant will have an interview with a panel of evaluators. The interview will focus on the applicant's interests, activities, experience, and goals for the future.

The Lois Cowles Harrison Center for the Visual and Performing Arts

Audition Requirements: Piano

(ALL AUDITIONS ARE CLOSED TO OBSERVERS)

Piano applicants will prepare and play two selections of contrasting styles. These selections must be memorized and come from standard literature in the following eras: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, or Twentieth Century. (No popular/gospel selections). Please provide one original score for the evaluators.

The audition process will conclude with a personal interview.

Audition Requirements: Chorus

(ALL AUDITIONS ARE CLOSED TO OBSERVERS)

Applicants will perform one memorized selection. Applicants should prepare to perform the piece in its entirety. The song should be an art song or folk song (see list below). The selection should not be a pop song.

1. The selection may include but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Royal Conservatory of Music Songbook, Series 1-6
 - b. Pathways of Song Series
 - c. 36 Songs for Young Singers
 - d. Twenty-four Italian Art Songs
 - e. Twenty-eight Italian Art Songs
 - f. The Spirituals of H.T. Burleigh
 - g. Folk Songs for Solo Singers, Volume 1 or 2
 - h. 10 Spirituals for Solo Voice (Mark Hayes)

2. Applicants should provide the original sheet music for this selection and/or a taped accompaniment without vocals.

We encourage you to bring an accompanist. If you cannot, one will be provided for you. Vocal applicants will sight-read a melody selected from the FVA sight-reading practice exercises which are available on-line at www.FVA.net. The audition process will conclude with a personal interview.

PLEASE NOTE: Student auditions times/dates cannot be re-scheduled to adjust to the schedules of accompanists. Parents are encouraged to work out these details prior to submitting the application. Potential audition dates are listed on the first page of this document.

Audition Requirements: Musical Theatre

(ALL AUDITIONS ARE CLOSED TO OBSERVERS)

Applicants should come prepared to:

1. Sing thirty-two bars from a published musical theatre show. (Students should consider providing their own accompanist. Students may use a CD of instrumental accompaniment. However, the recording may not have any vocals on the track.) An accompanist will NOT be provided by Harrison School for the Arts.
2. Acting will be assessed within the context of both song and dance.
3. There will be a short dance combination taught and performed. Please arrive in sweat pants, jogging pants, or leotard and tights for the dance combination. Please bring jazz shoes or tennis shoes. Applicants will be given time to change back into their personal clothing for the remainder of the audition.
4. Participate in a personal interview.

PLEASE NOTE: Student auditions times/dates cannot be re-scheduled to adjust to the schedules of accompanists. Parents are encouraged to work out these details prior to submitting the application. Potential audition dates are listed on the first page of this document.

The Lois Cowles Harrison Center for the Visual and Performing Arts

Audition Requirements: Theatre/Technical Theatre

(ALL AUDITIONS ARE CLOSED TO OBSERVERS)

THEATRE – Acting

The Theatre Department audition process is comprised of three components:

1. a writing prompt
2. an interview
3. a monologue performance

The monologue must be 1-2 minutes in length, memorized, from a published play (no original material), age appropriate, and believable. Applicants must supply a printed copy of the monologue to the judges at the audition. A list of suggested monologues and samples can be found in the Harrison office and on the website. Applicants are encouraged to find their own material. Monologue books and plays can be found in libraries and local bookstores, among other places.

A chair will be provided for the monologue portion of the audition and may or may not be used. Dialects are discouraged in order to hear the natural voice and vocal quality. Props, costumes, and theatrical make-up are also discouraged. The adjudicators want to see and hear you, the applicant.

Professional acting is not expected, but preparation is. Select your piece in advance, take time to memorize it and make bold choices. Selecting the audition piece is as important as the performance. Applicants should be passionate about the chosen monologue and be prepared to explain why.

An opportunity to demonstrate any special skills (singing, dancing, miming, etc.) will also be provided.

THEATRE – Technical

Applicants must bring examples of their creative work and be prepared to discuss them. The creative projects can include models, inventions, decorations, crafts of all types, art work, special skills or any designs and/or samples of set, costume, lighting or sound created by the applicant. The applicant should try to bring the following.

1. Best or favorite project
2. Most unusual project
3. Projects using different media

Applicants will participate in a personal interview. In addition, students will write to a prompt during the audition process.

Audition Requirements: Creative Writing

(ALL AUDITIONS ARE CLOSED TO OBSERVERS)

1. Writing Portfolio

Students should submit a portfolio of their work WITH the application. If a writing portfolio is not submitted with the application, the student will not be granted an audition. Please note that the portfolio will NOT be returned.

- The portfolio should consist of 15-20 pages of your writing. This may be short stories, poetry, creative non-fiction, screenplays – any kind of creative writing.
- Book reports and other academic writings are not appropriate for the portfolio.
- The sample work in the portfolio may be complete projects or selections from longer works.
- The portfolio MUST also include an essay on the topic below.
- The portfolio should be computer-printed (not handwritten) and stapled or bound in a “flat” manner. No three-ring binders or report cover/presentation folders will be accepted.

Essay Topic – Please write 5 -7 typed, double-spaced pages (with 1” margins) on the following:

If you could only take 5 books and/or movies with you on a journey, which 5 would you choose and why?

2. On-Site Essay

Students who are selected for audition will be asked to write an on-site essay. Students will have access to a laptop computer to complete this task, however students may choose to hand-write this essay. The topic/length will be given at the audition.

3. Audition Interview

Students will also participate in an interview.

The Lois Cowles Harrison Center for the Visual and Performing Arts Recommendation Form

*Once completed, please return this form to the applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature across the back flap. No recommendation forms will be accepted via email. The recommendation forms **MUST** be sent in with the completed application packet.*

Application deadline is January 8, 2016.

TO THE APPLICANT: Two (2) recommendation forms are required as a part of the application packet. Recommendations should include artistic achievement, academic achievement and character. The letter of recommendation contains confidential information that is exclusive to the application and will become part of the permanent file.

_____ is applying for admission to Harrison School for the Arts.
(Please Print the Applicant's Name)

Department(s) applied for:

_____ Choral	_____ Dance	_____ Guitar	_____ Jazz Band
_____ Motion Picture Arts	_____ Musical Theatre	_____ Orchestra	_____ Piano
_____ Theatre	_____ Theatre Tech	_____ Visual Arts	_____ Creative Writing

TO THE EVALUATOR:

In order to assist us in evaluating the applicant above for admission to the Visual and Performing Arts Center, we would appreciate your responses to the following categories. Comments, which may be viewed as other than positive, will not necessarily preclude a student's admission to the school. Please respond only to those categories for which you feel qualified to make substantive comments.

1. Please comment on the character, attitude and emotional maturity of the applicant.
(Please include a comment on personal adjustment of the applicant.)

2. Is this applicant capable of handling an unstructured environment successfully without close supervision?

3. To your knowledge, has the applicant ever had disciplinary problems?

