



THE RIVERS SCHOOL CONSERVATORY PROGRAM

AT THE RIVERS SCHOOL

333 Winter Street • Weston, MA • 02493

www.riversschoolconservatory.org • 781-235-6840 • music@rivers.org

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Please answer all questions below. The application deadline is **February 1, 2015**.

Send all materials to: **The Rivers School Conservatory Program, 333 Winter Street, Weston, MA 02493**

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Completed Application Recommendations Application Form Signatures

STUDENT INFORMATION

What grade are you applying for? 9th 10th 11th

First Name Middle Last/Surname Nickname (if any)

Home Address City State, Zip Code

Home Phone Cell Phone E-Mail Address

ARTISTIC INFORMATION

What is your primary instrument or interest? Include number of years of private study.

Describe previous training and experience with your primary instrument.

What is your second instrument or interest? Include number of years of private study, if any.

ARTISTIC INFORMATION ... CONTINUED

Describe previous experience in orchestra, chorus, band or jazz ensemble (including public and private school groups and extracurricular ensembles such as the Great Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra, etc.).

List two works performed in orchestra, choir, band or jazz ensemble within the past year.

List two recently completed solos and their composers.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

The Rivers School Conservatory Program requires two letters of recommendation. One must either be from your current school music teacher or private lessons teacher. The other letter may be from any music teacher. Letters of recommendation can be sent along with the application or mailed separately. Conservatory applications will not be considered complete until both letters of recommendation are on file.

1. _____
Name Relationship

2. _____
Name Relationship

SIGNATURES

1. _____
Applicant Date

2. _____
Parent/Guardian 1 Date

3. _____
Parent/Guardian 2 Date



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AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

The audition should display the applicant's current musical and technical abilities as well as demonstrate the potential for further growth. Applicants should carefully choose audition repertoire with the guidance of their teacher. Works from the 20th and 21st century are encouraged. Conservatory applicants will be asked to sight-read and take a comprehensive music theory and ear-training placement exam. Rivers will provide an accompanist for voice applicants (please bring an original score for the pianist). Instrumentalists are not required to have an accompanist.

ORCHESTRAL INSTRUMENTS AND CLASSICAL GUITAR

- Two contrasting movements or works from the standard solo, sonata or concerto repertoire.
- Major and harmonic minor scales up to three sharps and flats in two octaves.

CLASSICAL VOICE

- Two contrasting pieces from memory; the text of one piece must have English as its original language and the other text must be in a foreign language. Musical theater repertoire is not accepted.

PIANO

- Two contrasting movements of standard repertoire from memory. Concertos are not accepted.
- Major and harmonic minor scales up to four sharps and flats, hands together in parallel motion for three octaves.

JAZZ (VOICE AND INSTRUMENTS)

- Three pieces; two pieces must be improvised and two pieces must be from memory.
- A medium tempo jazz standard is required and at least two of the following styles need to be represented; ballad (required for vocalists), blues, be-bop, ragtime, stride, modal jazz, bossa nova, Cuban, funk or classical.
- Major and harmonic minor scales up to three sharps and flats (four sharps and flats for pianists) and minor blues scale starting on four different tonics (instrumentalists only).

COMPOSITION

- Submit two original compositions in manuscript form with your application; one must be hand-written.
- Composition students must also be able to pass the audition requirements for their instrument or voice.

AUDITION DATE

The scheduled audition date is **Saturday, February 7, 2015**. Please contact The Rivers School Conservatory at music@rivers.org or 781-235-6840 to set up a specific time or request another date.



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POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

ADMISSION

- Students applying to the Conservatory Program must also apply and be accepted to The Rivers School. Please contact The Rivers School at 781-235-9300 for an application.
- Admission to the Conservatory Program is by audition, including a theory and ear-training test. See reverse side for audition requirements.
- A student may be admitted to Rivers but not accepted to the Conservatory Program; students not accepted at Rivers will not be accepted into the Conservatory Program.
- The Conservatory Program will enroll a maximum of eight students in each grade. New students at the Conservatory Program are only admitted in the ninth and tenth grades. Exceptions may be made for an outstanding applicant for eleventh grade if there is an opening in that class.

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

- Students in the Conservatory Program are required to take private lessons on their instrument at The Rivers School Conservatory or elsewhere.
- Conservatory students are required to participate in at least one ensemble at The Rivers School.
- Conservatory students are required to participate in the Conservatory curriculum after academic classes end on Mondays through Thursdays. Fridays are kept free for lessons and participation in extracurricular music programs.
- Conservatory Curriculum:
 - First, Second and Third Year Classes:** Theory or Techniques of Jazz, Interpretive Analysis or Jazz Improv Seminar, Performance Seminar, Color (Ear Training) Class, Solfege, Conservatory Choir, Mini-Classes (i.e. keyboard skills, functional harmony, and music software classes)
 - Fourth Year Classes:** Techniques of Jazz, Performance Seminar, Electives (i.e. Counterpoint, Form and Analysis, Composition, and Conducting), and Independent Studies
- All Conservatory students are required to play in three conservatory recitals per year in addition to any recitals, Rivers assemblies, or off-campus concerts.
- Conservatory students are permitted to enroll in any class offered at The Rivers School Conservatory. An independent study with any music instructor on a pre-approved subject is also permissible. Conservatory students may choose any RSC offering as a “Year Four Elective.” All independent studies must be approved by the Conservatory Director.