

College-Conservatory of Music
University of Cincinnati

Jazz Studies Department MM Board Requirements

M.M. Jazz Studies majors are required to make two board appearances before the Jazz Studies faculty. The first board is normally performed in the Spring Quarter of the first year of study (usually scheduled in April). The second board is normally performed in the Spring Quarter of the second year of study. Under certain circumstances, students may request a special board appearance during the Autumn or Winter Quarter.

Jazz study at the Master of Music level presumes familiarity with material similar to that covered in the CCM Bachelor of Music Jazz Studies Boards. Copies of these requirements can be obtained from the private teacher or the Director of Jazz Studies. However, if there are elements from these B.M. Board Requirements, or from other areas of general musicianship, improvisational skills, or other jazz techniques that the private teacher feels the student has not yet learned, the first M.M. Board will include these items. At the same time, the faculty recognizes the widely varying approaches to jazz and wishes to encourage the development of each student's personal style. Therefore, the private teacher, in consultation with the other jazz faculty, will make board assignments under the categories listed below based on the needs, deficiencies, and interests of the student.

First Board

1. **Required Jazz Repertoire:**

- Mr. Day • Giant Steps • Stablemates • *Rhythm Changes *(melody/improvise all 12 keys)
2. Review of requirements from BM Boards as assigned
 3. **Scales:** Triad Pairs , Lydian Augmented and Lydian Augmented Applications, voicings (for pianists and guitarists), and techniques fundamental to the particular instrument
 4. Sight reading of jazz and contemporary music, including melodies and improvisation
 5. An authentic performance of a solo from the ***New Orleans/Chicago traditional Jazz Era***—transcribed by the student (to be played along with the recording, by memory)
 6. Other requirements may be added by the applied teacher.

Second Board

1. One original composition to be performed with the faculty rhythm section. Parts must be clearly and properly notated so that the tune is readily playable with a minimum of explanation.
2. **Required Jazz Repertoire (Chosen with Instructor)**
 - Ballad • Contemporary/Modal Tune • Blues • *Donna Lee *(melody/improvise all 12 keys)
4. Transposition and sight reading of jazz and contemporary music, including melodies and improvisation.
5. Other requirements may be added by the applied teacher.

Notes:

- The melody and chord changes to each tune should be memorized. The student should be prepared to write or recite the exact chord changes to the tune if asked to do so by the faculty.
- ii V I's should be performed with the following root movements: down in fifths, down in whole steps (with two starting positions), down in half steps, and up in half steps. It is important that they be prepared to a high level of proficiency without hesitation at a steady tempo since the student will be asked to demonstrate them with the faculty rhythm section.