

## ACCOMPANISTS / COLLABORATIVE PIANISTS

### FINE ARTS ACCOMPANIST FEE AND ACCOMPANIST DUTIES

When a student registers for an applied voice lesson, an automatic accompanist fee of \$160 will be charged to their student account. The accompanist fee is subject to increase. Each Semester, check the current catalog under "Fees" to verify the amount.

The accompanist is responsible to accompany for twelve (12) half-hour lessons each semester, and to play for any Performance Lab performances and a final jury performance. An accompanist will be assigned to each applied vocal student by the Coordinator of Accompanist Activities.

### ADDITIONAL REHEARSALS

The applied vocal student is strongly encouraged to schedule additional rehearsal time with his/her accompanist. Some vocal instructors may require additional rehearsals with the accompanist as part of their studio syllabus. Additional scheduled rehearsal time is an **extra cost** to the applied vocal student. Fees may vary according to the individual accompanist. The accompanist should provide a sheet with contact information and fees (including fees for studio recitals and major recitals), to better facilitate the scheduling of make-ups and/or extra rehearsal times. Generally, the rates should be in the range of \$20-\$35 per hour.

### ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES

Occasionally, it is necessary to contract an accompanist for additional performances, such as NATS competition, studio classes, master classes, and major recitals. Accompanist fees for these events are **NOT** included in the Fine Arts Accompanist fee. Also, a vocalist intending to present a major recital within the semester may prefer to have the accompanist come to a **full hour of lessons** with their instructor. If so, this must be arranged, in advance, with the Coordinator of Accompanist Activities, so that proper adjustment can be made in the accompanist's schedule. The cost of the additional half-hour will be at the extra expense of the vocalist making the request. A **suggested list of fees** is as follows (although the accompanist is allowed to set their own specific fees):

NATS Competition	\$30 - \$50
Studio Class	\$5 - \$8
Master Class	\$7 - \$10 (plus rehearsal time)
Junior Recital (30 min.)	Performance \$100
	Hearing \$25 - \$35
	Dress Rehearsal \$30 - \$40
Senior Recital (45-60 min.)	Performance \$150
	Hearing \$35 - \$50
	Dress Rehearsal \$40 - \$55
Additional Lesson	\$20 - \$35 per hour rate
Tape/CD of repertoire	\$25 - \$35

## **PAYMENT POLICIES**

When contracting extra rehearsal or performance time, the vocal student is required to pay the accompanist **in advance**. In the event of a major recital, the **accompanist** must supply an *invoice, at least one (1) week prior to the recital hearing date*, which details total charges for accompanist services. The **vocalist** is required to pay the accompanist *at the time of the hearing*. If for any reason, following payment, the accompanist is unable to play for the performance, the recital fee portion must be refunded to the vocalist, and every effort made to find a suitable substitute **or** an alternative performance date. If the vocalist is unable to complete the performance, and there is an **approved** excuse (medical or family emergency), every effort should be made to find an alternative performance date. If no such date can be found, the accompanist must refund the recital fee portion of the invoice charges. If the vocalist either **fails the hearing** or fails to complete the performance due to an **unapproved** excuse, there will be no refund required from the accompanist.

## **FEE REFUNDS**

If the vocal student drops the applied voice lesson by the appropriate date, the Fine Arts Accompanist fee will be refunded in full by the Cashier's Office. If the vocal student withdraws after the official add/drop date and before the withdrawal deadline, the fee will be partially refunded according to the fee schedule devised by the Cashier's Office. Once the withdrawal deadline has passed and the student does not completed the semester of applied voice, no fee refund will be given.

## **MAKE-UP POLICY**

Unexcused absences (outlined earlier in the handbook) are not made up. Excused absences (outlined earlier in the handbook) will be made up only if the accompanist is notified in advance and there is a mutually convenient time to do so. (This policy may vary with each accompanist, so be sure to consult their handout sheet or discuss this matter in advance). **No refund of fees will be made due to missed lessons**. If the accompanist misses a lesson for any reason, this time must be made up. If the student misses a lesson and the accompanist is present, the accompanist should make every effort to use that allotted time to practice the vocalist's repertoire accompaniments.

## **ACCOMPANIST / SOLOIST RELATIONSHIP**

Accompanists are not responsible for teaching the music to the soloist. The applied vocal student is required to learn the music employing their own musicianship skills. Time spent with the accompanist should be focused primarily on developing a good ensemble and collaborating on musical and stylistic interpretation. The accompanist, by the same token, should practice and learn assigned accompaniments on their own time.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Only professional accompanists will be assigned to vocal students who are scheduled to perform a major recital during the semester.

## CONCERNS AND EVALUATIONS

The Coordinator of Accompanist Activities has Accompanist Evaluation Forms that should be used by either the vocal student or the vocal instructor to address any concerns or express any positive comments regarding their accompanist(s). Every effort will be made to resolve issues to everyone's satisfaction.

## ACCOMPANIST QUALIFICATIONS

Professional accompanists must be degreed (masters preferred) and must provide a resume detailing accompanying experience. Personal recommendations are preferred.

Student accompanists must be piano majors and/or be recommended by his/her private instructor or the Head of the Keyboard Division.

Accompanying Practicum students must be recommended for the course. The prerequisite course is entitled Accompanying Skills (MUSI 3215). Accompanying Practicum students are required to accompany **three (3) soloists** if they are scheduled to personally present a major recital during the given semester. Otherwise, Accompanying Practicum students will accompany **four (4) soloists** during a regular semester. They should consult their syllabus for other details regarding course requirements and schedule of assignments.

## INFORMATION FOR THE ACCOMPANIST

Student and Professional Accompanists are required to complete and return all forms received from the Coordinator of Accompanist Activities. Following the receipt of their schedule assignments, accompanists are responsible to insure that they play for twelve (12) half-hour lessons, per soloist, per semester. Accompanists must be available for any Friday (1-2 pm) Performance Lab times, as well as for final jury assigned times. Vocal Juries are usually set for the first Thursday and/or Friday of Finals Week. Every effort will be made to block accompanist times for jury based on the number of vocalists they have participating in juries.

Student and Professional Accompanists are paid on a graduated pay scale. The Coordinator of Accompanist Activities is responsible for calculating and submitting, to the Dean of the College of Fine Arts, a pay schedule for each accompanist. Compensation for the semester will be divided into **three** equal monthly payments (Fall: Sept., Oct., Nov.; Spring: Feb., Mar., Apr.). The Coordinator will submit an invoice on the 15th of each these months. (**New accompanists** are required to submit appropriate personal contact information to the College of Fine Arts Administrative Assistant, who will forward the information to the Office of Financial Affairs.) Invoices are approved by the Dean of the College of Fine Arts and are forwarded, with a Purchase Order number, to the Accounts Payable Office. Payment will be received, by US mail, at the end of each month. Please address any concern/question/request to the Coordinator of Accompanist Activities.