



SPECIAL MUSIC SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL

APPLICATION FOR INSTRUMENTALISTS

E-Mail: SMSHighSchool@kaufman-center.org

Website: <http://kaufman-center.org/sms/SMS-High-School>

Phone: 212 501 3395

Application for Admission, September 2013, Grade 9

Application deadline - November 15, 2012

APPLICATION CHECK LIST

To apply to Special Music School High School's Instrumental program you will need to:

- Complete and submit the Application Form including the Personal Statement—Pages 2-5
- Send in a copy of your 7th grade report card and standardized test scores
- Request a Teacher Recommendation, using the form on Page 6
- List your Round 1 audition as live or YouTube—Page 4

Please refer to the 'How to Apply' section on pages 7 - 12 for:

- Instructions on completing the application
- Audition Information
- List of Suggested Audition Music
- Frequently Asked Questions for Instrumentalists

About Kaufman Center

A national leader in the field of music education and one of New York City's most vibrant cultural organizations, Kaufman Center combines the finest in music education for all ages with world-class performance in the acoustically superior Merkin Concert Hall. Founded in 1952 as a community school for pre-conservatory music training, today's Kaufman Center is home to **Merkin Concert Hall**; **Lucy Moses School**, New York's largest community arts school; and **Special Music School**, New York's only K-12 public school for musically gifted children.

For Office Use Only: Fall 2013
Date Received: Date Processed:
Round 1 live audition date _____
Round 2 audition date: _____

APPLICATION

DEADLINE: November 15, 2012

Return completed application, by mail or in person, with a copy of your 7th grade report card and 7th grade standardized test scores, to: Special Music School - High School Admissions, 129 West 67th Street, New York, NY 10023 **OR** email completed application to: SMSHighSchool@kaufman-center.org. Please put **HS Instrumental Audition** in the subject line. Questions? Call **212 501 3395**

Applicant's Name: _____
Last First

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ (mm/dd/yy) Male/Female (circle one)

Place of Birth: City _____ State _____ Country _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN 1: _____
Last First Relationship

Home Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____

Work phone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Home address: _____
Street Apt. #

City State Zip Code

PARENT/GUARDIAN 2: _____
Last First Relationship

Home Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____

Work phone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Home address: _____
Street Apt. #

City State Zip Code

Current Middle School (Please include the address and phone # if school is not in NYC):

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE:

Please check all that apply, elaborate where applicable. Use a separate page if necessary.	YES	BRIEFLY EXPLAIN/DESCRIBE (Where, When, With Whom, etc.)	NO
PRIVATE LESSONS			
PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAM			
BAND			
ORCHESTRA			
CHAMBER MUSIC			
SINGING EXPERIENCE: CHORUS, CHURCH/TEMPLE CHOIR, ETC.			
MUSIC THEORY			
MUSIC CAMP			
IMPROVISATION EXPERIENCE			
MUSIC TECHNOLOGY EXPERIENCE			
MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENTS: AWARDS SOLO PERFORMANCES SPECIAL ACTIVITY MUSIC EXAMS COMPETITIONS OTHER			

Your primary instrument: _____

Will you be auditioning on a 2nd Instrument? If so, which instrument? _____

Please list the title and composer of the music you will be playing for your round 1 audition. If your selection comes from a larger work, list the complete work's title. Refer to page 10 for a list of suggested audition music.

Please list any *other* concentrations for which you will be auditioning (e.g., composition and/or vocal).

If you are applying for admission in more than one concentration, e.g., instrumental and composition, you must complete and submit individual applications for each concentration.

Application information for other concentrations can be found in the 'How to Apply' section of each concentration's application.

Please check the appropriate statement in reference to your round 1 audition:

_____ I will upload a video audition to an *unlisted* YouTube link and email that link to **SMSHighSchool@kaufman-center.org**, with **HS Instrumental Audition** in the subject line. Refer to page 8 for audition information.

-OR-

_____ I will audition in person. Refer to page 8 for audition information.

Please list your order of preference for a round 1 audition date if you are auditioning in person—not via a YouTube link (please list three possible dates). While we will make every effort to accommodate your date preferences, we reserve the right to assign an audition date other than what you have listed.

ROUND 1 LIVE AUDITION DATES, 5 PM – 9 PM

- _____ Thursday, November 29
- _____ Friday, November 30
- _____ Saturday, December 1
- _____ Thursday, December 6
- _____ Friday, December 7
- _____ Saturday, December 8

Once your application is received, you will be notified of the date and time of your round 1 audition.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please write a statement, 500 words or less, answering *one* of the following questions:

1. What role would you like music to play in your future?

- OR -

2. What do you think music will be like 50 years from now?

MUSIC TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM*

Please return this form by December 1, 2012, with the teacher's signature across the seal of the envelope, to:

Special Music School
HS Admissions: Instrumental
129 West 67th Street
New York, NY 10023

Student Name:

Teacher Name/Position:

The student listed above is applying to Special Music School High School—a new high school opening in September 2013. In brief, this new high school will have a large focus on music within an academically rigorous curriculum.

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability.

1. In what musical capacity do you know the student (e.g., private instrumental teacher, band director, etc.)?
2. Does the student exhibit an enthusiasm for music?
3. Does the student come prepared to classes and/or lessons?
4. Does the student work well in groups?
5. What would you say is the student's greatest asset?
6. Is there anything else you would like to share with us about the student including, but not limited to, your sense of how he/she would do in a high school with music as a very large component of study? Please use an additional page if necessary.

*Also available online at <http://kaufman-center.org/sms/sms-high-school/admissions>

HOW TO APPLY

APPLICATION DEADLINE: November 15, 2012

STEP ONE: Application

Option 1 (hard copy). Application forms can be picked up from the front desk in Kaufman Center's ground floor lobby (129 West 67th Street) or downloaded from <http://kaufman-center.org/sms/admissions/application-forms/>. Complete and return the Application for Instrumentalists to the admissions office at the address below, by **November 15, 2012**.

Special Music School High School
Admissions Office
129 West 67th Street
New York, NY 10023

- OR -

Option 2 (online). Complete the ONLINE application form. Save it with your Last Name, First Name (Smith, John). Email completed application form to: **SMSHighSchool@kaufman-center.org** with the **required** subject line: **HS application: Instrumental**. *If you are applying for admission in more than one concentration, e.g., instrumental and composition, you must fill out individual applications for each concentration.*

STEP TWO: Report card and test scores

Send in or drop off a copy of your 7th grade report card and standardized test scores along with your application (option 1). If you are submitting your application via email (option 2), scan and attach the report card and test scores with your emailed application. You may also bring them with you to your round 2 audition.

STEP THREE: Letter of Recommendation

Request one letter of recommendation from the band, orchestra, or private music teacher who knows you best. The recommendation must be completed using the form on page 6. In addition, the envelope must be sealed with the teacher's signature over the seal. Be sure to write your name on the form.

STEP FOUR: Round 1 Auditions

Option 1 – *Online* Round 1 Audition: Upload a video of your playing to YouTube on, or before, **November 29, 2012**. Email the *unlisted* YouTube link to: **SMSHighSchool@kaufman-center.org** with the **required** subject line: **HS Instrumental Audition**.

- OR -

Option 2 – *Live* Round 1 Audition: Once your completed application has been received, you will be notified of the time and date of your **round 1 audition**.

ROUND 1 Live Audition Dates, 5pm – 9pm - November 29 & 30, December 1, 6, 7, & 8

AUDITION INFORMATION

There are two rounds of auditions. Round 1 is open to anyone who is interested in a high school with a strong music curriculum. Round 2 is open to applicants who have passed the round 1 audition.

The purpose of Round 1 is to determine the applicant's basic instrumental and musical ability. The purpose of Round 2 is to determine more fully a candidate's musicianship, including music theory knowledge, creativity, and collaborative skills.

Round 1 auditions can be live or YouTube. All round 2 auditions will be *LIVE*—no video or taped auditions are permitted in round 2. All live auditions will be held in Manhattan at a location TBA.

An accompanist will be provided, free of charge, for all live auditions. Applicants are responsible for music for the accompanist. Anyone who shows up without music will audition without accompaniment; there will not be any opportunity for rescheduling an audition if you do not bring accompaniment music. Please bring two copies of your music to your audition(s); one copy for the accompanist and one copy for the audition panel, we are not able to make copies for you.

Applicants may bring their own accompanist—any and all expenses for a personal accompanist is the sole responsibility of the applicant. No recorded, taped, karaoke, and/or “Music Minus One” accompaniments are acceptable.

It is suggested that you perform your audition(s) from memory, however it is not a requirement to do so.

ROUND 1 AUDITIONS:

Audition requirements: A selection, or selections, totaling *at least* 3 minutes in length, plus a two-octave scale of your choice. See page 10 for a list of suggested audition music.

Option 1 – YouTube Video Audition Information:

Upload your video recording to YouTube. Label your uploaded audition with your name, the title of selection(s), and the scale you are performing. Be sure to set it as an ‘*unlisted*’ link. Email the link to SMSHighSchool@kaufman-center.org with **HS Instrumental Audition** in the subject line. All YouTube audition links are due no later than **November 29, 2012**.

When recording/shooting your video, please shoot it with an unchanging, full-length view of you performing your audition selections.

You may use an accompanist on your video but are not required to do so; any and all expenses for an accompanist for a video are the sole responsibility of the applicant. No recorded, taped, karaoke, and/or “Music Minus One” accompaniments are acceptable.

Any expenses incurred as a result of a YouTube video audition are the sole responsibility of the applicant.

Option 2 – Live Audition Information:

Once your application is received, you will be contacted with the date and time of your round 1, live audition. Round 1 auditions will be held in Manhattan at a location TBA.

ROUND 2 AUDITIONS:

If you are invited to round 2, you will be contacted with the date and time of your round 2 audition. Please keep all round 2 dates open.

Audition requirements: You should prepare a total of *at least* 5 minutes worth of music for your round 2 audition; you may prepare one or more than one selection. The round 2 selection(s) *must* be different from that which you played in round 1. There will also be sight reading, a mini improvisation workshop, and a music theory test in round 2.

All round 2 auditions will be *LIVE*—no video or taped auditions are permitted in round 2. You must perform *different music* from that which you performed in round 1.

Round 2 auditions will be held in Manhattan at a location TBA.

ROUND 2 AUDITION DATES All auditions will be held between 5 – 9 PM.

Thursday, December 13

Friday, December 14

Saturday, December 15

Monday, December 17

Tuesday, December 18

Wednesday, December 19

LIST OF SUGGESTED AUDITION MUSIC

The following is a suggested list of repertoire for the auditions. If you do not choose a piece from the following list, make sure that your choice demonstrates both your technical ability and expressive range. The NYSSMA repertoire lists, level 3 or higher, are a good source of other appropriate audition repertoire. You are not required to audition with classical music. You may perform orchestra or band music. You are encouraged, but not required, to perform the music from memory in both rounds.

FLUTE

Any sonata by Telemann, Handel, J.S. Bach, or any movement from Sonata by Poulenc

OBOE

Any oboe sonata by Handel or Telemann

CLARINET

First Concerto by C.M. von Weber

Concertino by C.M. von Weber

Six Studies in English Folk Song for Clarinet and Piano by Vaughan Williams

SAXOPHONE

Romance by Pascal Proust

Badinerie by Pascal Proust

BASSOON

A Practical Method for Bassoon, Weissenborn

Page 81 to end of the Second Book of Practical Studies for Bassoon by D. McDowells

Polichinelle by K. Rathaus

TRUMPET

Concert and Contest Collection, Edited by H. Voxman, Rubank Book of Trumpet Solos, Intermediate Level (Rubank, Inc.) or Scherzo by Shakov, ed. Steven Winick

FRENCH HORN

Any Horn Concerto by W.A. Mozart

Concert and Contest Collection (Rubank)

TROMBONE

Concert and Contest Collection (Rubank)

Sonatina by Serocki

TUBA

Concertante by Walters

PERCUSSION

Six solos for Snare drum by L. Bellson

The Musical Timpanist by J. Peyton

Contest Solos for the Intermediate Mallet Player (Numbers 1-4) by M. Houllif

PIANO

Any Bach Prelude or Fugue, 1st movement of any classical-period sonata, a short romantic or contemporary work

VIOLIN

Violin Concerto in A minor by Accolay or Violin Concerto No.1 in A minor by J.S. Bach

VIOLA

Concerto in G Major by Telemann or any movement of a Cello Suite by J.S. Bach

CELLO

Any Vivaldi sonata or any of 6 unaccompanied Cello Suites, by J.S. Bach

BASS

Any sonata by Handel, Corelli, Vivaldi or Marcello

GUITAR

Classical Guitar Technique, Vol. 1, edited by A. Shearer

Rondo by N. Coste from *The Guitarist's Collection*, Book 1, arranged by C. Kilvington

Study in e minor (Vals) by J. Ferrer, from *The Guitarist's Collection*, Book 1, arranged by C. Kilvington

HARP

Le bon petit roi d'Yvetot, Arranged by M. Grandjany

Prayer or *Sonatina* by Sergiu Natra

Sonata in Bb by Dussek

INSTRUMENTAL FAQs

Does an applicant need to have studied their instrument for many years? No, the school is designed to educate and nurture both highly accomplished high-school aged musicians and those who have only recently discovered their passion for music.

Do I need to know how to read music? Yes, you must be able to read basic rhythmic and pitch notation.

Do I have to have a classical music background to apply? No, applicants who are passionate about any style of music are encouraged to apply.

What is the format of an instrumental audition? You may audition in person or by uploading a recording to YouTube for your round 1 audition. *All* round 2 auditions are live auditions.

What do I need to prepare for my audition(s)? For round 1, you must prepare a selection, or selections, totaling *at least* 3 minutes in length, plus a two-octave scale of your choice. If you are invited for a round 2 audition, you must prepare a selection, or selections, that total *at least* 5 minutes in length. The round 2 selection(s) *must* be different from that which you played in round 1.

Is there specific music that I have to audition with? No, there is no specific music that you must play, however, we do have a suggested repertoire list on page 11 of the ‘How to Apply’ section.

Will there be an accompanist? Yes, we will provide an accompanist. You must bring the music for the accompanist.

Will there be any rehearsals with the accompanist? No, there will not be any rehearsal time with the accompanist. If you are interested in rehearsing, you may contact the school at 212 501 3395, to get contact information for an accompanist. All arrangements and costs associated with any rehearsals are the responsibility of the applicant.

What if I don’t have music for the accompanist? If you cannot provide the music for the accompanist, you will have to audition without accompaniment. No recorded, taped, karaoke, or “Music Minus One” accompaniments are acceptable.

May I use my own accompanist? Yes, you may bring your own accompanist to your audition, however, all arrangements and costs are your responsibility.

Am I required to use an accompanist for an audition? No, you may audition without any accompaniment.

Is it a requirement to perform from memory in the audition? No, you are not required to perform your audition from memory, but it is encouraged.

Will I have time to warm up at the audition? You should come warmed up as we cannot guarantee the timing or availability of warm-up rooms. In addition, you should arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your audition time.

May I audition for more than one concentration or instrument? Yes, you may audition for one, two, or three concentrations or on more than one instrument. If you are auditioning for more than one concentration (e.g., guitar and composition), you *must* fill out two separate applications. If you are auditioning on two instruments (e.g., oboe and piano), you do *not* need to fill out multiple applications, but you do need to make note of your second instrument in the appropriate place on the application.