

Hello and Welcome to all Holland College School of Performing Arts (SoPA) Music Performance students!

I hope you are enjoying a great summer! We look forward to working with you in September. Below you will find some important information about getting started in the program.

COURSE DELIVERY

Due to the current health restrictions in place, your program will be delivered in a fully online/distance format in Semester 1. We intend to return to normal face-to-face delivery in Semester 2.

ORIENTATION:

Holland College will be providing a 'Virtual Orientation' to all students that can be accessed online. The Music Performance faculty will also provide a program-specific orientation. We are excited to introduce ourselves and to learn more about you and your goals in the music industry.

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 1 – first day of classes

December 11 – last day of classes for Semester 1

January 6 – first day of classes for Semester 2

February 22-26 – February break

April 23 – last day of classes for Semester 2

2020-21 COURSE SCHEDULE

Semester 1

Music Theory Introduction

Ear Training Introduction

Keyboard Harmony Introduction

Music Styles: Rock and Country (Sept 1 – Oct 16)

Music Styles: R&B and Pop (Oct 19 – Dec 11)

Music Licensing for Film, TV, and Video Games

Private Lesson 1

Semester 2

Harmony Introduction

Ear Training Intermediate

Keyboard Harmony Intermediate

Ensemble: Rock and Country (January 6 - March 5)

Ensemble: R&B and Pop (March 8 – April 23)

Music Technology Introduction

Private Lesson 2

TEXTBOOKS:

For Semester 1, you will purchase your Music Theory, Ear Training, and Keyboard Harmony textbooks through an online portal which will be accessible later in the summer. For these courses, we use texts directly from the Berklee College of Music, and they are in the process of setting up a special online store to facilitate distance delivery.

You will also be required to purchase one (1) 'E-book' through the Holland College bookstore. Necessary instructions will be provided prior to the beginning of classes.

MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

-**Hardware and software recommendations** for distance delivery have been included at the end of this document. *Additionally, if you can set up an external microphone, either through a USB connection or an audio interface, this would be ideal.*

- **For musical equipment**, each student is expected to provide their own primary instrument, along with all necessary cables and accessories.

CONTACT INFORMATION + LINKS:

*If you have any questions about the program, please contact Liam Corcoran via email at any time.
Email: ldcorcoran@hollandcollege.com*

<https://www.hollandcollege.com/programs/music-performance.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/HCSOPA/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCA5xSgleEGX2k7HnaB12CuQ/videos>

Student Hardware and Software Needs for Blended and Distance Learning (Current as of May 2020)

Requirements:

Note: These are general requirements for students to participate in blended and distance courses. Some programs may have higher or different requirements and prospective students should consult their program information.

1. A desktop or laptop computer. Either a Windows-based PC with Windows 10 or a Mac with macOS Catalina 10.15 or higher. Processor: Intel i3 minimum with i5 or higher recommended. RAM: 4 Gb minimum with 8Gb or higher recommended. Storage: 10 Gb storage minimum with SSD disk recommended. Regarding storage – some programs may have higher storage requirements.
2. Speakers/headphones/earbuds with microphone for listening to audio or videos presented in courses. Note: your laptop may have a built-in microphone and speakers, but we recommend an external set for best quality of experience during synchronous activities.
3. A built-in or external webcam for interacting in course activities that require video feedback from students.
4. Google Chrome is the only browser that SAM (the College's LMS) completely supports.
5. Microsoft Office 365. Students have free access to install the suite on their computers, tablets or other mobile devices. A browser-based version is available.
6. Adobe Reader DC.
7. An Internet connection with a minimum download speed of 10Mb/s and an upload speed of 1Mb/s is recommended. A wired connection to your home router is typically preferable to a wireless connection as it provides better stability and performance.
8. Tablets, smart phones, and Chromebooks may allow you to access some course content but have limited functionality and are not recommended.

Internet Connectivity

To test your internet speed, go to <https://www.speedtest.net/> and click the “go” button. A test will take place that measures the speed at which you can upload or download data from the internet from your current location. It is normal for the upload speed to be much lower than the download speed. If necessary, consider asking others in your household to limit their use of devices/internet when you are involved in a ‘virtual’ class session.

The router in your house might send out more than one signal. Many routers broadcast a 2.4Ghz and a 5Ghz signal simultaneously. Connecting to the 5Ghz band is best. If you have an ethernet cable and your computer is situated near your router or modem, you might be able to use a wired connection instead of Wi-Fi for the best connectivity. For more information or help with this, email sam@hollandcollege.com.

