



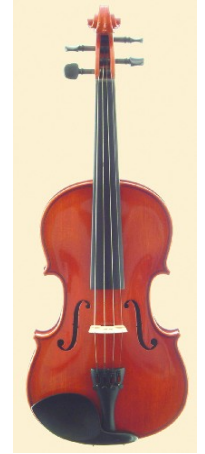
SCHOOL OF MUSIC AUDITION PROCEDURE

VIOLIN

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Pre-screening:

All violin students auditioning—for any major—**MUST** complete the violin pre-screening process. This process includes the following:



1. Complete the online School of Music application and letter(s) of recommendation at <http://music.byu.edu/apply>.
2. Upload your prescreening audition **video** recording to YouTube by December 1.
**Follow the directions provided online after submitting the School of Music application. Please perform all the audition requirements listed at the bottom of this page. Memorization is encouraged but not required.
3. Prospective students (including transfer students) who pass the pre-screening process will be invited to perform a live audition on audition day (the last Saturday in January). Only the students who have completed the application process – including the recording, application, and letters of recommendation – by December 1 will be considered in the pre-screening process for the live auditions in January. All music needs to be memorized for the live audition.
*Transfer students: All questions about transfer credits will be answered after acceptance into the School of Music.

APPLICATION & AUDITION DATES, FALL

- December 1:** YouTube posting deadline for pre-screening audition recordings. Deadline to COMPLETE the online application at <http://music.byu.edu/apply>.
- January 10:** Those invited to campus for a live audition will be notified. Those invited who cannot attend live auditions will still be considered for the program.
- January 21:** Deadline to schedule a live audition if invited after pre-screening. Auditions can be scheduled online after both the application and recommendation has been submitted.
- Last Saturday in January:** Live auditions are held in the Harris Fine Arts Center (HFAC) at BYU in Provo, Utah. You should plan to take the Aural Skills Exam on that day.

To apply, go to <http://music.byu.edu/apply>.

For general information, see the School of Music website <http://music.byu.edu>.

Questions may be emailed to music@byu.edu or call the School of Music at 801-422-8903.

Graduate applicants: Please contact Monte Belknap at 801-422-3328 or belknapm@gmail.com

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

*MEMORIZATION ENCOURAGED FOR PRE-SCREENING, REQUIRED FOR LIVE AUDITIONS
PIANIST 90% ENCOURAGED FOR PRE-SCREENING VIDEO, BUT NOT REQUIRED*

1. A movement from solo Bach, Sonata, or Partita.
2. A slow movement from a sonata or concerto, or a slow piece that demonstrates tone quality and vibrato.
3. A fast movement from a concerto that demonstrates technical ability (such as those by Mozart 3, 4, or 5, Lalo, Mendelssohn, Tchaikovsky, Barber, Sibelius, Paganini, Wieniawski, etc).
4. Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 and the 3-octave scale attached at the end of this document.

Studio faculty
contact information

Violin Professors



Monte Belknap

Phone: 801-422-3328

belknamp@gmail.com

Post graduate studies Viola and Orchestral Conducting at University of Cincinnati,
College-Conservatory of Music

M.M. Violin Performance, University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music, 1994

B.M. Violin Performance, University of Missouri/University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music, 1991

Mr. Belknap has been teaching at Brigham Young University-School of Music for nine years and previously taught at Brigham Young University-Idaho and Western Illinois University. At a young age Monte won several prizes across the country including winning the Starling International Violin Competition at the Aspen Music Festival in 1989. He went on to study with the world-renowned pedagogue Dorothy DeLay at the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music, and was also a faculty member of the famous Starling Preparatory String Project and as a graduate assistant of Kurt Sassmannshaus. He has been a regular at the Park City International Music Festival since 2004. Of his playing with the PCIM Deseret News critique stated, "his playing was infused with finely crafted lyricism that was mirrored by the others". He also performs with rave reviews as concertmaster and soloist at the Cathedral of the Madeline in SLC. In recent years Mr. Belknap has performed as a guest artist at the George Enescu International Violin Competition, the Barge Music Series in NYC, and served as concertmaster of the Illinois Symphony and Chamber Orchestras. Professor Belknap also presented a critically-acclaimed set of performances presenting the complete Beethoven Sonatas. Deseret News wrote of the sonata duo, they performed with "vibrancy and dynamic expressiveness". Mr. Belknap also serves as the concertmaster and soloist with the LA East recording studio and has been the featured violin soloist on many sound tracks including "The Work and the Glory" movies, the "The Iceland Saints", the online video games "Lord of the Rings" and "Dungeons and Dragons". In recent years he has performed chamber music with international artists, Jeffrey Solow, Scott Ballentyne, Steve Balderston, Mark Kosower, John Novacek, Denise Djokic, Menahim Pressler, Miriam Fried and many others.

This year he will be performing at the Park City International Music Festival. He will be the guest soloist with the American Fork Symphony Orchestra, the BYU Symphony Orchestra, the BYU Philharmonic and the Orchestra at the Cathedral of the Madeline. This fall the Deseret Piano Trio will be premiering the Barlow Endowment commissioned piece, "Lonesome Roads", a piano trio by Dan Visconti, composition faculty from the Eastman School of Music. Next summer he will be teaching at the International Music Festival of the Adriatic in Duino, Italy (<http://www.luther.edu/imfa/>).

In 2010 Professor Belknap was awarded the "Studio Teacher of the Year" by the Utah State Chapter, of the American String Teachers Association (ASTA). He has presented six times at the national convention of ASTA and currently serves as the chair of the solo competition in Utah. His students regularly win competitions and are performing around the world.

For more information, please see Professor Belknap's website, <http://letsplayviolin.com> or the School of Music website, <http://music.byu.edu>.



Alexander Woods

Phone 801-422-3342

agwoods@gmail.com

Post-Graduate Fellowship- Early music/baroque violin, Yale University, 2009

M.M. Violin Performance, Yale University, 2008

B.A. Music/French minor, Manhattan School of Music/University of Arizona, 2005

Mr. Woods has been hailed by the New York Times as both a "showstopping" performer as well as a "deft and sensitive accompanist." He has studied with many of the world's great violinists and pedagogues including Pinchas Zukerman, Itzhak Perlman, Syoko Aki, and Mark Rush, and loves passing on the great violin tradition with his students. He is in demand as a chamber musician, soloist and orchestral musician in New York City and abroad, performing most recently at venues such as Carnegie Hall, Symphony Space, the Italian Academy at Columbia University, Harvard University, the World Financial Center, and Trinity Wall Street Church. He frequently performs with the world-renowned Talea Ensemble, the early music group "The Sebastians", as well as many other ensembles in New York City. Recently, Mr. Woods performed with "The Sebastians" in England at the National Centre for Early music as a finalist in the York International early music competition. Their performances were praised for their "well-thought-out articulation and phrasing" (Early Music Review, UK) and their "Elegant string playing...immaculate in tuning and balance" (Early Music Today, UK). Mr. Woods was formerly the first violinist of the iO String Quartet and has recorded with them for Bridge Records. He can also be heard on the Naxos and Tzadik record labels.

Mr. Woods worked closely with, and premiered several works by, some of the greatest composers of our time including John Adams, Alvin Lucier, John Zorn, Tod Machover, Ingram Marshall, and Tarik O' Reagan. He has performed at many festivals including Mostly Mozart (Lincoln Center), Bang-on-a-Can, the New Albion SummerScape Festival, the 4x4 Baroque Festival, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, and the Golden Mask Festival in Moscow, Russia. He has also collaborated and performed with the Mark Morris, and Martha Graham dance companies.

Select upcoming engagements:

Mr. Woods will be participating in the Mostly Mozart festival at Lincoln Center, performing with world-renowned Mezzo-Soprano Stephanie Blythe and the Mark Morris Dance Company. In November he will be traveling to Vienna, Austria to perform the music of Olga Neuwirth with the Talea Ensemble.

Hello,

We look forward to seeing and hearing your audition for the violin area at the Brigham Young University School of Music (SOM). In addition to your three prepared pieces, please prepare the following two items: the Beethoven excerpt and the 3-octave scales with the marked bow strokes.

If you are invited to attend the live auditions, congratulations, you are automatically on the waiting list for acceptance into the SOM. At that audition we will be choosing around 10 students for acceptance into the SOM. We would like the entire audition to be memorized, including the Beethoven excerpt and the scales. Each prospective student will have around 15 minutes to perform. Please don't be alarmed if we cut you off here and there during the audition.

We look forward to meeting you. Please don't hesitate to email either of us to get more information about the audition.

Sincerely,

Monte Belknap and Alexander Woods
Violin Area Professors, Brigham Young University School of Music
Email: belknap@gmail.com, agwoods@gmail.com

SYMPHONY No. 7

Dotted quarter=104 L. VAN BEETHOVEN, Op. 92

ff sf sempre ff

cresc. p f

♩=52, (however you may want to put the metronome on an eighth note=104)

Brush Stroke-off the string at the frog

Spiccato-off the string closer to the middle of the bow

Spiccato-off the string in the middle of the bow