



CONSERVATORY PROGRAM AT THE RIVERS SCHOOL
2020-2021 Application for Admission

DEADLINE: JANUARY 15, 2021

Email or mail all materials to:
Gabriella Sanna, RSC Director
g.sanna@rivers.org
333 Winter Street
Weston, MA 02493

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservatory Program Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Rivers School Application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two Letters of Recommendation (music-specific) | <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule an Audition Date/Time |

STUDENT INFORMATION

What grade are you applying for (ex: 9th grade)? _____

First Name (Middle) Last Name Nickname (if any)

Home Address City State, Zip Code

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian I Relationship to Applicant

Home Phone Cell Phone E-Mail Address

Parent/Guardian II Relationship to Applicant

Home Phone Cell Phone E-Mail Address

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

The Conservatory Program at The Rivers School requires two letters of recommendation. One must either be from your current school music teacher or private lessons teacher. The other letter may be from any music teacher. Letters of recommendation can be sent along with the application or mailed separately. Conservatory applications will not be considered complete until both letters of recommendation are on file.

Name (first letter of recommendation) Relationship

Name (second letter of recommendation) Relationship

ARTISTIC INFORMATION

What is your primary instrument or interest? Include number of years of private study.

Describe previous training and experience with your primary instrument.

What is your second instrument or interest? Include number of years of private study, if any.

Describe previous experience in orchestra, chorus, band or jazz ensemble (including public and private school groups and extracurricular ensembles such as the Great Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra, etc.).

List two works performed in orchestra, choir, band or jazz ensemble within the past year.

List two recently completed solos and their composers.

SIGNATURES

Applicant

Date

Parent/Guardian I

Date

Parent/Guardian II

Date

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

The audition should display the applicant's current musical and technical abilities as well as demonstrate the potential for further growth. Applicants should carefully choose audition repertoire with the guidance of their teacher. Works from the 20th and 21st century are encouraged. Conservatory applicants may be asked to sight-read. Applicants will also complete a comprehensive music theory and ear-training placement prior to their auditions.

2020-2021 AUDITION DATES

Jazz Applicants: Saturday, February 6, 2021 at Bradley Hall

Classical Applicants: Saturday, February 13, 2021 at Bradley Hall

Music Theatre, Voice, and Wind Applicants: Voice, wind, and music theatre auditions will take place virtually this application cycle. Video auditions are due on February 6, 2021 and need not be professional recordings.

ORCHESTRAL INSTRUMENTS AND CLASSICAL GUITAR

- Two contrasting movements or works from the standard solo, sonata or concerto repertoire.
- Major and harmonic minor scales up to three sharps and flats in two octaves.

CLASSICAL VOICE

- Two contrasting pieces (ex: one in English and one in a foreign language), performed from memory. Pop songs are not permitted. Art songs and musical theater repertoire is preferred. Sight reading will also be assessed at the audition.

PIANO

- Two contrasting movements of standard repertoire from memory. Concertos are not accepted.
- Major and harmonic minor scales up to four sharps and flats, hands together in parallel motion for three octaves.

MUSIC THEATRE

- Two contrasting songs (ex: one ballad and one up-tempo) from a musical or similar material.
- No sight reading will be required.

JAZZ (VOICE AND INSTRUMENTS)

- Three pieces; two pieces must be improvised and two pieces must be from memory.
- A medium tempo jazz standard is required and at least two of the following styles need to be represented; ballad (required for vocalists), blues, be-bop, ragtime, stride, modal jazz, bossa nova, Cuban, funk or classical.
- Major and harmonic minor scales up to three sharps and flats (four sharps and flats for pianists) and minor blues scale starting on four different tonics (instrumentalists only).

COMPOSITION

- Submit two original compositions in manuscript form with your application; one must be hand-written.

PLEASE NOTE:

Students applying to the Conservatory Program must also apply and be accepted to The Rivers School. A student may be admitted to Rivers but not accepted to the Conservatory Program; students not accepted at Rivers will not be accepted into the Conservatory Program. The Conservatory Program will enroll a maximum of eight students in each grade.

CONSERVATORY PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Students in the Conservatory Program are required to take private lessons in their instrument at The Rivers School Conservatory or elsewhere.
- Conservatory students are required to participate in at least one ensemble at The Rivers School.
- Conservatory students are required to participate in the Conservatory Program classes which are scheduled in the early afternoon after academic classes end.
- All Conservatory students are required to participate in all Conservatory Program concerts and events each trimester in which they are enrolled (typically one off-campus community concert and one on-campus performance in addition to festivals and Rivers School assemblies).
- Conservatory students are permitted to enroll in any class offered at The Rivers School Conservatory. An independent study with any music instructor on a pre-approved subject is also permissible pending approval by the RSC Director.

CONSERVATORY PROGRAM CURRICULUM

Conservatory Program classes are co-curricular and are scheduled after school throughout the week. First and second year students have the option to “take off” either the winter or spring trimester if they wish to pursue another co-curricular activity at Rivers (athletics, drama, etc.). Juniors and Seniors, if they have completed the third year of theory, may take off the fall trimester instead.

Students must complete the first through third years of the curriculum in order to be granted a Conservatory Program Diploma at graduation. Placement tests given to students upon applying to the program may result in students testing out of certain levels of theory. Upon completion of the theory curriculum (theory IV or Jazz Composition) students may do independent studies in place of theory class in any area of interest, pending approval of the Conservatory Program

JAZZ TRACK

Year I

Two Trimesters of Theory I (2/week)
Two Trimesters of Color Class (1/week)
Two Trimesters of Jazz Improv Ensemble (1/week)

Year II

Two Trimesters of Jazz Theory II (2/week)
Two Trimesters of Color Class (1/week)
Two Trimesters of Jazz Improv Ensemble (1/week)

Year III

Two Trimesters of Jazz Theory III (2/week)
Two Trimesters of Color Class (1/week)
Two Trimesters of Jazz Improv Ensemble (1/week)

Year IV

Two Trimesters of Theory IV – AP track (2/week)
Two Trimesters of Jazz Composition (1/week)
Two Trimesters of Color Class (1/week)
Two Trimesters of Jazz Improv Ensemble (1/week)

CLASSICAL TRACK

Year I

Two Trimesters of Theory I (2/week)
Two Trimesters of Performance Class (1/week)
Two Trimesters of Chamber or Vocal Ensemble (1/week)

Year II

Two Trimesters of Theory II (2/week)
Two Trimesters of Performance Class (1/week)
Two Trimesters of Chamber or Vocal Ensemble (1/week)

Year III

Two Trimesters of Theory III (2/week)
Two Trimesters of Performance Class (1/week)
Two Trimesters of Chamber or Vocal Ensemble (1/week)

Year IV

Two Trimesters of Theory IV – AP track (2/week)
Two Trimesters of Performance Class (1/week)
Two Trimesters of Chamber or Vocal Ensemble (1/week)