

**Application to the Master's of Music in Performance
Miami University (Oxford, Ohio)**

Statement of Purpose Essay Prompt:

The Miami University Department of Music requires graduate students to adopt the performer-scholar model of learning and producing, which aims to create tomorrow's musicians who sustain a lifelong career in the arts.

Each graduate student is required to submit a Signature Blueprint Portfolio proposal in their first semester of study. This Blueprint establishes a unique purpose of performance study sustained consistently throughout a student's pursuit of the MM in Performance degree. Students may frame their purpose in a variety of interests: e.g., pedagogy, private instruction, social justice and activism, entrepreneurship and management, administration, technology, professional music institutions for ensemble or chamber music, etc. The Signature Blueprint encourages experiential learning outside of the classroom and inter/cross-disciplinary inquiry. Exploration includes a wide range of activities: examples include attending regional concerts and events; conducting interviews and job shadowing; attending field trips or virtual meetings with art administrations and organizations afar; participating in conferences locally, regionally, and nationally; performing or working with local arts and community centers; auditing coursework, online certificates, microcredentials, and MOOCs; and engaging with the diverse array of Centers and Offices on the Miami campus. Students will conceptualize their Signature Blueprint by forming research questions inspired by their investigation of the diversity of approaches to research and source types across subdisciplines in the study of music.

In 500 words or less:

Describe possible pathways for your Signature Blueprint, identifying areas of expertise that reach beyond your primary performance medium.