



VANDERBILT Blair School *of* Music

2025-2026 Student Recital Handbook

Deadlines for Booking a Student Recital

Booking Periods:

Fall 2025 Recitals

April 22-24: Priority booking for seniors with a degree requirement (registered in MUSO 4970)

April 25-27: Priority booking for seniors with an elective recital

April 28-30: Priority booking for juniors with a degree requirement (registered in MUSO 3970)

May 1: Schedule opens to all student solo and chamber ensemble recitals. Required recitals get priority over elective recitals.

Deadline for booking a Fall 2025 recital: October 31

Spring 2026 Recitals:

October 28-November 3: Priority booking for seniors with a degree requirement (registered in MUSO 4970)

November 4-5: Priority booking for seniors with an elective recital

November 6-7: Priority booking for juniors with a degree requirement (registered in MUSO 3970)

November 8: Schedule opens to all student solo and chamber ensemble recitals. Required recitals get priority over elective recitals.

Deadline for booking a Spring 2026 recital: March 6

NEW! Freshman, Sophomores, and non-degree requirement juniors **must complete** their Spring recitals by **March 6, 2026**. *No recitals for this student group will be approved to occur after March 6, 2026.*

Due to limited availability, sharing recital time slots with another student is *strongly encouraged* for all students with non-degree recitals, especially 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year students.

The request form must be turned in by the *last day* of the priority booking period to gain priority over other grade levels. Seniors & Juniors will be able to book their recital after the priority period is over; however, they may receive a less desirable time slot.

Please review the available time slots prior to your booking period on the Blair website listed below as these time slots are subject to change on a regular basis.

<https://blair.vanderbilt.edu/events/facilities/reservation-services/student-bookings/>

Recital Timeline & Checklist – Things to Do Before Your Recital

- ☐ **Look at available dates and coordinate with your major professor and assisting artists to see what dates work best.**
- ☐ **Book your recital date.**

Turn in your Recital Request Form to the Events Coordinator via email (heather.d.white@vanderbilt.edu) during your designated time period (*please see 1st page*).
- ☐ **Request rehearsal time.**

Once you've received your recital date from the Events Coordinator, book your rehearsal time through the EMS website <https://emscampus.app.vanderbilt.edu/VirtualEMS/>.

 - Please note that students are allowed up to 2 hours of rehearsal time in the performance hall *as available*; however, if you are more than 15 minutes late to your reservation, the time is forfeited.
 - Technical staff is not automatically assigned to rehearsals; if your rehearsal requires technical assistance, you must request this when you request your rehearsal time through EMS or by contacting the Events Coordinator and Director of Production.
- ☐ **Plan your hearing and request a time.**

You must pass your recital hearing at least **three (3) weeks** prior to the recital date. If your 3-week deadline falls during a break period, you must pass your hearing prior to the break.

 - Book hearing on EMS (website above).
 - Make sure to plan your hearing at least 2 months prior to your recital.
 - Ask the appropriate faculty members to serve on your panel and confirm what time works for everyone before booking a space.
 - Your hearing does not need to take place in the same spot as your recital.
 - If you need technical support for your hearing, please note this when you request your hearing through EMS.
- ☐ **[Required Recitals Only] Make sure you are registered on YES.**

To receive a grade and have your recital listed in your transcript, you must be registered.
- ☐ **Plan your repertoire.**

Plan your repertoire to fit your program's requirements as well fit within the time allotted for your performance.

 - It is imperative that your recital is less than 70 minutes total (inclusive of breaks, intermissions, and talking) as the livestream and archive recording will cut off after 70 minutes. If you go over that time, the end of your recital will not be available.

☐ **Submit recital tech form and schedule production meeting**

Four (4) weeks prior to your recital, submit your Recital Tech Form.

- Please include any and all information needed for the set-up for your recital, including a stage plot and accompanist's piano choice.
- Email Joe Passarelli (joseph.p.passarelli@vanderbilt.edu) to schedule your *mandatory* event production meeting.
- Form found here:

https://vanderbilt-university.formstack.com/forms/blair_event_tech_form

☐ **Pass your hearing at least 3 weeks prior to your recital (not applicable to composition majors)**

Turn in your hearing form into Rachel Hobbs (rachel.hobbs@vanderbilt.edu).

- If you fail your hearing, you must contact the Events Coordinator immediately to reschedule your recital.

☐ **Submit concert program information**

Three (3) weeks prior to your recital, submit your program information to Rebecca Nichols via the program form.

- Your concert program must be in an unformatted Microsoft Word Document; a hard copy will not be accepted.
- This should include the length of each piece as well as any program information that needs to be documented.
- Students with required recitals or senior recitals will have their programs edited and made available for viewing on the Blair website.
- Form found here:

https://vanderbilt-university.formstack.com/forms/program_information

☐ **Rehearse**

- You should have already booked your dress rehearsal date in EMS.
- Please note that students are allowed up to 2 hours of rehearsal time in the performance hall *as available*; however, if you are more than 15 minutes late to your reservation, the time is forfeited.
- Technical staff is not automatically assigned to rehearsals; if your rehearsal requires technical assistance, you must request this when you request your rehearsal time through EMS or by contacting the Events Coordinator and Director of Production.

☐ **Perform!**

- Please arrive to the stage to setup at the time confirmed with Joe Passarelli. This will at least be 30 minutes prior to the recital start time; in some circumstances, he may request that you arrive earlier, especially if your recital has an in-depth setup.

Blair Policy for booking your student recital:

- Students will be given only **two (2) hours** to complete their recital; this includes set-up time, performance time, and tear-down time.
 - Students must limit their program time **to 70 minutes, including set changes, speeches, and intermission**. Please plan your program accordingly.
 - Students must use the “Recital Time” as their start time.
 - It is imperative that your recital is less than 70 minutes total (inclusive of breaks, intermissions, and talking) as the livestream and archive recording will cut off after 70 minutes.
 - If you go over that time, the end of your recital will not be available.
 - Additionally, the entire recital program must be finished 20 minutes prior to the end of the time slot to allow the technical staff time to prepare for the next recital.
 - Going over your time period not only negatively impacts you, but it also impacts the recital after yours. Do not allow yourself to negatively impact your colleagues!
 - Students will need to fill out a [Recital Request Form](#) and turn this into the Events Coordinator.
 - If you have any questions regarding this form, see the Events Coordinator immediately for supplementary instructions.
 - Specific **booking periods** and **deadlines** are set to give priority according to seniority.
 - Please see the schedule on the 1st page for your booking period.
 - To avoid conflicts, recitals will need to fit into **specific time slots**. Exceptions will only be made due to previously scheduled events.

Recital Time Slots

Turner Hall Slots:

Weekend Recitals

12:00pm – 2:00pm – Recital Time: 12:30pm
2:00pm – 4:00pm – Recital Time: 2:30pm
5:00pm – 7:00pm – Recital Time: 5:30pm
7:00pm – 9:00pm – Recital Time: 7:30pm

Weekday Recitals

7:00pm – 9:00pm – Recital Time: 7:30pm

Choral Hall Slots:

Weekend Recitals

1:00pm – 3:00pm – Recital Time: 1:30pm
3:00pm – 5:00pm – Recital Time: 3:30pm
6:00pm – 8:00pm – Recital Time: 6:30pm

Weekday Recitals

6:00pm – 8:00pm – Recital Time: 6:30pm

Additional Blair Student Recital Policies:

- **Reception Information:** Each performance space has a designated reception area so that multiple receptions can happen at the same time.
 - TURNER HALL is the “family waiting area” just outside the first floor practice rooms.
 - CHORAL HALL is the faculty lounge.
 - Please consult the EMS schedule for the day of your event to see if other receptions will precede or follow your event so that no recitals are disturbed.
 - There are no private reception areas in the building.
 - Your reception time slot will mimic your recital time slot.
 - Example: For a Turner Hall recital at 12:30pm, you will be allowed to setup for your reception at 12:00pm and must be completely clear (including clean up) by 2:00pm.
 - No alcohol may be served at any student recital reception.
- **Repertoire/Program:** For required junior or senior recital, the repertoire must encompass
 - three major style periods, as appropriate to the medium
 - at least one work in a modern idiom must be included in either the junior or senior recital.
- **Recital Cancellation/Rescheduling:** Students are expected to check availability with their professors, assisting artists, and family members prior to booking their recital.
 - The student is allowed ONE (1) rescheduling of their recital which must be done so by their professor.
 - Remember time in the halls books up quickly, so being prepared prior to submitting your Recital Request Form will provide you with the best possible date.
 - If the student decides they need to reschedule their recital within a month of their scheduled recital without a legitimate reason, that student will not be guaranteed a spot in Turner Hall.
 - Legitimate Reason for Recital Rescheduling:
 - Illness/Injury (providing a doctor’s note)
 - Family emergency
 - Act of God, like a tornado
 - Not legitimate reasons for cancellation:
 - Program not ready/failed hearing
 - Schedule conflicts
 - Problems with assisting artists.
 - If a student needs to cancel their recital, they must contact the Events Coordinator immediately.
 - Any swapping of hall time must be approved by the Events Coordinator, both students, and their professors prior to being processed.

- **Pre-Recital Hearing:** All students (except composition) giving required recitals and any student who wishes to give a recital in the Blair building must pass a hearing, held **at least three weeks** before the recital.
 - After establishing a recital date, the student and their instructor will assemble a recital hearing committee, consisting of two additional faculty members, one of whom must be from outside the student's performing area.
 - For musical arts/teacher education students, the committee will normally consist of the studio instructor, a teacher education faculty member, and at least one additional faculty member.
 - For non-required, non-credit recitals, the hearing committee may be from within the department.
 - For any recital involving a student's second performing medium, a full-time faculty member from that department must be part of the hearing committee.
 - The student and instructor must notify the recital hearing committee, in writing, of the hearing date, recital date, time and place.
 - The hearing committee should hear the entire recital repertoire.
 - Senior composition recitals are screened in advance at the department level, therefore excluding them from the pre-recital hearing.
 - Student must print and have the [Recital Hearing Form](#) filled out by their Hearing Committee following their hearing.
 - Grading of the hearing is on a Pass/Fail basis, with written faculty comments.
 - If a student fails the hearing, another must be scheduled.
 - Only two recital hearings in one semester are permitted.
 - Completed Recital Hearing Form is emailed to the Blair Academic Registrar, Rachel Hobbs.
- **Recital Committee and Grade:**
 - For recitals given for credit, the recital committee is the same as the hearing committee, whenever possible.
 - The final grade is a composite of those of the committee members, with the instructor's grade valued at 50 percent.
 - Copies of the committee member's grades are kept by the instructor.
 - Recitals not given for credit are not graded; they involve a hearing committee but not a recital committee

People to contact:

Events Coordinator, Heather White, 615-322-7508, heather.d.white@vanderbilt.edu

To schedule your recital, rehearsal, & hearing

Assistant Registrar, Rachel Hobbs, 615-343-5882, rachel.hobbs@vanderbilt.edu

To submit your hearing form

Operations Assistant, Rebecca Nichols, Rebecca.nichols@vanderbilt.edu

To create your program

Director of Production, Joe Passarelli, 615-343-7298, joseph.p.passarelli@vanderbilt.edu

To arrange set-up and technical needs for rehearsals, recitals, and recordings

Important Links:

EMS (Scheduling Website): <https://emscampus.app.vanderbilt.edu/VirtualEMS/>

Student Recital Booking Information:

<https://blair.vanderbilt.edu/events/facilities/reservation-services/student-bookings/>

Recital Tech Form: https://vanderbilt-university.formstack.com/forms/blair_event_tech_form

Program Submission Form:

https://vanderbilt-university.formstack.com/forms/program_information

Hearing Form:

<https://cdn.vanderbilt.edu/vu-sub/wp-content/uploads/sites/279/2024/08/02213959/recital-hearing-0321.pdf>