

## M.M. Choral Conducting Audition Requirements

You will need to have completed the GIA Music AMMA Test sent to your email within 36 hours of registering for your audition. This aural exam will take approximately 25 minutes to complete.

You will be asked to perform the following in a private portion of the audition day:

- [Hindemith Exercise](#) - Please tap or clap the rhythms below as you sing the melody.
- Please bring one piece to sing - an art song, aria, etc. indicative of your current level of musical ability.
- Please bring one piece to play on the piano indicative of your current level of piano ability.
- Be prepared for an interview to discuss your history and goals.

You will audition conducting the Westminster Choir.

You will have approximately 10 minutes with the choir. We are interested in your rapport, your ability to communicate gesturally and verbally, and how you produce sound. The choir will know the works to be conducted, so we ask that you begin by conducting a large section of one work and then, if you wish to make changes, go back and rehearse a bit.

The 2025 audition repertoire is:

[\*Nunc dimittis\* from the \*Westminster Service\* of Herbert Howells](#)  
[\*Young Jesus Sweit\*, by Robert Convery](#)

Q&A - You will be spending the day with the conducting faculty, current graduate students, and members of the Admissions office. A specific schedule will be distributed closer to the day, but plan on an early start, meeting at 8.30am with the option of attending the Year 1 Conducting Seminar at 9.10am. There will be a lunch with current graduate students.

Choir rehearsals on the audition day include:

10.20-11.20 Mastersingers (the Graduate Conductors' Recital Choir, coached by Dr. Pilkington)

11.30-12.30 Symphonic Choir (Tyler Weakland will be preparing Rachmaninoff's *Vespers*)

4.30-6 Westminster Choir (conducted by Dr. Nally; your audition will take place during this time)

Please remember to bring your own copies of all the above exercises and music to the audition. For the selection you will sing, please bring a copy for the accompaniment.

Feel free to reach out to Christina Ficarra at [ficarrac@rider.edu](mailto:ficarrac@rider.edu) with any questions.