Blair School of Music
Entrance Examination in Music Theory
PRACTICE TEST

Dear Applicant,

Here you will find a "practice" version of the Entrance Examination in Music Theory. Admission into the Blair School of Music requires successful completion of a similar examination, which will be administered during your audition weekend. Every element of the examination is represented here; therefore, if you feel you are in need of aid or instruction in any of these areas, please take the opportunity to seek it out. There are numerous tangible resources for study, including various textbooks, workbooks, or online tools such as www.musictheory.net. You may also wish to speak with your music teachers for assistance.

Please know that a lack of background in music theory is not prohibitive to your admission into the Blair School of Music. The faculty recognizes that there are differences, sometimes vast, in applicants' background or opportunities. This testing process, therefore, is designed to focus not simply on an applicant's existing knowledge base, but also, and perhaps more importantly, on the applicant's aptitude for learning that which was previously unknown, as well as the innate desire to excel in every area of the music discipline. A deep working knowledge of music theory and history informs inspired musical performance, and the Blair School is dedicated to the interconnection of these holistic aspects of music-making in every facet of the program, from the classroom to the stage. We believe this distinguishes us from other music schools, and we have seen remarkable success from our graduates.

Please feel free to contact the Blair School Admissions Office or me directly should you need any further assistance with preparation for the entrance examination in theory.

And please accept my very best wishes for your application to the Blair School.

Sincerely,

Michael K. Slayton, D.M.A.
Associate Professor/Chair, Department of Music Composition and Theory
Vanderbilt University
Blair School of Music