

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS AT ESM

(Effective August 2017)

The Eastman School of Music believes that it is educationally and artistically important to foster collaborative partnerships among students. Successful musical partnerships are built on common goals, mutual respect, and a high degree of professionalism.

Eastman pianists are happy to make music with their colleagues, and many of them also have a curricular or contractual obligation to do so. It is impossible for the relatively small number of piano majors to cover all of the collaborative needs of the school. By being considerate and respectful of your pianist, you will better be able to develop a professional, cordial and long-lasting association with him/her. Failure to treat your collaborative partner with the appropriate level of professionalism or respect, or failure to abide by the policies and procedures outlined in this document, will result in the revocation of your ability to utilize accompanying services provided by Eastman.

A DESCRIPTION OF PROVIDED SERVICES

On average, pianists are expected to be available for one 1-hour rehearsal, one 1-hour lesson per week, and weekly studio classes as requested for each of their partners. They also are required to be available for the juries and degree recitals of all of their partners. For those pianists enrolled in ACY 100/ACY 100G, failure to do so will result in a grade of “F”.

Degree recitals, juries, and Eastman competitions (e.g. Concerto Competitions, Kneisel Lieder Competition) sometimes create a need for more intensive rehearsal. Duos should make reasonable adjustments for these events by mutual prior arrangement, but pianists should not be required to spend an unreasonable or unrealistic amount of time weekly. It is important to respect the academic and performance requirements of the pianists.

Pianists are not required by the school to accompany students for outside competitions, auditions, non-degree recitals, professional performances, or recordings (other than during a scheduled degree recital with an audience present). These extra services should be managed between students as a private, paid transaction.

It is the responsibility of the singer or instrumentalist to give music to their partner in a timely fashion (no later than six weeks prior to performance). If this responsibility is not met, the pianist has the right to refuse the job.

FINDING A PIANIST

Singers and instrumentalists are responsible for finding their own pianists. This could include forming a partnership with a friend, teaming up with a student who has a curricular obligation to accompany, or hiring a freelance pianist from the community. Current lists of all Accompanying Graduate Assistants, Eastman Piano Majors, Faculty/Staff Pianists, Harpsichord Accompanists, and Rochester Area Freelance Pianists are available online at <http://www.esm.rochester.edu/accompanying/services/> . A valid student email address is necessary.

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UNDERGRADUATE PIANISTS

- **Freshman keyboard players** are **not** allowed to accompany others.
- **All sophomore, junior, and senior piano performance majors** are required to be the exclusive pianist for two partners (one singer and one instrumentalist) every semester for a total of 6 consecutive semesters. BM/AMU Pianists will enroll in ACY 100, receiving one credit for each semester of successful completion, for a total of six consecutive semesters. These pianists will be encouraged to find their own collaborative partners, with advice from their piano teachers. Piano students with this curricular obligation to collaborate will not be paid for these required services. Dr. Sylvie Beaudette is in charge of monitoring this requirement. Any questions may be directed to her: sbeaudette@esm.rochester.edu.
- **Undergraduate piano transfer students** should consult with the Office of Academic Affairs regarding their accompanying requirements. After consultation with the accompanying faculty, an individualized program of study will be crafted that takes into account each student's prior coursework and experience in accompanying.
- **Undergraduate double majors and dual degree majors** are expected to fulfill only one-half of the requirement each semester (i.e. one partnership each semester instead of two).

GRADUATE PIANISTS

- **All MM/PRL piano majors** are required to be the exclusive pianist for two partners (one singer and one instrumentalist) during each semester of residence (up to and including four semesters). MM/PRL pianists will enroll in ACY 100G. They neither pay for nor receive academic credit for this required enrollment. If they should choose to do any additional accompanying, they may ask to be compensated by their partner(s). **All MM/PRL pianists who currently hold graduate awards in accompanying will automatically meet this collaborative requirement by fulfilling the terms of their graduate award, and will not have to register for ACY 100G.** Dr. Sylvie Beaudette is in charge of monitoring the ACY 100G requirement. Any questions may be directed to her: sbeaudette@esm.rochester.edu.

While **other keyboardists** are not required by their degree to accompany, they are encouraged to be involved in musical collaboration.

Dr. Jean Barr
Director of the Accompanying Program and Accompanying Services