



Entrance exam 2026

Master of Arts in Music Composition / Creative Practice  
Bachelor of Arts in Music Composition / Creative Practice

## General Information

- The [online application](#) is open until 16 March. On page 7 of the online application form under the section “Course-specific documentation” please upload your motivation letter. All the scores and other material need to be provided as explained below.
- The entrance exams / interviews take place on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of April, Room 160, Ostermundigenstrasse 103, 3006 Bern. You will be informed about your time slot on March 31st at the latest.
- If you are in an overseas country, we can exceptionally make an online interview on demand. In that case, please write to [luz.gonzalez@hkb.bfh.ch](mailto:luz.gonzalez@hkb.bfh.ch) before March the 17th.

## For composers applying for the Master in Composition / Creative Practice:

1. Upload the scores of three of your works. At least one of them must be accompanied by an audio or video recording. Prepare and upload a 1-page PDF with all the necessary links. Upload the document in the online application in the section “Further documents”. Make sure that all the files are downloadable and available to anyone with the link, and that the links are valid at least 30 days after the interview date.
2. Develop a personal concept related to the assignment you will receive at the latest on March 30<sup>th</sup>.
3. The interview consists of:
  - A discussion on your professional goals and ideas (20 minutes).
  - A presentation of the assignment (10 minutes). Bring the accompanying documentation (drafts, scores, drawings, sound files, etc.), no PowerPoint.
  - A presentation of one of the works you have submitted (10 minutes). Bring the accompanying documentation (drafts, scores, drawings, sound files, etc.); do not use PowerPoint.

## For performers and composer-performers applying for the Master’s in Composition / Creative Practice:

1. Upload the videos of your performances. If applicable, upload the scores or other documentation (i.e., description of the pieces). Prepare and upload a 1-page PDF with all the necessary links. Upload the document in the online application in the section “Further documents”. Make sure that all the files are downloadable and available to anyone with the link, and that the links are valid at least 30 days after the interview date.
2. Develop a personal concept or improvisation in relation to the assignment you will receive two weeks before the interview.
3. The interview consists of:
  - A discussion on your professional goals and ideas (20 minutes).
  - A presentation of the assignment (10 minutes). You should play/perform, but you are also welcome to present your work orally. If needed, bring the accompanying documentation (drafts, scores, drawings, sound files, etc.), no PowerPoint.
  - A live performance (10 minutes maximum). You have the following options:
    - You may perform your own pieces (solo or chamber).
    - You may perform repertoire pieces (solo or chamber).
    - Other people may perform your pieces (solo or chamber).

You can choose to combine different modalities, but in at least one piece, you need to be featured as a performer. At least one piece must be performed live at the interview. The total duration should not exceed 20 minutes (incl. live performance + the audio/video files).

You are responsible for bringing your performers with you. We can provide a piano and a PA stereo system, without a technician/sound engineer. Some percussion instruments are available on demand. If you need a more specific technical setup, please send us your detailed technical rider before March 17th.

## For composers applying for the Bachelor in Music Composition / Creative Practice:

- Upload the scores of three of your works. At least one of them must be accompanied by an audio or video recording. Prepare and upload a 1-page PDF with all the necessary links. Upload the document in the online application in the section "Further documents". Make sure that all the files are downloadable and available to anyone with the link, and that the links are valid at least 30 days after the interview date.
- Develop a personal concept related to the assignment you will receive two weeks before the interview.
- The interview consists of:
  - A discussion on your professional goals and ideas.
  - A presentation of the assignment (10 minutes). If needed, bring the accompanying documentation (drafts, scores, drawings, sound files etc.).
  - A presentation of one of your works that you have submitted (10 minutes). If needed, bring the accompanying documentation (drafts, scores, drawings, sound files etc.).
  - A presentation of your analysis of a chosen repertoire piece written after 1950 (10 minutes, without PowerPoint). Bring three copies of the score and, if needed, additional documentation.
  - A performance of a short improvisation on the instrument of your choice (5 minutes maximum). This can also be voice or electronics.
  - A short aural analysis of a musical excerpt from a recent work - describe the excerpt by using precise musical parameters (pitch, timbre, dynamics, rhythm, etc.).
- Separately from the interview, there will be a music theory part. For the dates and more info, please check: <https://www.hkb.bfh.ch/en/studies/bachelor/music-classical/> under Eligibility + Entry

If you have any questions regarding the procedure, please contact our assistant, [luz.gonzalez@hkb.bfh.ch](mailto:luz.gonzalez@hkb.bfh.ch)

With kind regards,  
Irene Galindo Quero  
Head of MA in Music Composition Creative Practice  
Bern, 18 Sept 2025

## Timeline:

Until March 16th

- You apply to our study program using the online form available [here](#).

Until March 30th

- You receive:
  - the schedule for your interview
  - the assignment

April, 14th or 15th

- The interview takes place in Room 160, Ostermundigenstrasse 103, 3006 Bern, according to the schedule.