



HERBIE HANCOCK INSTITUTE OF JAZZ

HERBIE HANCOCK INSTITUTE OF JAZZ PERFORMANCE AT UCLA APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION - CLASS ENTERING FALL 2027

Eligibility

The Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance accepts up to eight (8) extremely talented jazz musicians into a two-year master's degree program designed to enhance their musicianship and develop their artistic vision through intensive study with renowned jazz masters, combined with a unique, performance-based education. The program aims to provide a learning environment in which gifted jazz musicians can create and experiment musically without the artistic and financial pressures of the working world. All applicants must be planning to pursue a career as a performing and/or recording jazz musician. Applicants should note that the program requires a two-year commitment, during which time it must take priority over all other music touring, teaching, and recording opportunities that conflict with the program. An advanced level of performance skills, including sight-reading ability, is required. Students must have completed an undergraduate degree at a four-year American college or university or equivalent institution outside of the United States and must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 for the last two years of upper-division coursework. All applicants, including U.S. citizens and Permanent Residents, who studied in countries where English is not the primary language must certify their English language proficiency. They must have a minimum overall score of 87 on the TOEFL iBT exam (for exams taken before January 21, 2026) or 4.5 (for exams taken on or after January 21, 2026). They may also take the IELTS exam and have a minimum overall band score of 7.0. UCLA does not currently accept MyBest TOEFL. If you are admitted, you may also be required to confirm your English proficiency upon arrival.

Applications may be submitted to study the following instruments: violin, flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, harmonica, electric guitar, piano, vibraphone, acoustic bass, drums, and voice. Other instruments not listed are welcome to apply. Applicants who double or play secondary instruments may be given extra consideration. The musicians accepted to attend the Institute of Jazz Performance at UCLA must complete the full, two-year program of study. The Institute encourages applications from all candidates without regard to race, color, religion, gender, age, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, mental or physical handicap, or veteran status in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, and other activities.

Once accepted into the program, students will apply for a master's degree from The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music by submitting an additional application to the UCLA Graduate Division. Students must be academically approved by the University of California Los Angeles to be accepted into The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music.

Domestic students will be required to establish California residency in order to receive the full scholarship in the second year of the program. This includes establishing legal/physical residence and obtaining a California-based driver's license, vehicle registration, voter registration and bank account.

Degrees and Credits

A master's degree from The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music for qualified applicants and a certificate from the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance will be awarded upon successful completion of the two-year program. Students are required to enroll in one UCLA academic course every quarter.

Costs

Students accepted to the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance are awarded full-tuition scholarships, which include housing and healthcare. The second year's full-tuition scholarship is contingent upon domestic students achieving California residency. Students also receive monthly stipends toward living expenses during the academic year.

Deadlines

Completed application forms, materials and audition recordings must be received by November 30, 2026 by 11:59 pm PST for the new class entering in September 2027. Applicants selected to audition for the program will be notified by January 2027. In-person auditions will be held in February 2027.

November 30, 2026:	Application deadline; completed applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. PST
January 2027:	Selected applicants are invited to audition at UCLA
February 2027:	Auditions are held at UCLA
March 2027:	Applicants are notified of admissions decisions

Application Procedures

The attached application form must be completed in full and must be accompanied by unofficial transcripts issued by your university for all college-level work (the institution logo and your name must be present on the copies; no screenshots), at least three letters of recommendation, and an essay discussing: A) your past experience and/or current work, and B) your artistic and professional goals. Each applicant will be required to audition by submitting audio recordings (**no video**) that follow the performance requirements. Those selected as finalists will be invited to audition in person. The Institute's admissions panel, which includes renowned jazz artists and educators, will review the applications. Applicants will be judged on their application, letters of recommendation and criteria including exceptional musical skill, artistic vision, and potential for growth, as well as their ability to function within a group. Applicants who are not accepted will not receive critical feedback on their applications or recordings.

There are two ways to apply for the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance:

1. Apply online via <https://herbalpert.getacceptd.com> and submit credit/debit card information at the end of the application. After clicking the link, select the following underneath "Start an Application": Graduate, MM Music, Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance at UCLA.
2. Mail all required materials to the mailing address below.

Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance at UCLA
2520 Schoenberg Music Building
445 Charles E Young Drive East
Los Angeles, CA 90095
310-206-9700

If mailing your application, please include an \$87 (USD) non-refundable application fee by payment online, check, or money order (no cash), made payable to: Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz. Please write your name and instrument in large letters on the outside of your application mailing envelope. To make a payment online, visit <https://hancockinstitute.org/contribute>, complete the form, check the Tribute box that says "Is this gift in tribute to someone?" and then enter "Class of 2029 Application."

Audition recordings on USB flash drive or compact disc must not exceed 40 minutes in length. The applicant's name must be written clearly on a label attached to the USB flash drive or on the compact disc and its box spine. Performance selections must include all of the material listed under the applicant's instrument category. Label the compact disc, listing the order of the selections*. The recording may be a home, live, or studio recording. Sound quality of the recording will not be a final determinant in the judging process. However, it is strongly recommended that you review your recording before submitting it to ensure the sound is intelligible and that no malfunctions have occurred. Unintelligible recordings will be disqualified. Audition recordings will not be returned. Audition recordings should be **AUDIO ONLY**.

* *How to name audio files:*

- instrument_performance requirement number_name of tune
- Example: alto saxophone_3_Turnaround
- DO NOT INCLUDE ANY IDENTIFYING FACTORS such as your name or age.

Those applying on multiple instruments must submit an application along with supporting materials for each instrument, but are only required to pay one application fee. If this is the case for you, please inform the Institute admissions team via email at apply@hancockinstitute.org and indicate if you are applying online via Acceptd or by mail.

Performance Requirements

SAXOPHONE/CLARINET/FLUTE/HARMONICA/VIOLIN

1. An unaccompanied performance of the melody of and one chorus of improvisation on any Charlie Parker composition; up-tempo quarter note = ca. 210-280; no metronome; melody only necessary at the beginning of the tune.
2. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) ballad performance of "Lush Life" (Billy Strayhorn); play the verse melody and then improvise on the A and B sections only; no double time; tempo of your choice.
3. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of "Turnaround" (Ornette Coleman), "Isotope" (Joe Henderson) or "Matrix" (Chick Corea); minimum tempo quarter note = ca. 144; four improvised choruses maximum.
4. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of "E.S.P." (Wayne Shorter) or "Satellite" (John Coltrane), quarter note = ca. 240; or "Sorcerer" (Herbie Hancock), quarter note = ca. 180; two improvised choruses maximum.
5. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) or trio (horn, bass and drums or horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone and bass) performance of an original composition, jazz standard, or modern/contemporary jazz composition of your choice in an odd time signature (anything other than 4/4) or mixed meter; tempo of your choice; three improvised choruses maximum.
6. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) or trio (horn, bass and drums or horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone and bass) performance of an original composition; three improvised choruses maximum.
7. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums or larger instrumentation; bass and drums must be included) performance of "Actual Proof" (Herbie Hancock) or "Elegant People" (Wayne Shorter) or another modern/contemporary song of your choice; any tempo; two improvised choruses or solo of appropriate length.
8. A performance of a song of your choice that best represents you. Any tempo, any instrumentation. The performance must be no longer than five minutes.

TRUMPET/TROMBONE/OTHER BRASS

1. An unaccompanied performance of the melody of and one chorus of improvisation on any Charlie Parker composition; up-tempo quarter note = ca. 210-280; no metronome; melody only necessary at the beginning of the tune.
2. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) ballad performance of "Lush Life" (Billy Strayhorn); play the verse melody and then improvise on the A and B sections only; no double time; tempo of your choice.
3. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of "Turnaround" (Ornette Coleman), "Isotope" (Joe Henderson) or "Matrix" (Chick Corea); minimum tempo quarter note = ca. 144; four improvised choruses maximum.
4. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of "E.S.P." (Wayne Shorter) or "Satellite" (John Coltrane), quarter note = ca. 240; or "Sorcerer" (Herbie Hancock), quarter note = ca. 180; two improvised choruses maximum.
5. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) or trio (horn, bass and drums or horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone and bass) performance of an original composition, jazz standard, or modern/contemporary jazz composition of your choice in an odd time signature (anything other than 4/4) or mixed meter; tempo of your choice; three improvised choruses maximum.
6. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) or trio (horn, bass and drums or horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone and bass) performance of an original composition; three improvised choruses maximum.

7. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums or larger instrumentation; bass and drums must be included) performance of "Actual Proof" (Herbie Hancock) or "Elegant People" (Wayne Shorter) or another modern/contemporary song of your choice; any tempo; two improvised choruses or solo of appropriate length.

8. A performance of a song of your choice that best represents you. Any tempo, any instrumentation. The performance must be no longer than five minutes.

ACOUSTIC PIANO/VIBRAPHONE

1. An unaccompanied performance of the melody of and one chorus of improvisation on any Charlie Parker composition; up-tempo quarter note = ca. 210-280; no metronome; melody only necessary at the beginning of the tune.

2. A trio (piano, bass and drums) ballad performance of "Lush Life" (Billy Strayhorn); play the verse melody and then improvise on the A and B sections only; no double time; tempo of your choice.

3. A quartet (horn/guitar/vibraphone, piano, bass and drums or horn/guitar/piano, vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of "Turnaround" (Ornette Coleman), "Isotope" (Joe Henderson) or "Matrix" (Chick Corea); minimum tempo quarter note = ca. 144; four improvised choruses maximum.

4. A quartet (horn/guitar/vibraphone, piano, bass and drums or horn/guitar/piano, vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of "E.S.P." (Wayne Shorter) or "Satellite" (John Coltrane), quarter note = ca. 240; or "Sorcerer" (Herbie Hancock), quarter note = ca. 180; two improvised choruses maximum.

5. A quartet (horn/guitar/vibraphone, piano, bass and drums or horn/guitar/piano, vibraphone, bass and drums) or trio (piano/vibraphone, bass and drums or piano/vibraphone, guitar/horn and bass) performance of an original composition, jazz standard, or modern/contemporary jazz composition of your choice in an odd time signature (anything other than 4/4) or mixed meter; tempo of your choice; three improvised choruses maximum.

6. A quartet (horn/guitar/vibraphone, piano, bass and drums or horn/guitar/piano, vibraphone, bass and drums) or trio (piano/vibraphone, bass and drums or piano/vibraphone, guitar/horn and bass) performance of an original composition; three improvised choruses maximum.

7. A quartet (horn/guitar/vibraphone, piano, bass and drums; horn/guitar/piano, vibraphone, bass and drums or larger instrumentation; bass and drums must be included) performance of "Actual Proof" (Herbie Hancock) or "Elegant People" (Wayne Shorter) or another modern/contemporary song of your choice; any tempo; two improvised choruses or solo of appropriate length.

8. A performance of a song of your choice that best represents you. Any tempo, any instrumentation. The performance must be no longer than five minutes.

ELECTRIC GUITAR

1. An unaccompanied performance of the melody of and one chorus of improvisation on any Charlie Parker composition; up-tempo quarter note = ca. 210-280; no metronome; melody only necessary at the beginning of the tune.

2. A trio (guitar, bass and drums) ballad performance of "Lush Life" (Billy Strayhorn); play the verse melody and then improvise on the A and B sections only; no double time; tempo of your choice. The A section should be your own chord solo arrangement. The B section should include harmonic as well as linear improvisation.

3. A quartet (horn/piano/vibraphone, guitar, bass and drums) performance of "Turnaround" (Ornette Coleman), "Isotope" (Joe Henderson) or "Matrix" (Chick Corea); minimum tempo quarter note = ca. 144; four improvised choruses maximum.

4. A quartet (horn/piano/vibraphone, guitar, bass and drums) performance of "E.S.P." (Wayne Shorter) or "Satellite" (John Coltrane), quarter note = ca. 240; or "Sorcerer" (Herbie Hancock), quarter note = ca. 180; two improvised choruses maximum.

5. A quartet (horn/piano/vibraphone, guitar, bass and drums) or trio (guitar, bass and drums or guitar, horn/piano/vibraphone and bass) performance of an original composition, jazz standard, or modern/contemporary jazz composition of your choice in an odd time signature (anything other than 4/4) or mixed meter; tempo of your choice; three improvised choruses maximum.
6. A quartet (horn/piano/vibraphone, guitar, bass and drums) or trio (guitar, bass and drums or guitar, horn/piano/vibraphone and bass) performance of an original composition; three improvised choruses maximum.
7. A quartet (horn/piano/vibraphone, guitar, bass and drums or larger instrumentation; bass and drums must be included) performance of "Actual Proof" (Herbie Hancock) or "Elegant People" (Wayne Shorter) or another modern/contemporary song of your choice; any tempo; two improvised choruses or solo of appropriate length.
8. A performance of a song of your choice that best represents you. Any tempo, any instrumentation. The performance must be no longer than five minutes.

ACOUSTIC BASS

1. An unaccompanied performance of the melody of and one chorus of improvisation on "Freedom Jazz Dance" (Eddie Harris) beginning on G, quarter note = ca. 200; "Tricotism" in Db (Oscar Pettiford), quarter note = ca. 144 or "Donna Lee" (Charlie Parker), quarter note = ca. 210-280; no metronome; melody only necessary at the beginning of the tune.
2. A trio (piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) ballad performance of "Lush Life" (Billy Strayhorn); play the verse melody and then improvise on the A and B sections only; no double time; tempo of your choice. Play the melody for the verse with the bow.
3. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of "Turnaround" (Ornette Coleman), "Isotope" (Joe Henderson) or "Matrix" (Chick Corea); minimum tempo quarter note = ca. 144. Walk/accompany during melody and during two choruses of improvisation maximum by another soloist; improvise for four choruses maximum.
4. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of "E.S.P." (Wayne Shorter) or "Satellite" (John Coltrane), quarter note = ca. 240; or "Sorcerer" (Herbie Hancock), quarter note = ca. 180. Walk/accompany during melody and during two choruses of improvisation maximum by another soloist; improvise for two choruses maximum.
5. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) or trio performance (horn/piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) of an original composition, jazz standard, or modern/contemporary jazz composition of your choice in an odd time signature (anything other than 4/4) or mixed meter; tempo of your choice; three improvised choruses maximum.
6. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) or trio (horn/piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of an original composition. Walk/accompany during two choruses of improvisation maximum by another soloist; improvise for two choruses maximum.
7. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums or larger instrumentation; bass and drums must be included) performance of "Actual Proof" (Herbie Hancock) or "Elegant People" (Wayne Shorter) or another modern/contemporary song of your choice; any tempo; two improvised choruses or solo of appropriate length. Electric bass optional.
8. A performance of a song of your choice that best represents you. Any tempo, any instrumentation. The performance must be no longer than five minutes.

DRUMS

1. A duo performance of any Charlie Parker composition with any instrument; up-tempo quarter note = ca. 210-280. Accompany melody with brushes and improvise for one chorus with sticks; melody only necessary at the beginning of the tune.
2. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) or trio (horn/piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) ballad performance of "Lush Life" (Billy Strayhorn); horn or harmony instrument should play the verse melody and then drums play behind a soloist of your choice on the A and B sections only; tempo of your choice.

3. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of "Turnaround" (Ornette Coleman), "Isotope" (Joe Henderson) or "Matrix" (Chick Corea); minimum tempo quarter note = ca. 144; one chorus of trading and one improvised chorus maximum.
4. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of "E.S.P." (Wayne Shorter) or "Satellite" (John Coltrane), quarter note = ca. 240; or "Sorcerer" (Herbie Hancock), quarter note = ca. 180; two improvised choruses maximum.
5. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) or trio (horn/piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of an original composition, jazz standard, or modern/contemporary jazz composition of your choice in an odd time signature (anything other than 4/4) or mixed meter; tempo of your choice; three improvised choruses maximum.
6. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) or trio (horn/piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of an original composition; three improvised choruses maximum.
7. A quartet (horn, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums or larger instrumentation; bass and drums must be included) performance of "Actual Proof" (Herbie Hancock) or "Elegant People" (Wayne Shorter) or another modern/contemporary song of your choice; any tempo; two improvised choruses or solo of appropriate length
8. A performance of a song of your choice that best represents you. Any tempo, any instrumentation. The performance must be no longer than five minutes.

VOICE

1. An unaccompanied performance of the melody of and one chorus of improvisation on any Charlie Parker composition, up-tempo quarter note = ca. 210-280; no metronome; melody only necessary at the beginning of the tune.
2. A quartet (voice, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) ballad performance of "Lush Life" (Billy Strayhorn); sing the verse melody and then improvise on the A and B sections only; no double time; tempo of your choice; lyrics or wordless melody.
3. A medium-tempo quartet (voice, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of either "Desafinado" (in English or Portuguese) (A.C. Jobim), "Night Dreamer" (Wayne Shorter, lyrics Kurt Elling) or "Nobody Else But Me" (Jerome Kern). If performing "Desafinado," improvise for one chorus. If performing "Night Dreamer" or "Nobody Else But Me," improvise for two choruses; tempo of your choice.
4. An up-tempo quartet (voice, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) performance of either "Just One of Those Things" (Cole Porter), "So In Love" (Cole Porter), "Cherokee" (Ray Noble), "The Song Is You" (Jerome Kern), "Just Friends" (Sam Lewis/ John Klenner), "One Finger Snap" (Herbie Hancock), or "The Sorcerer" (Herbie Hancock). If performing "Just One of Those Things," "So In Love," "Cherokee," or "The Song Is You," improvise for one chorus. If performing "Just Friends," "One Finger Snap," or "The Sorcerer," improvise for two choruses; tempo of your choice.
5. A quartet (voice, piano/guitar, bass and drums) or trio (voice, bass and drums or voice, piano/guitar/vibraphone and bass) performance of an original composition, jazz standard, or modern/contemporary jazz composition of your choice in an odd time signature (anything other than 4/4) or mixed meter; tempo of your choice; three improvised choruses maximum.
6. A quartet (voice, piano/guitar/vibraphone, bass and drums) or trio (voice, bass and drums or voice, piano/guitar/vibraphone and bass) performance of an original composition; tempo of your choice; three improvised choruses maximum.
7. A performance of a song of your choice that best represents you. Any tempo, any instrumentation. The performance must be no longer than five minutes.

About the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz

The Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz is a nonprofit education organization with a mission to offer the world's most promising young musicians college-level training by internationally acclaimed jazz masters and to present public school music education programs for young people around the world. The Institute preserves, perpetuates and expands jazz as a global art form, and utilizes jazz as a means to unite people of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities. All of the Institute's programs are provided free of charge to students, schools and communities worldwide. The Institute's programs use jazz as the medium to encourage imaginative thinking, creativity, a positive self-image, and a respect for one's own and others' cultural heritage.

Founded in 1986 as the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, the organization began operating as the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz in 2019 in recognition of Mr. Hancock's commitment to the Institute since its establishment, his expert guidance as Institute Chairman, and his immense contributions to and impact on music, education and humanity.



About the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance at The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music

Since 1995, the Institute of Jazz Performance has offered aspiring young jazz musicians intensive training and interaction with a variety of visiting jazz masters through an innovative, graduate-level college program. Every two years, one ensemble of the most talented young jazz musicians from around the world is selected to participate in the program. In addition to receiving full scholarships and stipends to cover living expenses, the students are mentored by jazz legends who pass on their knowledge through private and ensemble instruction.

Trumpet player and composer Ambrose Akinmusire serves as Artistic Director and Herbie Hancock is the Institute's Distinguished Professor. Both serve as instructors and mentors for the students in the program. Artists-in-Residence have included Carl Allen, Kenny Barron, Jerry Bergonzi, Brian Blade, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Terri Lyne Carrington, Michael Carvin, Billy Childs, Kurt Elling, George Garzone, Stefon Harris, Robert Hurst, Branford Marsalis, Christian McBride, Charles McPherson, Jason Moran, Dick Oatts, Danilo Pérez, Dianne Reeves, Walter Smith III, and Mark Turner, among many others, along with former Artistic Directors Ron Carter and Terence Blanchard.

As part of the program of study, the students participate in outreach programs across the United States and abroad. Past travel has included Argentina, Australia, Chile, China, Cuba, Egypt, France, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, Morocco, Panama, Peru, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, and Vietnam.

HERBIE HANCOCK INSTITUTE OF JAZZ PERFORMANCE
APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION - CLASS ENTERING FALL 2027
(please print or type if mailing this application)

Application Checklist for All Applications

*Completed and signed Application Form.

*Audition recordings labeled correctly (instrument_performance requirement number_name of tune). If using a USB flash drive or compact disc, write clearly and properly label it, including all required selections for your instrument, with five seconds between each selection. Audition recordings will not be returned.

*Essay.

*Three or more letters of recommendation.

*Transcripts issued by your university of all college-level work. These can be included in your application via Acceptd or in your mailed application. Transcripts may be unofficial (the institution logo and your name must be present on the copies; no screenshots.) Official transcripts will be required from all applicants who are selected to attend the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz in Fall 2027. Unless academic records and diplomas are *routinely* issued in English by the institution, the records *in their original language* must be submitted with an authorized, complete, and exact English translation.

*If applicable, include your TOEFL iBLT or IELTS scores.

*Pay the application fee online via Acceptd, or send a check or money order for \$87 (USD) made payable to Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz. Do not send cash. If you would rather pay online instead of mailing a check, make a donation via our website and type "For Class of 2029 Application" in the "Title" section.

*Envelope clearly marked with your name and instrument (if mailing).

*Mail all materials to the following address to be received (not postmarked) by November 30, 2026:

Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance
2520 Schoenberg Music Building
445 Charles E Young Drive East
Los Angeles, CA 90095
310-206-9700

This section is intentionally left blank.
Please complete the following application if submitting it by mail.

BASIC INFORMATION

Give your full legal name (surname), first and middle names, and suffix (if applicable) in the spaces provided. The name given on the application should be used consistently in all your official communications with the Institute. When corresponding with UCLA Graduate Admissions/Student and Academic Affairs, use the same name that you have given on the application.

International applicants: The name entered here *must* match your passport.

Your Name

Last Name (Family Name):

First Name (Given Name):

Middle:

Suffix:

Preferred name (optional):

If your name on any of your academic records differs from your legal name, please use the spaces provided below to give us the other name(s) you have used.

Other Name(s):

Other Last Name (Family Name):

Other First Name (Given Name):

Other Middle Name:

Suffix:

International applicants: Visa regulations require an actual street address for your current/ mailing address. Do not use a P.O. Box.

F1 and J1 visa applicants: You must give a street address in your home country as your current/ mailing address.

Current Address

Address:

City:

U.S. State:

U.S. Zip/International Postal Code:

Canadian Province (if applicable):

If your current address is in California, please indicate which county:

If your current address is outside the United States, please indicate which country:

Is your current address the same as your mailing address?

If no, please complete below.

Mailing Address

Address:

City:

U.S. State:

U.S. Zip/International Postal Code:

Canadian Province (if applicable):

If your mailing address is in California, please indicate which county:

If your mailing address is outside the United States, please indicate which country:

Contact Information

Home Phone:

Mobile Phone:

Emergency Phone:

Email:

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Gender ☐ Female
 ☐ Male
 ☐ Non-binary
 ☐ Other

Preferred Pronouns / /

Date of Birth / /

International applicants: You must enter your date of birth in this order: Month/Day/Year

Birthplace:

CITIZENSHIP AND RESIDENCY

Special instructions for U.S. citizens:

U.S. Citizens in the United States:

Do you expect to be classified as a legal California Resident by the start of the term of which you are applying?

Yes No

International Applicants

Are you a citizen of the United States? Yes No

If no, answer the questions below:

Of what country are you a citizen?

Do you presently have a U.S. visa? Yes No

If yes, what type?

When does this visa expire? (month/day/year)

INSTRUMENT

What is your principal instrument? The Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance accepts students who play:

Violin

Flute

Clarinet

Saxophone:

☐ Soprano

☐ Alto

☐ Tenor

☐ Baritone

Trombone

Trumpet

Harmonica

Electric Guitar

Vibraphone

Piano

Acoustic Bass

Drums

Voice

Other:

Secondary instrument (if any):

Total years played:

History of private study - list instructors and dates of study:

ACADEMIC HISTORY

College and University Education

List below all colleges and universities attended.

Name of Institution:

Location:

Dates of Attendance:

Major:

Degree (date earned or expected):

GPA:

Name of Institution:

Location:

Dates of Attendance:

Major: Degree (date earned or expected):

GPA:

Name of Institution:

Location:

Dates of Attendance:

Major:

Degree (date earned or expected):

GPA:

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

Marital Status: _____

In accordance with the Compliance Report of Higher Education under Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, we are asked to provide data about our student population relating to race. If you choose to volunteer this information, how would you describe yourself?

___ African American or Black

___ African American

___ Ethiopian

___ Haitian

___ Jamaican

___ Nigerian

___ Somali

___ Other:

___ Asian (incl. Indian Subcontinent)

___ Chinese

___ Filipino

___ Asian Indian

___ Japanese

___ Korean

___ Vietnamese

___ Other:

- ☐ Hispanic or Latino
 - ☐ Chilean
 - ☐ Colombian
 - ☐ Cuban
 - ☐ Dominican
 - ☐ Ecuadorian
 - ☐ Mexican
 - ☐ Peruvian
 - ☐ Puerto Rican
 - ☐ Salvadoran
 - ☐ Other:
- ☐ Middle Eastern or North African
 - ☐ Algerian
 - ☐ Egyptian
 - ☐ Iranian
 - ☐ Lebanese
 - ☐ Moroccan
 - ☐ Syrian
 - ☐ Other:
- ☐ Native American or Alaskan Native
 - ☐ American Indian
 - ☐ Alaska Native
 - ☐ Central or South American Indian
 - ☐ Other:
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
 - ☐ Chamorro
 - ☐ Fijian
 - ☐ Marshallese
 - ☐ Native Hawaiian
 - ☐ Samoan
 - ☐ Tongan
 - ☐ Other:
- ☐ White or European
 - ☐ American
 - ☐ English
 - ☐ French
 - ☐ German
 - ☐ Hungarian
 - ☐ Italian
 - ☐ Irish
 - ☐ Polish
 - ☐ Swedish
 - ☐ Other:

ESSAY

On separate paper, discuss:

A. How has your past experience (and/or current work) prepared you for studies at the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance? (500 words maximum)

B. What are your artistic and professional goals, and how would studying at the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance help you achieve them? (500 words maximum)

THREE OR MORE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please ask your teachers, musicians, and others who know you well to write a letter of recommendation for your admission to the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance. Two letters should discuss your musical strengths and weaknesses as well as give insight into your potential. One letter should include personal information about your character qualities. The minimum amount of letters of recommendation required is three, but you may submit a fourth. It is strongly advised that letters of recommendation are completed before the November 30th deadline. Recommendations submitted after this date are not guaranteed to be reviewed.

AWARDS/DISTINCTIONS

List academic/music awards, prizes, honors, fellowships or other distinctions you have received.

RESUME OR CV

Please attach a resume or CV that includes professional experience.

TRANSCRIPTS

Please send a copy of all transcripts from the schools listed in the Academic History section. Transcripts may be unofficial (the institution logo and your name must be present on the copies; no screenshots). Official transcripts will be required from all applicants who are selected to attend the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz in Fall 2027. Unless academic records and diplomas are *routinely* issued in English by the institution, the records *in their original language* must be submitted with an authorized, complete, and exact English translation.

IELTS AND TOEFL iBT SCORES

To ensure your official test scores are properly processed, please ensure the personal information in your application exactly matches the information provided by the testing service. We only require one test, not both.

Do not wait for your test results to complete your application. IELTS and TOEFL iBT scores will be forwarded to UCLA if you inform the testing service that you want scores sent to UCLA. The TOEFL iBT institution code for UCLA is **4837**. Ask IELTS to send your scores to your major department (Music MM in Jazz) and the Division of Graduate Education. All applicants, including U.S. citizens and Permanent Residents, who studied in non-Anglophone countries must certify their English language proficiency. They must have a minimum overall score of 87 on the TOEFL iBT exam (for exams taken before January 21, 2026) or 4.5 (for exams taken on or after January 21, 2026). They may also take the IELTS exam and have a minimum overall band score of 7.0. UCLA does not currently accept MyBest TOEFL. If you are admitted, you may also be required to confirm your proficiency upon arrival. For more information, please visit [here](#).

List the percentile scores as appropriate. If you have taken any of these tests multiple times, please provide the most recent scores.

TOEFL Test Information

TOEFL Test Date:

TOEFL Score:

TOEFL iBT: Listening ____ Reading ____ Speaking ____ Writing ____
Total ____

IELTS Test Information

IELTS Test Date:

IELTS Overall Band Score:

IELTS Skills: Listening ____ Reading ____ Speaking ____ Writing ____
Total ____

MISCELLANEOUS

How did you learn of the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance?

Advertisement

Alumni

College Night Program

Community

Friend

High school or college guidance office

Music School

Music Teacher

Poster

Relative

Website

Other: _____

APPLICATION FEE AND SIGNATURE

Enclosed is my check or money order (DO NOT SEND CASH) for \$87.00 in U.S. currency, payable to Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz. I understand this fee is non-refundable. I certify that all information provided on this application is complete, accurate and honestly presented. I understand that the information furnished on this application form, together with information and materials of any kind received by the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz from any source, or prepared by anyone at the Institute's request, shall be completely confidential and shall not be disclosed to anyone, including the candidate and his/her family.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

The Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz encourages applications from all persons regardless of race, color, religion, gender, age, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, mental or physical handicap, or veteran status in the administration of their educational policies, admission policies, employment policies, scholarship and loan programs, or other activities.

If submitting via mail or email, this application form, along with your complete audition package, must be received (not postmarked) by November 30, 2026. Or, you may apply online via <https://herbalpert.getacceptd.com> by the same date. After clicking the link, select the following underneath "Start an Application": Graduate, MM Music, Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz at UCLA.

Submit all materials to:

Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance

2520 Schoenberg Music Building

445 Charles E Young Drive East

Los Angeles, CA 90095

310-206-9700

PRIVACY NOTIFICATION STATEMENT: The State of California Information Practices Act of 1977 (effective July 1978) requires the University to provide the following information to individuals who are asked to supply information about themselves: Application: The principal purpose for requesting information on the Application is for applicant-tracking purposes and to collect applicant contact information. Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity Data Form: Information furnished on this form is requested by UCLA's Affirmative Action Office. The University of California, Los Angeles is a Federal contractor and, therefore, must comply with Affirmative Action regulations issued pursuant to Executive Order 11246, Federal Revised Order No. 4, Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974. Furnishing the information on this form is voluntary. There is no penalty for not completing this form. The offices responsible for maintaining the information supplied on this form are the UCLA Human Resources Office and the Affirmative Action Office.