

## **Sophomore Checkpoint – Bachelor of Music Education Degree Revised Spring 2016**

All students pursuing the Bachelor of Music Education degree will be evaluated by the end of their fourth semester of study for continuation in the program. Faculty who have had instructional contact with students pursuing the Bachelor of Music Education degree are asked to complete and submit an evaluation form for each student to the Head of Music Education. In it, they will evaluate the student's potential as a future teacher based on a series of criteria, including communication skills, musicianship, performance ability, integrity, attitude, motivation, organization, reliability, and assertiveness.

In addition, students must fulfill the following requirements to pass the Sophomore Checkpoint:

- Possess a minimum GPA of 2.5 by the end of the semester in which the checkpoint evaluation takes place.
- Earn a grade of C or above in all endorsement courses completed or in progress at the time of the checkpoint. (The complete list of endorsement courses may be found here.)
- Earn a grade of B or above in all applied lessons and ensembles.
- Demonstrate consistent attendance at and participation in meetings of Drake's student chapter of the National Association for Music Education (NafME) and, for choral emphasis students, Drake's American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) student chapter.
- Complete the checkpoint materials for the School of Education.

Each BME student will meet with the Music Education area head before the end of the fourth semester of study to discuss each of these items. In the event of a negative outcome, the student may appeal the decision to the Music Education Committee. After its review, the committee will render a final decision regarding the student's continuation. If the committee determines that the student does not meet the standards listed above, the student will not be allowed to continue in the BME program.

In addition to meeting all of the above requirements, students must also successfully complete the piano proficiency exam, administered in the spring of the fourth semester of piano study. If a student does not pass the first time, s/he can retake the exam, but must successfully complete it before being allowed to student teach.