Instructions for 2020 UNT Round 1 Oboe Auditions:

The repertoire for the auditions will be posted on the UNT Wind Studies Web Site and on the UNT Oboe Studio Web Site. Students will be responsible for finding any errors in the posted Ferling etudes. The auditions will be scheduled through the Wind Studies Office from August 17 to 19 in 20 minute intervals from 9 am to 12 noon each day. There will be 27 available time slots, 5 on-site and 4 off-site each day. In the event that off-site auditions exceed 12, the additional off-site auditions will be scheduled during the on-site time slots. In the event that on-site auditions exceed 15, audition days will be extended past 12 noon to accommodate more on-site auditions.

Elizabeth Fleissner will proctor the auditions via Zoom hosted by the iMac (w/ external mic) in Prof. Ryon's studio, Mu126. She will not be in the studio, but will be operating the studio iMac remotely from her laptop. The studio door will be unlocked and students will enter at the appointed time, play their audition when instructed to do so by Ms. Fleissner, and exit. Each student is responsible for cleaning all touched surfaces (e.g. studio door knobs and music stand) and spending as little time as possible in the studio. The last student of the day will be responsible for locking the studio door.

When students sign up for audition times, they must select either an on-site audition in Prof. Ryon's studio, Mu126, or an offsite audition (e.g. at home). In both instances, they will be heard live, via Zoom, by Ms. Fleissner at the appointed hour. In the event that a student decides to audition off-site, Ms. Fleissner will designate the student as a "co-host" in the Zoom meeting and the student will record their audition on Zoom using their own computer and mic. Being a "co-host" of the meeting allows this. Students should remind Ms. Fleissner to mute the mic in the studio and mute the output of their computer, prior to making their own recordings.

At the conclusion of each audition, Ms. Fleissner will end the meeting and Zoom will automatically convert the Zoom video recording into an MP4 file and store it in the Zoom folder located in the Documents folder of the host (or cohost) computer. Any student recording off-site, will be responsible for sending this date and time stamped video file to Ms. Fleissner's UNT email address, via WeTransfer, immediately after the audition. Ms. Fleissner will start another Zoom meeting at the same Zoom location prior to the next audition.

The five repertoire selections for this audition require no more than 4 minutes to perform and each performer is allowed no more than 30 seconds between selections. An individual audition must last no more than 6 minutes. The Wind Studies Office will alternate time slots between on-site and off-site auditions to allow at least 30 minutes between on-site auditions. This will allow the building air handlers time to clear the air in the studio between on-site auditions.

At the end of each day's auditions, Ms. Fleissner will download all the audition videos from the studio iMac at UNT to her personal computer, and change the filenames to identify the students. On August 19, Wednesday from 2 pm to 5 pm, the Oboe Studio Audition Committee, comprised of Prof Ryon, Dr. Jonathan Thompson and Ms. Natasha Merchant will meet on Zoom with Ms. Fleishner to listen to, evaluate, rank and group the auditions. Ms. Fleissner will randomize the order of the auditions and play only the audio portion of each audition, without revealing the identity of the students. At the conclusion of hearing all auditions, the Committee will rank each student based on their audition. The average ranking of the Committee will determine the final ranking of each student. The Committee will then reach a consensus on the division of the auditions into Groups A and B.

At the conclusion of the Committee session, Ms. Fleissner will send the unidentified ranking and grouping results to the Wind Studies Office, along with the video files, their identifying filenames and the key to identifying the students in the rankings. She will then send the video files with identifying filenames and ranking key to the Committee for use in making teaching assignments for the Fall Semester.

When signing up for an audition time, students will also inform Wind Studies of their decision to participate in their assigned lab ensemble completely online, or alternatively, to participate in a hybrid course that would include online instruction, as well as the possibility of face to face performance in an ensemble following UNT's health protocols.

James Ryon Professor of Oboe University of North Texas







