Information for current Thornton students applying to a Graduate Program

Current USC Thornton students applying to a graduate degree program must still submit a complete application and perform an audition. Some application requirements can be waived in certain cases, and some departments allow auditions to be performed in alternative manner (recital, jury . . .). Complete details are below. Applicants may contact Thornton's Office of Admission with specific questions. (uscmusic@usc.edu 213-740-8986)

Current Thornton students **MUST** do the following:

1. Submit the USC Graduate Application for admission online, here.

2. Submit Thornton's SlideRoom application, and pay the SlideRoom submission fee. A link to the SlideRoom portal can be found inside the USC Application for Graduate Admission, in the "Program Materials" section. Most current USC Thornton students are not required to submit a pre-screen recording, but they must still complete and submit the SlideRoom application.
   (Note: *Artist Diploma Applicants must submit a pre-screen recording*)
   To submit SlideRoom, at least one video file must be uploaded. In lieu of a performance video, please make a short video of yourself with your phone or computer web cam, saying "Hi, I'm "Tommy Trojan" and I'm applying to the DMA in Piano performance for fall 2022. I'm a current Thornton student so I'm not required to submit a prescreen recording." (Use your real name and degree of course!)

3. Transcripts – Upload pdf scans of official transcripts from all schools you've attended, including USC, in both SlideRoom and USC's Graduate Application. Most schools now offer electronic transcripts. Be sure to order your transcripts well in advance of the application deadline so you receive them in time.   Submit scans of official transcripts only - Do not submit transcripts obtained from an on-line student portal like OASIS, and do not submit your STARS report.

4. Meet all posted deadlines. This applies to all application materials including test scores.

5. Perform an audition. Many programs allow current Thornton students to use a fall recital or jury as their audition, however the vocal arts program requires a live audition on one of our regular audition dates. Classical Piano students pursuing certain piano performance degrees at Thornton are eligible for modified or reduced audition requirements. Please refer to the Keyboard Studies Department Handbook or contact the Keyboard Studies department for details.
   Spring Juries or recitals can be used as auditions, but only if scheduled before the last regular audition date (approx. Feb 13). Please check the specific requirements for your program, or inquire with your department chairman or Kit Bellamy if you would like to discuss your specific circumstances.

6. International Students who have earned a degree at USC Thornton are not necessarily exempt from the TOEFL / IELTS requirement. Please contact Kit Bellamy in the Thornton Admission office to discuss your specific circumstances keb@usc.edu.

7. All DMA and PHD applicants as well as Master's applicants in Music Teaching and Learning, Community Music, and Early Music must take Thornton's Academic Admission Examination. The Academic Admission Examination will be offered on-line, and the specific date and time of the exam will be announced in the fall. Details about the exam are available on the Thornton website, on the Program Requirements Page that corresponds to your intended degree. (On the program requirements page, scroll to the bottom and click "Graduate Academic Admission Examination (DMA only)."

8. DMA applicants must submit the "Personal Introductory Video" and at least one recommendation letter from a professor who has assessed a substantial research or analysis paper that the student has written. See details [here](#).

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Current USC Thornton students applying to GC, Masters, or DMA programs **may be exempt from the following** application requirements:

1. PRE- SCREEN RECORDING – is waived for most current Thornton students.
   All Artist Diploma applicants must submit a pre-screen recording, even if currently studying at USC Thornton.

2. Recommendation letters from performance faculty. Most departments do not require letters of recommendation from performance faculty. Please check with your department chair to find out what your department requires.

3. TRANSCRIPTS – as mentioned above, you must upload pdf scans of official transcripts in SlideRoom and in the USC Gradate Application. However:
- There is no need to submit official USC transcripts to the USC Graduate Admission office.
- If you completed a BM, BA, MM, MA, DMA, or PHD at USC within the past 10 years, it should not be necessary for you to submit official transcripts to the USC Graduate Admission office from any of the institutions you attended prior to earning your USC degree. Official transcripts submitted with your prior application should still be on file. However, in some cases, it may still be necessary to submit official transcripts. If this is the case for you, the USC Graduate Admission office will inform you after your application has been submitted and reviewed.
- If you completed a Graduate Certificate ONLY at USC Thornton, it is more likely that you will have to submit official transcripts from your previous institutions. To find out what may be required in your specific case, please contact Kit Bellamy in the Thornton Admission office at keb@usc.edu.
- In all cases, you must still upload pdf scans of all official transcripts in both SlideRoom and in the USC Graduate Application.

4. APPLICATION FEES
- Applicants who are currently enrolled in a degree program or have previously earned a bachelors, masters or doctoral degree at USC are eligible to request a waiver of the USC Graduate Application fee. Application fee waivers must be requested in advance following the guidelines outlined [here](#). Be sure to request your fee waiver well in advance of the application deadline. The deadline will not be extended for applicants who fail to request a fee waiver in time.
- The SlideRoom submission fee ($25) cannot be waived. All Applicants must pay the SlideRoom submission fee.