

The Shepherd School of Music

Undergraduate Distinction in Research and Creative Works

The honor “*with Distinction in Research and Creative Works*” is a University award to be granted upon graduation to undergraduates and designated on their official transcript and diploma. Such honors at the Shepherd School will not exceed 30% of the graduating class. The criteria listed below will be used to determine those whose achievements are truly above and beyond the norm. Graduating seniors in the Shepherd School who wish to be considered are asked to submit an application and dossier to the Department Chairs Committee of the Shepherd School (c/o Gary Smith) no later than the sixth week of classes of the spring semester in which the applicant intends to graduate. Students graduating in January will be considered at the same time as the May graduates.

The dossier must include:

1. Application
2. Transcript (minimum cumulative GPA 3.30)
3. Letter of support from major teacher and another member of the Shepherd School faculty
4. Recital program(s)
5. Résumé

The criteria listed below will be used to evaluate applications and should be reflected on the Personal Statement (application) and résumé:

- I. An outstanding level of performance in major area, demonstrated to be above and beyond the norm.

For instrumental and vocal performance majors: solo degree recitals, chamber music and large ensemble participation, opera and opera scenes, participation in other recitals, concerto competition, awards, auditions

For composition majors: portfolio, senior recital, prizes and/or awards, competitions

For music history majors: senior thesis, other academic research or honors

- II. Innovative and original projects
- III. Other academic pursuits beyond degree/major requirements
- IV. Community Service and Outreach