

PHOTOSHOOT GUIDE

- *Grad school auditions*
- *Professional bookings*
- *Your website & social media*



Photoshoot Guide

This shoot is designed to create a complete image set that works for grad school auditions, professional bookings, websites, and social media. We will photograph you in two locations and use real musical emotion to create images that feel polished, present, and unmistakably you.



Stage Photos

Your professional anchor: refined, grounded, performance-ready.



Outdoor Photos

Your personality and brand: warm, open, and approachable.

Locations

On Stage

Your Professional Anchor

This space instantly communicates:

“I belong here.”

Best Use:

- Audition photos
- Grad school submissions
- Formal bios

How to Show Up:

- Think: composed, grounded, performance-ready
- Posture matters more here than anywhere else
- Expressions should feel intentional, not casual

Pro Tips:

- Slightly more serious expression works well here
- Imagine you’re mid-performance—not posing
- Use the space (piano, risers, stage depth) to create dimension

HINT: This is your “professional credibility” shot.

Locations

PERFORMANCE-DRIVEN SHOOT

(What Makes This Different)

During your stage session, you will be asked to sing a few bars a cappella...

This allows us to capture:

- Natural expression
- Emotional connection
- Authentic presence

The best photos happen just after you sing—not when you're trying to pose.

PREPARE TWO SONGS

Song 1: Dramatic / Grounded

- Emotionally rich
- More serious or introspective

Think:

- Strength
- Vulnerability
- Depth

Song 2: Joyful / Light

- Something you genuinely love to sing
- Open, warm, expressive

Think:

- Ease
- Playfulness
- Connection

HINT: Choose songs you know well—no thinking required.

Locations

Outdoors

Your Brand and Personality

This space instantly communicates connection, warmth, and relatability

Best Use:

- Website
- Social media
- Personal branding

How to Show Up:

- Relaxed and natural
- Open expression
- Slight movement is encouraged

Pro Tips:

- Let yourself smile more naturally here
- Use the structure, columns, and light for variety
- This is where personality comes through

HINT: This is your “connection and relatability” shot.

What to Wear

We won't have long. The intention is to take all stage photos and then move to the outdoor location. Plan for at least 2 looks for each. This is easily accomplished with layers... either a jacket or sweater that can easily be removed for each one.

Stage: Professional / Audition Ready

- Clean, simple, polished
- Black, jewel tones, or classic formal wear
- Clean lines, elegant, timeless

Think: timeless and distraction-free

Outdoor: Personality / Branding

- Slightly softer or more relaxed
- Layers and texture photograph beautifully

Best Practices:

- Solid colors (jewel tones, black, navy, cream)
- Well-fitted (not too tight, not too loose)
- Minimal, intentional accessories

Avoid:

- Busy patterns
- Logos
- Neon colors
- Anything distracting or uncomfortable

Your clothing should support you—not compete with you.

Being Camera Ready

Being Camera Ready

Goal: A polished, natural version of yourself

- Slightly more refined than everyday—but not stage makeup
- Matte finish preferred (camera lighting adds shine)
- Hair should look intentional and controlled

For all:

- Clean lines, subtle detail, nothing distracting

Bring:

- 2–3 outfit options
- Basic touch-up items (powder, brush, etc.)

Casting and faculty want to recognize you immediately in person.

Special Requests

Got a pose you want?

I will do my best to accommodate you. Please let me know ahead of time by emailing me at lisa@helpmelisa.com with ENMU Photoshoot in the subject line with any special requests.

I cannot guarantee it but will do my best!