

Strings Audition Guidelines

Violin • Viola • Cello • Bass

Beginning/Intermediate Musicians (2021-22 *Prelude, Symphonette, and Debut*, and new beg/int musicians)

1. Scales/Arpeggio (Quarter note = 60)

a. Major Scale

- i. Two or three octaves major scale in eighth notes (DSO strings, except bass, three octaves). Minimum four notes slurred.

b. Major Arpeggio

- i. Corresponding major arpeggio. Triplet eighth notes. Minimum three slurred

c. Minor Scale

- i. Two or three octaves minor scale in eighth notes (DSO strings, except bass, three octaves). Detaché

d. Minor Arpeggio

- i. Corresponding minor arpeggio. Triplet eighth notes. Detaché

2. Solo Piece

- a. One or two pieces of your choice that include both lyrical and technical passages
- b. Your selection(s) should demonstrate your best musical and technical abilities
- c. Approximately 3 minutes in total
- d. Skip any long rests

3. Sight Reading

Students will be given music to sight read during the audition. Be sure to pay attention to the key, dynamics, and maintain a good tone. Sight reading excerpts will be assigned appropriately to the student's level.

Advanced Musicians (2021-22 *Junior and Youth musicians, and new advanced students*) (**NOT RECOMMENDED FOR CURRENT DEBUT STUDENTS**)

1. Scales/Arpeggio (Quarter note =60)

a. Major Scale

- i. Three octaves major scale. Sixteenth notes/8 slurred

b. Major Arpeggio

- i. Corresponding major arpeggio. Triplet eighth notes/9 slurred

c. Minor Scale

- i. Three octaves minor scale. Sixteenth notes/ Detaché

d. Minor Arpeggio

- i. Corresponding minor arpeggio. Triplet eighth notes/ Detaché

2. Excerpts (updated 6/4)

- a. [Click here to review the excerpt\(s\) required for your instrument](#)
- b. All **VIOLIN** students ONLY: In addition to all of the excerpts listed in the link above, you must prepare the exposition from the first movement of either Mozart Violin Concerto No. 3, No. 4 or No. 5 (NO cadenza)

3. Sight Reading

Students will be given music to sight read during the audition. Be sure to pay attention to the key, dynamics, and maintain a good tone. Sight reading excerpts will be assigned appropriately to the student's level.