

2008-2009 AUDITION REQUIREMENTS: Woodwinds and Brass

These audition requirements are intended to help students and teachers understand the general level of ability needed for students to be ready for participation in YMM's orchestras. Please note that, to be accepted into one of the orchestras, students must be prepared to demonstrate mastery of the skill and techniques at the desired level. Moreover, selection into a particular group or section depends on availability in certain instances and the level for each group and section may vary somewhat based on the level of those auditioning.

YOUTH ORCHESTRA

- Be prepared to play one octave scales in the concert keys of G, D, F, and B flat major in quarter notes at least at 80 mm per quarter note. (Two octaves are preferred, but not required.)
- Demonstrate basic skills through a brief sight-reading passage
- Have had a minimum of 1 – 1 ½ years of study on a musical instrument
- Play a piece under 2 minutes in length, which demonstrates your current level of study
- Private study is expected. The Youth Orchestra is designed for young people who are in their school music programs and are ready for a supplementary program.

HONORS ORCHESTRA

- Be prepared to play a chromatic scale for the range of your instrument. Also be prepared to play major scales in the concert keys of C, G, D, A, F, B flat and E flat. Two octaves where possible.
- Demonstrate knowledge of dynamics, phrasing, rhythmic, accuracy, and the ability to play well in tune. This may be shown in the two prepared selections, required at the time of audition. It is suggested that the two selections are no longer than 1 – 1 ½ minutes each and are of contrasting styles.
- Demonstrate advanced skills in sight-reading through a short selected passage from the orchestral literature.
- It is expected that students are studying privately on their instrument. The Honors Orchestra is designed for advanced students who are members of their school organizations and are ready for a supplementary program of standard symphonic orchestral literature. Performance standards are high and adequate preparation time for rehearsals is expected.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS: Strings

This list is intended to help students and teachers understand the general level of ability needed for participation in YMM's orchestras. To be accepted into one of the orchestras, students must demonstrate mastery of the skill and techniques at the desired level. Moreover, selection into a particular group or section depends on availability. The level for each group and section may vary somewhat based on the overall level of those auditioning. The Youth Orchestra is designed for students who are in their school music programs and are ready for a supplementary program. Private study is expected.

YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Second Violin

- Be prepared to play two octave scales in G, A, B flat, and C major
- Should be able to play in first position keys of G, D, C, and F major
- Demonstrate basic sight reading skills with a variety of simple rhythms in first position
- Should have played for 1½ to 2 years and have played Suzuki Book 2 – 3
- Play a piece under 2 minutes in length, which demonstrates your current level of study

First Violin

- Be prepared to play two octave scales in G, D, A, C, and B flat major
- Have played and have an understanding of third position
- Have an understanding and some experience playing vibrato
- Demonstrate a variety of bowing skills, on the string as well as a 'brush bounce stroke'
- Demonstrate a reasonable sight reading ability which may include the above mentioned skills
- Be studying at the level of Suzuki Books 4-5 or equivalent
- Play a piece under 2 minutes in length, which demonstrates your current level of study

Viola

- Be prepared to play one octave scales in C, D, and G major (two octaves in C major is preferred)
- Demonstrate basic skills through a short sight reading selection
- Have played a musical instrument for at least 1½ years
- Be able to play at the level of Suzuki Book 2-4 or equivalent
- Play a piece under 2 minutes in length, which demonstrates your current level of study

Cello

- Be prepared to play scales (two octaves) in C, D, G, A, and F major
- Have played for at least two years
- Demonstrate ability to play in a minimum 1/2 to 5th positions
- Have an understanding of key signatures
- Demonstrate an intermediate level of sight reading and basic rhythm and bowing styles
- Play a piece under 2 minutes in length, which demonstrates your current level of study

Bass

- One octave scales of G, D, C, and F Major
- Solo selection demonstrating intermediate level performance, including tempo, dynamic, and bowing skills
- Sight reading of an intermediate level

HONORS ORCHESTRA

First Violin

- Be prepared to play three octave scales and arpeggios in C, G, D, A, E, F, B flat, and E flat major
- Be fluent in position work
- Demonstrate mature vibrato
- Demonstrate the characteristics of an advanced violinist including the ability to play well in tune in a variety of keys and with a variety of bowing styles
- Demonstrate a high level of musicianship, intonation, phrasing, and dynamic contrasts
- Demonstrate the ability to sight read standard orchestra repertoire
- Demonstrate ability to play Suzuki Book 7 and above, or equivalent
- Play a piece under 2 minutes in length, which demonstrates your current level of study

Second Violin

- Be prepared to play three octave scales in C, G, D, A, F, and B flat major
- Be fluent in first, second, third, and fifth positions
- Have a developed vibrato
- Demonstrate a controlled spiccato and the ability to play with a variety of bowing styles
- Demonstrate knowledge of dynamics and varied rhythms
- Play well in tune
- Demonstrate sight reading skills at level of Honors Orchestra
- Play a piece under 2 minutes in length, which demonstrates your current level of study

Viola

- Be prepared to play a 3 octave C major scale and 2 octave scales in D, G, A, F, and B flat major
- Demonstrate advanced skills in a sight reading selection
- Demonstrate an understanding of dynamics, phrasing, rhythmic accuracy, and the ability to play well in tune
- Be able to play at Suzuki Book 5 level or equivalent
- Play a piece under 2 minutes in length, which demonstrates your current level of study

Cello

- Be prepared to play two octave scale in E flat, G, A, and B flat major, and three octave scale in C and D major
- Demonstrate advanced playing ability, outstanding musicianship, intonation, dynamics, and phrasing
- Demonstrate skill in performing a variety of bowing styles, both on and off the string
- Sight read a selection from the standard orchestral repertoire
- Play a prepared work not to exceed 3 minutes demonstrating current level of ability

Bass

- Two octave scales in C, G, D, A, F, and Bb major
- Perform two short prepared selections of different styles at a high school level or higher
- Demonstrate a variety of position work, tempi, dynamic contrasts. Be able to demonstrate a variety of bowing skills, including on and off string techniques
- Sight read music from the standard orchestral literature, suitable to the Honors Orchestra

PLEASE NOTE: It is expected that students are studying privately on their instrument. The Honors Orchestra is designed for advanced students who are members of their school organizations and are ready for a supplementary program of standard symphonic orchestral literature. Performance standards are high and adequate preparation time for rehearsals is expected.