

SAMOHI ORCHESTRAS

AUDITION INFORMATION

Please note that the guidelines listed below are not the only criteria for orchestra placement. Other factors include ensemble balance as well as orchestra teacher recommendations.

Beginning Strings

No audition necessary

String Orchestra

Technique demonstrates:

- a basic understanding of good bowing technique (straight bow, use of entire bow, understanding bow speed)
- a basic understanding of proper left-hand formation

Scales

- For Violin, Viola, Cello and Bass
 - 1 octave Major scales in D, G and C

Prepared Solo

- 3 minutes or less

Sight-reading

- Ability to sight-read melodies on the A and D strings using rhythms not more complex than quarter and eighth notes.

Concert Orchestra

Technique demonstrates:

- Development of good bowing technique (straight bow, use of entire bow, understanding bow speed)
- Proper left hand formation
- Facility in 1st position on all four strings, development of shifting into 3rd position for violin, viola, and bass and 4th position for cello

Scales

- Violin
 - 2 octave Major scales in G, A, Bb, C, and D
 - 1 octave Major scales in F
- Viola and Cello
 - 2 octave Major scales in C, D, F, G
 - 1 octave Major scales in A and Bb
- Bass
 - 2 octave Major scale in G
 - 1 octave Major scales in C, D, A, F, Bb

Prepared Solo

- 3 minutes or less

Sight-reading

- Ability to sight read melodic lines in 1st position and demonstrate understanding of when a shift is required
- Ability to sight 4/4 time utilizing whole, half, quarter, eighth note rhythms on an open string along with a metronome

Sinfonia

Technique demonstrates:

- Continued development of good bowing technique (straight bow, use of entire bow, understanding bow speed)
- Proper left hand formation and development of vibrato
- Violin: facility in 1st and 3rd position, starting 2nd, 4th, and 5th positions; and demonstrates proper shifting technique
- Viola: facility in 1st and 3rd positions; and demonstrates proper shifting technique
- Cello and bass: demonstrates proper shifting technique between 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th positions

Scales

- Violins, violas, cellos
 - 2 octave Major scales in C, G, D, A, E, F, Bb, Eb
- Bass
 - 2 octave Major scales in F, G, A
 - 1 octave Major scales in C, D, E, Bb, Eb

Prepared solo

- 3 minutes or less

Sight-reading

- Ability to sight read melodic lines in 1st and some 3rd position for violin, viola and bass, 1st and some 4th position for cello
- Ability to sight read 4/4 time utilizing whole, half, quarter, eighths, and some dotted rhythms on an open string with a metronome.

Intermezzo

Technique demonstrates:

- Mastery of good bowing technique (straight bow, use of entire bow, understanding bow speed)
- Proper left hand formation and vibrato
- Violin and viola: facility in 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th positions and proper shifting technique
- Cello and bass: proper shifting technique between 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th positions

Scales

- Violins, violas, cellos
 - 2 octave Major scales in C, G, D, A, E, F, Bb, Eb, Ab
- Bass
 - 2 octave Major scales in F, G, A, Major scales
 - 1 octave Major scales in C, D, E, Bb, Eb, Ab

Prepared solo

- 3 minutes or less

Sight-reading

- Ability to sight read melodic lines in 1st and 3rd position for violin, viola and bass, 1st and 4th position for cello
- Ability to sight read 4/4 time utilizing whole, half, quarter, eighths, dotted, quarters, dotted eighths, sixteenth notes and triplets.

Philharmonic

Technique demonstrates:

- Mastery of good bowing technique (straight bow, use of entire bow, understanding bow speed)
- Development of advanced bowing techniques
- Proper left hand formation and vibrato
- Facility in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th positions (5th position for violin and viola) and proper shifting technique

Scales

All Violin, Viola and Cello students should demonstrate spiccato bowing on a two-octave scale of their choice, (4) 16th notes per pitch. Two additional scales will be requested from the list below.

- Violins
 - 3 octave major scales in C, G, D, A, Bb, Ab
 - 2 octave major scales in E flat, E and F
- Violas, Cellos
 - 3 octave major scales in C, G, D, Eb, E, F
 - 2 octave major scales in Bb, A, Ab
- Bass
 - 2 octave major scales in C, G, D, A, E, F, Bb, Eb, Ab

Prepared Solo should demonstrate:

- 3 minutes or less

Sight-reading

- Ability to sight read melodic lines in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th positions (5th position for violins and viola)
- Ability to sight read 4/4 time utilizing whole, half, quarter, eighths, sixteenths, eighth note triplets on an open string

Symphony/Chamber

Technique demonstrates:

- Mastery of good bowing technique (straight bow, use of entire bow, understanding bow speed)
- Advanced bowing techniques (spiccato, sautille, etc. . .)
- Mastery of left hand formation and vibrato
- Facility in all positions and shifting throughout the fingerboard

Scales

All Violin, Viola and Cello students should demonstrate spiccato bowing on a two-octave scale of their choice, (4) 16th notes per pitch. Two additional scales will be requested from the list below.

- Violins, violas, cellos
 - 3 octave major scales in C, G, D, A, E, F, Bb, Eb, Ab
- Bass
 - 2 octave major scales in C, G, D, A, E, F, Bb, Eb, Ab

Prepared Solo should demonstrate:

- 3 minutes or less

Sightreading

- Ability to sight read melodic lines in upper positions and different in clefs for viola (treble) and cello (tenor)
- Ability to sight read 4/4 time utilizing whole, half, quarter, eighths, sixteenths, eighth note triplets and quarter note triplets on an open string