

Audition 2008-2009 for all NYSO Ensembles

Requirements for Senior Orchestra and Advanced Wind Ensemble

All auditions will include: scales, a piece of your choosing showing contrasting styles, and sight-reading at an appropriate level.

1. *Students are to be actively taking lessons with a private teacher.*
2. Demonstrate a practical range on a given instrument; mature tone quality, accurate intonation and good posture.
3. Ability to tune your instrument.
4. Demonstrate ability to count and play several rhythms accurately; play in and shift to 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th positions
5. Good sight-reading ability.
6. Minimum string entrance level – show proficiency at end of Book 4 level and up (Suzuki or comparable).

Senior Orchestra and Advanced Wind Ensemble (see “Winds” below) Scale Requirements

All Major scales - to be played in a quarter note followed by eighth notes pattern at 116 bpm.

Strings (**some are new this year)

- Violins – three-octave scales C, G, A, Aflat, B flat, B** and D, Dflat**. All other scales are two octaves.
- Violas and Cellos – three-octave scales C, D, E flat, F and G. All others are two octaves.
- Double Bass – all two-octave scales.

Plus harmonic minor scales – a, e, b d, g – two octaves.

Skill level for strings

1. Minimum entrance ability level – demonstrate proficiency at the level of the end of Book 4/ beginning of Book 5 (Suzuki).
2. Ability to play in and shift to second, third, fourth and fifth positions.

Winds

Specific requirements for each wind instrument.

Chromatic scales

- Flute – C-C three octaves
- Oboe – C-C two octaves
- Bassoon – Bb-F two and one half octaves
- Clarinet – F-F three octaves
- Bass Clarinet – E-G two plus octaves
- French Horn – G-G two octaves
- Trumpet – C-C two octaves
- Trombone – F-G two plus octaves
- Tuba – F-F two octaves
- Saxophone (Alto, Tenor, Baritone) low B flat to high E

Brass must have professional mouthpieces (professional instruments not required).

Percussion – demonstrate skill on a range of instruments. Mallets should follow all major scales two octaves.

Chorale Requirements: Vocalization for range and tone quality; sing America or simple folksong or even a hymn a cappella; bring a prepared piece that is not a pop song - standard vocal repertory preferred.

Requirements for Intermezzo Orchestra

All auditions will include scales, a piece of your choosing and sight-reading at an appropriate level.

1. Students are to be actively taking lessons with a private teacher
2. Ability to recognize and count basic rhythms
3. Ability to play with good tone, accurate intonation, and good posture
4. Ability to sight-read a simple piece

Strings:

1. Ability to play at a minimum level equivalent to the end of Book 2- Book 4 (Suzuki violin)
2. Ability to play two octave scales in tune in the following keys:

For violins: a two octave scale of C, G, A, D and B flat ; a one octave scale of F, and E flat (3 sharps and 3 flats)

For cello & viola: 2 octaves C, D, E flat, F, & G, - 1 octave A, and B flat Double Bass: 2 octave E, F, G

3. Ability to play with good position, good bow hold
4. Ability to note read all notes in first position of all strings
5. All strings: Some ability to shift to and play in third position.
6. Ability to tune own violin with minimal assistance
7. In order to maintain good posture (which is essential to good playing); some kind of shoulder pad (any thickness) will be used by all violinists and violists while playing in orchestra.

Winds and Brass:

Ability to play scales in the following keys in tune – (Keys up to 3 flats and 3 sharps) C, G, D, A F, B flat and E flat.

Requirements for Prelude String Ensembles

Students are to be taking lessons with a private teacher and will need a recommendation from their private teacher. They will have a short audition in which they play:

- Scales: Violins: a 2-octave scale of G & 1-octave scale of C, A or D; Viola/ cello: two octaves C; one octave D, F, G.
- A piece of your choosing plus a very simple sight-reading selection, to decide upon placement in the ensemble.