

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

The mission of the instrumental music department is to present the finest degree of musical training available to high school students, emphasizing the development of the whole musician. We encourage strong academic students who are talented and passionate about the arts to apply.

The audition process includes an audition that consists of prepared work(s), sight-reading a short passage appropriate for your instrument, scales/rudiments and an interview. We will be listening for an accurate rendering of the music, good intonation, flexibility, expressiveness, articulation, changing dynamics, overall musicality, and potential. You should dress appropriately for your audition. It is recommended that a private lesson teacher help you prepare for your audition.

The Performance Audition

Brass

Brass Scales, Major (to be played in tongued quarter notes at a minimum speed of 110 bpm)

- Trumpet:
 - 1 Octave: F, D, Eb, C, Bb
 - 2 Octaves: A, G
 - Chromatic: From low C slurred to as high as possible, at least 1 octave
- Horn:
 - 1 Octave: C, D, Eb
 - 1 (2 optional) Octaves: F, G
 - Chromatic: Slurred from C to as high as possible, at least 1 octave
- Baritone/Euphonium/Trombone/Tuba
 - 1 Octave: Bb, Eb, D, C, G
 - 2 Octaves: F
 - Chromatic: Slurred from Low Bb to as high as possible, at least 1 octave
- Perform excerpts from two pieces of music, contrasting in style. (These may be solo repertoire or etude for your instrument, jazz style is acceptable genre)
- Ensemble music is not an acceptable selection (**marching band, concert band, orchestra, etc.**)
- You must provide **TWO** additional copies of this music. Performance time should not exceed 5 minutes
- Sight-read 16 measures appropriate for your instrument

Woodwinds

- Know and be able to perform major scales (**2 octaves if possible**; flutes may play C scale 3 octaves if possible) up to and including **4 flats and 4 sharps, tongued, not slurred (C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, G, D, A and E) and a minimum of 2 octave chromatic scale (slurred)**
- Perform excerpts from two pieces of music, contrasting in style. (These may be solo repertoire or etude for your instrument, jazz style is an acceptable genre) Ensemble music is not an acceptable selection (**marching band, concert band, orchestra, etc.**)
- You must provide **TWO** additional copies of this music. Performance time should not exceed 5 minutes.
- Sight-read 16 measures appropriate for your instrument.

Strings (Violin/Viola/Cello)

• Scales

- The following major scales, two octaves: G, A, D, C
- ~Optional~ Three Octaves

• Repertoire

- Prepare two contrasting solo pieces written for your specific instrument (violin, viola, cello, or bass). For contrast, please select a lyrical, slower tempo piece, and one moderate to fast tempo piece.
- Sight reading will be provided at the audition.

Bass (Electric/Upright)

Students auditioning on bass should be prepared to:

- Perform Major Scales: **C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, G, D, A, and E; Chromatic Scale in 2 octaves.**
- Perform **two** prepared selections; one piece of your choosing and either **one jazz or one classical** from the provided list. Sheet music is available on the Charter Arts website. It is recommended that a lesson teacher help you prepare for this audition.
 - The **jazz selection** must be one of the three etudes labeled Audition A, Audition B, and Audition C. Students should be prepared to play one chorus of melody, one chorus as a walking bass line, and one chorus of improvisation. Accompaniment will be provided at the audition.
 - The **classical selection** must be one of the three etudes labeled #1, #7, or #17.
- Sight-read 16 measures appropriate for either electric or upright bass.

Piano

Students auditioning on piano should be prepared to:

- Perform **C, F, and G** Major Scales.
 - May be performed hands together.
 - Minimum 2 octaves.
 - Quarter note = 70 BPM
- Perform Measures **1-16** of **Etude in C Major, Op. 823, No. 62** by Carl Czerny.
 - Music is available on the Charter Arts Website.
 - Trills are optional.
 - You are welcome to present the whole piece if you so choose.
- Perform a **piece of your choosing** that demonstrates your playing ability.
 - Please provide TWO additional copies of the music for the audition panel.
 - NO original compositions or full improvisations will be accepted.
 - Some suggested works would include:
 - A Prelude or Fugue by Bach, movements of a Bach Suite, or a Scarlatti Sonata
 - A movement of a sonata by Beethoven, Haydn, or Mozart
 - A Chopin Scherzo, Ballade, Waltz, or Nocturne or a work by Brahms, Schumann, Liszt, or Mendelssohn
 - A 20th century work by Prokofieff, Bartok, Muczynski, Ravel, Debussy, Bolcom, or others
 - A piece from the standard jazz piano repertoire
- Sight-read 16 measures appropriate for your instrument.
 - The sight-reading music will be provided at the time of the audition.

Percussionists

(You must bring your own sticks/mallets to the audition!)

Students auditioning for percussion must prepare at least TWO of the following:

- **Drum Set** – Play one chorus of time over the form of a jazz standard. Please bring the chart with you along with TWO copies. You may be asked to trade fours on a blues. You will play basic styles including swing, rock, funk, bossa nova, samba, reggae, etc.
- **Snare Drum** - One excerpt of a snare drum solo. Please provide TWO extra copies of this music. Students may be asked to play basic rudiments including the paradiddle, flams, flam taps, 5-stroke roll etc.
- **Mallet Percussion** – One excerpt of a mallet instrument solo (Marimba, Vibraphone, Xylophone, Bells/Glockenspiel etc.) Please provide TWO copies of this music. Students may be asked to perform major scales **C, G, D, A, E, F, Bb, Eb, Ab** and the **chromatic scale**.
- **Timpani** – One excerpt of a timpani solo. You must provide TWO copies of this music. You must be able to tune the drums yourself. You will be asked to play a long roll from *piano* to *forte* and back again.

You will be asked to sight-read on at least one of your auditioned instruments. Examples of sight-reading may include: an excerpt from a big band chart, a few measures of a snare etude, a short mallet etude, a few measures of a timpani etude, etc.

Guitar

Students auditioning on guitar should be prepared to:

- Perform Major Scales in first position:
 - One Octave: **C, D**
 - Two Octaves: **G, F**
- Demonstrate
 - Open position
 - Major chords: **C, G, D, AA, E, F**
 - Minor chords: **a, e, d, b**
 - Movable forms: **E, A, Em, Am, Cmaj7, C7, Cm7, A7, Gmaj7, G7, Gm7, E7, D7, B7**
- Sight-read 16 measures appropriate for your instrument.
- Perform **two** prepared selections; one of your choosing and either **one jazz or one classical** piece from the provided list. Sheet music is available on the Charter Arts website.
 - The **jazz selection** must be one of the three etudes labeled Audition A, Audition B, and Audition C. Students should be prepared to play one chorus of melody, one chorus with the chords, and one chorus of improvisation. Accompaniment will be provided at the audition.
 - The **classical selection** must be one of the following pieces that are all available on the Charter Arts website.
 - Spanish Waltz (Daniel Fortea)
 - The March (Fernando Sor)
 - Sonata for a Musical Clock (G.F. Handel Arr. Wright)
 - Ecosseise (Carulli Arr. Wright)
 - Andante (J.K. Mertz)
 - Pastorale Op. 21 (Carcassi)

Interview

The final portion of your audition will be a brief interview by the auditioning committee.

Attire

Please dress appropriately for your audition.

For more information regarding the instrumental music auditions, please email **Mr. Matt Wells, Artistic Director of Music** at mwells@charterarts.org