



Music • Education • Collaboration

## 2024 SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL Audition Guidelines

### String Ensembles Institute

*Violin, viola, cello, bass, and harp*

*Grades 3–8 (23-24 school year)*

*At least 1 year playing & ability to read music*

AFA auditions are intended to determine readiness for the session the applicant has applied for (not to be competitive). Students should prepare their auditions to the best of their ability according to the guidelines; **if there is anything unfamiliar to the student in the guidelines, or if further clarification is needed, please reach out to AFA.**

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### SCALES

- Prepare as many of the scales listed below for your instrument as you are able.
- Include the arpeggio for the scale if you know it.
- Use shifting where you are able/when necessary.

***Important!*** Do not worry if you are not able to play all or even more than one of the scales yet – AFA has students of many different experiences and backgrounds; we only want to know more about your playing. Play what you know! *If you have not worked on scales much yet and/or would like a scale sheet to look at, please let us know.*

Violin: D Major (2 octaves); A Major (2 octaves); F Major (2 octaves); G Major (3 octaves)

Viola: G Major (2 octaves); D Major (2 octaves); F Major (2 octaves); C Major (3 octaves)

Cello: G Major (3 octaves); D Major (3 octaves); F Major (2 octaves); C Major (3 octaves)

Bass: D Major (1 or 2 octaves); C Major (2 octaves); F Major (2 octaves); G Major (2 or 3 octaves)

Harp: 2 Major scales in at least 2 octaves (key of your choice)

**SEE PAGE TWO**

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## **SOLO**

Prepare 1 (one) solo selection; may be a solo piece, an etude, or a section of a larger piece (no orchestra music, please)

- Less experienced players may play a solo of at least half a page, while more experienced players should prepare at least 1 (one) page of a longer piece.
- Consider selecting music that demonstrates your knowledge of vibrato, shifting and/or any advanced techniques.

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## **SIGHTREADING**

Each applicant will complete a short sight-reading exercise, meaning they will be given very short excerpts of music they have not seen before to play during the audition.

*February 2024*