



2026 SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Audition Guidelines

Orchestra & Chamber Music Intensive: Strings
Experienced players currently in 9th-12th grade

Applicants should prepare their audition to the best of their ability according to the following guidelines. AFA auditions are intended to determine readiness for the session the applicant has applied for. While auditions are not intended to be competitive, there are limited spots in each section and we work to put together well-matched sections and ensembles. If there is anything unfamiliar to the student in the guidelines, or if further clarification is needed, please reach out to AFA.

SCALE

Prepare One Major scale of your choice, memorized (3 octaves strongly preferred).

SOLO REPERTOIRE

Prepare a total of 2 to 5 minutes of solo music that demonstrates both lyrical style and technical skill.

- Choose from two different pieces of music or two contrasting sections from within the same piece.
- You may choose from etude(s), a concerto or other type of solo, or a mixture of both.
- These selections are not required to be memorized.

ORCHESTRAL EXCERPT

Prepare the assigned excerpt of music for your instrument, making sure to study the piece by listening to a recording.

Rachmaninoff, Symphonic Dances

Violin Excerpt A: 1st mvmt., Rehearsal 6 to Rehearsal 8

Violin Excerpt B: 2nd mvmt, 5 measures before Rehearsal 40 to Rehearsal 41

Viola Excerpt A: 1st mvmt, 5 measures before Rehearsal 8 through Rehearsal 9

Viola Excerpt B: 2nd mvmt, pickup to 5 measures after Reh. 47 through 4 measures after Reh. 48

Cello Excerpt A: 1st mvmt, pickup to Rehearsal 5 to Rehearsal 9

Cello Excerpt B: 1st mvmt, Rehearsal 14 to Rehearsal 17

Cello Excerpt C: 2nd mvmt, 4 measures before Rehearsal 43 to Rehearsal 44

Bass Excerpt A: 1st mvmt, pickup to 3 measures before Reh. 5 through downbeat of Reh. 9

Bass Excerpt B: 3rd mvmt, Reh. 66 through the downbeat of 5 measures after Reh. 70

February 26, 2026

Bass Excerpt A: 1st mvmt, pickup to 3 measures before Reh. 5 through
downbeat of Reh. 9

Skip the marked out sections

The musical score is written for a bass instrument in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes various dynamics, articulations, and performance instructions. Measures 5 through 9 are indicated by boxed numbers. A large bracket is placed over the first line of music, and another large bracket is placed over the last line of music, indicating sections to be skipped.

Measure 5: *pp* (pianissimo), *f* (forte), *arco* (arco), *pizz.* (pizzicato), *p* (piano).

Measure 6: *p* (piano), *arco* (arco), *f* (forte), *p* (piano).

Measure 7: *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), *pizz.* (pizzicato), *p* (piano).

Measure 8: *sf* (sforzando), *p* (piano), *cresc.* (crescendo).

Measure 9: *mf* (mezzo-forte), *cresc.* (crescendo), *sf* (sforzando), *sf* (sforzando), *marcato* (marcato).

Bass Excerpt B: 3rd mvmt, Reh. 66 through the downbeat of 5 measures after Reh. 70 (play all)

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Bass

arco
66 *mf* *cresc.* *f* *dim.*
pizz.
67 *p* *dim.* *p* *mf* *arco*
68 *mf* *dim.*
69 *cresc.* *f* *f* *mf*
70 *f* *dim.* *mf*
Lento assai. Come prima
1 1 1