

Gold/Silver Orchestra Auditions

Tuesday, May 17 and Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Please read through these expectations thoroughly. Parents of younger students, please discuss these expectations with your student.

We have always taken a broader view of the GO/SO/BTO than simply preparing students for a performance. Since 1989, it's been about learning self-discipline, responsibility for one's actions and property, and maturing into responsible adults. In addition to the audition's obvious purpose of orchestra placement, it can also be thought of as one of a young person's many steps of preparation for adult life. How do you operate under pressure? Learning to deal with pressure and nerves is a skill to be developed, and can be learned through many experiences such as this audition.

- Audition Panel: Dr. Rachel Dirks, Mrs. Kristen Toll
- You are expected to “look nice” for this audition. How you present yourself does make a difference.
- You should be unpacked, tuned, and warmed up at least 10 minutes before your audition time. Your bow should be tightened and rosined.
- No piano accompaniment is needed nor wanted for your solo piece.
- It is your choice whether to play your piece by memory. There is absolutely no penalty for using music at an audition, even for professional orchestras.
- Only the student should be in the room during an audition. No audience is allowed in the room.
- Please don't tell us you are nervous. We already know that. ☺
- The student should announce his or her name and the name of their solo piece.
- All auditions will be performed in this order:
 1. **Scales (prepared according to the audition requirements on the website)**
 2. **Solo piece (selected and prepared in advance)**
 3. **Sight reading (provided for you in the audition)**
- Auditions are short, limited to five minutes. That means we may ask a student to stop sometime during a piece before they are completely finished. This is neither a negative nor a silent comment on your performance. It simply allows us to move on to sight-reading and stay on schedule.
- We strongly urge students to hold a mock audition at home (with family or friends in attendance) limited to five minutes.
- We will email results within 2-3 days of the auditions.
- Our decisions about orchestra placement are **final** and are made with the highest regard for what we think is best for each student and for the orchestras.