

Gold/Silver Orchestra Auditions

Via Zoom, Monday August 31, 2020

Parents, please discuss these expectations with your child.

We have always taken a broader view of the GOSO than just 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 for 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? Someday you'll need to give a report at your business, or church, or civic club. Learning to deal with pressure and nerves can be learned through many experiences such as this audition.

- Audition Panel: Mr. Cody Toll, Mrs. Kristen Toll, Dr. Laura Eakman
- You are expected to "look nice" for this audition. This does not mean the equivalent of prom dresses and tuxes, but 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 or not 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. Parents should leave the room once a student is set up in their Zoom audition.
- 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. Please don't ask us what to do or what we would like to hear first. All auditions will be performed in this order:
 1. **Scales (prepared according to the audition requirements listed 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. This 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 parents to hold a mock audition at home limited to five minutes.
- We will email results within 2-3 days of the auditions.
- Our decision about the orchestra placement is **final** and made with the highest regard for what we think is best for the child and for the orchestras.