

Gold/Silver Orchestra Auditions

Tuesday, May 15, 2018 McCain Music Wing 135, 4:30-7:00

Please print this and discuss 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, and Dr. Laura Eakman
- A KSU doorkeeper will monitor the door, keep track of the audition times, tune instruments as needed, hand you a 3x5 card for you to provide your phone number(s) and additional email addresses. The card will already have a label with your name, instrument, and one email address.
- 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 in the courtyard and unpacked at least 15 minutes before your scheduled time. Your bow should be tightened and rosined, and your instrument should be tuned before you walk into the room.
- No piano accompaniment is needed nor wanted.
- It's 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.
- We will provide the chair and cello board for cellists – no rock stop needed.
- Only the student may enter the room. Parents may listen through the door.
- Please don't tell us you're nervous. We know that already. 😊
- The student will announce his or her name, the two scales they have chosen (one major, one melodic minor only), and the name of the solo piece.
- We do not need a copy of your music. We probably have heard all the pieces many times.
- Eleven students per hour are scheduled, so we must limit each audition to five minutes, including walking in and out. This means that we may ask a student to stop sometime during the piece. This is neither a negative nor a silent comment on your performance! It simply allows us to keep on schedule. Sight-reading will follow the piece.
- We strongly urge parents to hold a mock audition at home limited to five minutes. The parents will be the judges sitting there. Parents are not allowed in the audition room.
- We'll email the results within 2-3 days after 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.
- We're looking for a more polished performance for GO. Just "getting through" a piece will not be an acceptable level. Just because you're playing a Book 4 piece doesn't mean that you are performing it at an acceptable level.

Post-Audition

- You'll receive an email with a listing of who is assigned to which orchestra. The list within each section will be alphabetical and will not give an indication of the seating.
- We plan to send the email by May 19.
- Once a student is in the GO, he or she will not have to audition for GO again. Chair placement auditions will always exist during the regular season.
- Silver Orchestra students will eventually join the GO with an audition, and Bronze Training Orchestra students will eventually audition for the Silver.
- With the audition outcome announcement, you'll receive a PDF attachment of the Registration Form, which is the same for both GO and SO. Registrations for Fall 2018 will be due June 10, including tuition payment. Rock Springs payment may be made with the June 10 payment, or delayed until August. Payments may always be spread out as long as the deadline is met. Just inform us that you'd like to pay that way. We have no problem with this.
- This year you will be required to send in the completed health form with your registration and payment.
- With the post-audition email, you'll also receive a calendar of events for the fall as best as we can determine them now.
- All GO and SO members are required to attend Rock Springs weekend, 4:30 p.m. on Friday/October 19 through Sunday 11:30/October 21. Mark your calendars now.