



## Schauer Youth String Orchestra | Placement Auditions

Placement Auditions are quite simple and will only take about 15 minutes. This process gives the instructor an opportunity to listen for tone quality, rhythm, left hand facility and shifting, intonation accuracy, and overall musicality. Placement into the appropriate ensemble (Presto Strings or Bravura Strings) is determined by this process.

Placement Auditions are scheduled on a rolling basis. Set dates are advertised with each brochure, but families are welcome to schedule any time or date that works best for them. Contact our Education Coordinator (262-670-0560 x204) to schedule a date.

**SCALES :** Be prepared to play at least one scale. We prefer two octaves for Presto Strings, and may request three octaves for potential Bravura Strings musicians. Scales are typically selected from the following lists :

Violin : Major keys C, G, D, A, B-Flat | Minor keys A, D, E, G

Cello (2 octaves) : Major keys C, D, G, A, F | Minor keys D, E, G

Viola (2 octaves) : Major keys C, D, G, A, F | Minor keys D, E, G

Bass (1-2 octaves) : Major keys G, D, A, F | Minor keys D, E, G

All scales (natural minor) should be practiced and prepared. Melodic or harmonic scales are not required,

but students are welcome to play them if they feel comfortable and ready to perform these.

**SOLO :** Everyone must present a prepared solo or etude - no more than 3 to 4 minutes in length - preferably with contrasting tempos and/or styles. Piano accompaniment is not allowed.

**SIGHT READING :** A brief excerpt of music will be selected by the Director. This determines the student's general understanding of how notes and musical notation work together, as well as the student's ability to analyze music.

### PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Be prepared to make (at minimum) a full school year commitment to our ensemble, August through May.

Students are expected to enroll in their school music programs with the same instrument they play in SYSO.

Private lessons are not required, but highly suggested. A list of area private teachers is available upon request.

Students should expect to practice notes and rhythms outside of rehearsal time.

### ADDITIONALLY, ALL SYSO STUDENTS SHOULD REGULARLY DEMONSTRATE

Good intonation with the ability to adjust out-of-tune pitches with minimal effort.

Proper technique for left- and right- hand positions and posture.

Understanding and identification of accidentals. For Bravura musicians, knowledge of key signature is essential!

A supportive, cooperative attitude, as well as a maturity and willingness to learn and be positive.