



Audition Materials 2018 - 2019

The goal of a MAYS audition is for the Artistic Directors to hear you play at your musical best, to ensure that you are placed in an orchestra where you will be surrounded by musicians of similar strength and challenged on a weekly basis. With that in mind, the three elements in a MAYS audition are scales, solo, and sight-reading. In each, the Artistic Directors will be listening for your overall sound quality, your sense of pitch, accuracy of rhythm, and observing your technique. If you have any questions, please contact one of our Artistic Directors.

SYMPHONY - Bass

SCALES - Perform the following scales and arpeggios in eighth notes (separate bows), at a tempo of quarter note = 60 bpm.

F major, two octaves (no displacement)

A minor (melodic form), two octaves (no displacement)

SOLO - Prepare a three minute excerpt from a major concerto demonstrating technical skill and lyrical ability. Solos need not be memorized, but please bring an additional copy for our Artistic Directors to view as you play.

SIGHT READING - A brief excerpt of music will be given to you to sight-read as part of your audition. The best way for you to prepare for this is to read new music on a daily basis.

BENCHMARKS - All bassists should show facility in three octaves.

EXCERPTS - Prepare the following excerpts. It is highly recommended that you do this in conjunction with your private instructor. Listening to recordings for an understanding of the musical context is also recommended. However, please perform the excerpts at the tempo indicated.

MAYS SYMPHONY - BASS Excerpt #1

Beethoven, Symphony No. 5 / Third movement / beginning to A / dotted half note = 72

Allegro $\text{♩} = 96$
unis.

pp *poco rit.* *a tempo* *pp* *sf*

14 *poco rit.* *a tempo* *Corna* *f*

27 *f* *sf* *sf*

42 *sf* *sf* *dimin. pp* *poco rit.* *a tempo* *pp*

55 *cresc. -*

68 *f*

82 *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf*

96 *dimin. pp* **A**

MAYS SYMPHONY - BASS Excerpt #2

Brahms, Symphony No.1 / First movement / 8 before E to the second ending (no repeat) / dotted quarter note = 76 (NOTE: the time signature for this excerpt is 6/8)

ppp

pizz.

arco

E

p

cresc.

ff

162

sf

sf

ff

171

ff

180

ff

188

1

1

2

ff