

Instrumental Music Ensembles Audition Information – Rhythm Section

Auditions will take place on Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 October.

The Arts Unit offers 6 weekly instrumental ensembles:

3 advanced ensembles:

- Symphonic Wind Ensemble (SWE) – Mondays 4.30pm – 7pm
- Symphony Orchestra – Thursdays 4.30pm – 7pm
- Jazz Orchestra – Tuesdays 4.30pm – 6.30pm

3 intermediate ensembles:

- Symphonic Wind Orchestra (SWO) – Mondays 4.30pm – 7pm
- String Sinfonia – Thursdays 4.30pm – 7pm
- Stage Band – Tuesdays 4.30pm – 6.30pm

There are 2 sets of audition requirements: Set A (advanced) and Set B (intermediate).

Instrumental Ensemble applicants are required to prepare either 'Set A' OR 'Set B'. Please choose the set that best demonstrates your current playing ability. It is highly recommended that you discuss this with your instrumental teacher.

- The audition will consist of:
1. Scales
 2. Prepared piece – own choice
 3. Prepared piece – set excerpt
 4. Sight reading

With regards to those of you who wish to audition for both a classical ensemble (SWE, SWO, symphony orchestra) and a jazz ensemble (stage band, jazz orchestra) please note the following:

- If you are auditioning for a place in both types of ensemble please prepare 2 own choice pieces, 1 in each style but only 1 set of scales.
- You will also need to perform both a classical and a jazz set excerpt which can be downloaded from our website two weeks prior to your audition – a link will be emailed to you to access this.
- Please note that the only rhythm section instrument with a classical option in our ensembles is double bass.

For further information please contact us at music.artsunit@det.nsw.edu.au

Rhythm Section Audition Requirements

1. **Scales** – Scales are listed in a table on the next 2 pages

You are required to play **4 scales only** (2 major and 2 minor) of your choice from the following 'set A' or 'set B' list. Accuracy, fluency and tempo will be assessed.

2. **Prepared Piece** – Own Choice

Please prepare **1 piece or excerpt** of your own choice (approx. 3 minutes long or less). This piece should demonstrate your technical and musical ability on your chosen instrument.

If you are auditioning for a place in a classical ensemble this should be a classical piece. If you are auditioning for a place in a jazz ensemble this should be a jazz piece. If you are auditioning for a place in both ensembles please record 2 pieces, 1 of each style. This piece should demonstrate your technical and musical ability on your chosen instrument.

1. **Prepared Piece** – Set Excerpt

An excerpt for your instrument will be made available on The Arts Unit website two weeks prior to your audition – a link will be emailed to you to access this.

You are required to prepare this excerpt as part of your audition submission. The intention of this part of the audition is to ascertain your ability to prepare a difficult excerpt in a short period of time. Again, this will demonstrate technical and musical ability on your chosen instrument.

2. **Sight reading**

This will be provided during the audition.

SET A – Advanced Ensembles

Choose 4 scales only (2 major and 2 minor) from the list below

Tempo:

- quavers at crotchet = 120

ELECTRIC BASS	
Major Scales	Harmonic Minor Scales
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F (2 octaves) • E (2 octaves) • Db (2 octaves) • B (2 octaves) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D (2 octaves) • C# (2 octaves) • Bb (2 octaves) • F (2 octaves)

ELECTRIC GUITAR	
Major Scales	Harmonic Minor Scales
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F (2 octaves) • E (2 octaves) • Db (2 octaves) • Ab (2 octaves) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D (2 octaves) • C# (2 octaves) • Bb (2 octaves) • F (2 octaves)

JAZZ PIANO	
Major Scales	Harmonic Minor Scales
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F (3 octaves similar motion) • E (3 octaves similar motion) • Db (3 octaves similar motion) • B (3 octaves similar motion) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D (3 octaves similar motion) • C# (3 octaves similar motion) • Bb (3 octaves similar motion) • F (3 octaves similar motion)

SET B – Intermediate Ensembles

Choose 4 scales only (2 major and 2 minor) from the list below

Tempo:

- quavers at crotchet = 100

ELECTRIC BASS	
Major Scales	Harmonic Minor Scales
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F (2 octaves) • G (2 octaves) • Bb (1 octave) • E (1 octave) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D (2 octaves) • E (2 octaves) • G (1 octave) • C# (1 octave)

ELECTRIC GUITAR	
Major Scales	Harmonic Minor Scales
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F (2 octaves) • G (2 octaves) • Bb (2 octaves) • E (2 octaves) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D (2 octaves) • E (2 octaves) • G (2 octaves) • C# (2 octaves)

JAZZ PIANO	
Major Scales	Harmonic Minor Scales
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F (3 octaves similar motion) • G (3 octaves similar motion) • Bb (3 octaves similar motion) • E (3 octaves similar motion) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D (3 octaves similar motion) • E# (3 octaves similar motion) • G (3 octaves similar motion) • C# (3 octaves similar motion)