

# Instrumental Music Ensembles Audition Information – String Instruments

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.

This year we return to live auditions for the Instrumental Music Ensembles.

The audition will consist of:

1. Scales
2. Prepared piece – own choice
3. Prepared piece – set excerpt
4. Sight reading

For further information please contact us at [music.artsunit@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:music.artsunit@det.nsw.edu.au)

# String 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.

3. **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.

4. **Sight reading**

This will be provided during the audition.

# SET A – Advanced Ensembles

Choose 4 scales only (2 major and 2 minor), play each in 1 bowing pattern of your choice from the list below

Bowing patterns:

- all slurred: 4 Quavers per bow (Crotchet = 85)
- detache: one quaver per note (Crotchet = 120)
- spiccato: three triplets per note (Crotchet = 100)

| CELLO   |  |
|---|--|
| Major Scales  | Harmonic Minor Scales  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C (4 Octaves)</li> <li>• Ab (3 Octaves)</li> <li>• F# (3 Octaves)</li> <li>• Db (3 Octaves)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C (4 Octaves)</li> <li>• Ab (3 Octaves)</li> <li>• F (3 Octaves)</li> <li>• Db (3 Octaves)</li> </ul> |

| DOUBLE BASS   |   |
|---|---|
| Major Scales  | Harmonic Minor Scales   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• Bb (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• B (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• C (2 Octaves)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• Bb (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• B (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• C (2 Octaves)</li> </ul> |

| VIOLA  |  |
|--|--|
| Major Scales   | Harmonic Minor Scales  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C (3 Octaves)</li> <li>• D (3 Octaves)</li> <li>• Eb (3 Octaves)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C (3 Octaves)</li> <li>• D (3 Octaves)</li> <li>• Eb (3 Octaves)</li> </ul> |

| VIOLIN   |   |
|--|---|
| Major Scales   | Harmonic Minor Scales   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A (3 Octaves)</li> <li>• D (3 Octaves)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A harmonic (3 octaves)</li> <li>• D melodic (3 octaves)</li> </ul> |

# SET B – Intermediate Ensembles

Choose 4 scales only (2 major and 2 minor), play each in 1 bowing pattern of your choice from the list below

Bowing patterns:

- all slurred: four notes to a bow (quavers at crotchet = 80)
- detache: one quaver per note (quavers at crotchet = 100)
- spiccato: three triplets per note (quavers at crotchet = 80 )

| CELLO   |  |
|---|--|
| Major Scales  | Harmonic Minor Scales  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C (3 Octaves)</li> <li>• Eb (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• D (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• C Chromatic (2 Octaves)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• Eb (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• D (2 Octaves)</li> </ul> |

| DOUBLE BASS  |   |
|--|---|
| Major Scales   | Harmonic Minor Scales   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• F (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• G (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• A Chromatic (1 Octaves)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• F (2 Octaves)</li> <li>• G (2 Octaves)</li> </ul> |

| VIOLA   |  |
|---|--|
| Major Scales  | Harmonic Minor Scales  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C (2 octaves from 1st position)</li> <li>• F (2 octaves in 3rd position)</li> <li>• C Chromatic (2 octaves)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C (2 octaves)</li> <li>• F (2 Octaves in 3rd position)</li> </ul> |

| VIOLIN  |  |
|---|--|
| Major Scales  | Harmonic Minor Scales  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• G (3 octaves)</li> <li>• Ab (2 octaves)</li> <li>• C (2 octaves in 3rd position)</li> <li>• G Chromatic (2 octaves)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• G (2 octaves)</li> <li>• C (2 octaves in 3rd position)</li> </ul> |