
AUDITION DETAILS

The components of every GTCYS audition are:

1. **SOLO**
2. **SCALES**
3. **SIGHT READING**
4. **ORCHESTRAL EXCERPT (advanced students only).**

Your audition will last up to 10 minutes.

1. SOLO:

- Prepare one short solo that **demonstrates your best technical and expressive abilities.**
- Choose your selection with guidance from your instrumental teacher.
- Solos need not be memorized.
- Bring one additional copy of your piece for the adjudicators' reference.
- In the interest of time, the judges may ask you to stop before you reach the end of your piece.

2. SCALES AND TECHNIQUE:

- All scales must be memorized
- Minor scales: any form is acceptable (natural, harmonic, or melodic)
- See below for specific requirements for each orchestra.
- At the audition, students will play two scales from the following lists: students will choose one scale and the judges will choose the other scale.

1) Philharmonia East & West: Repertoire is primarily first position, and students must know detaché and staccato bow strokes. This orchestra develops the basics of ensemble playing and listening skills.

Scales required for audition:

A, C, D major: 1 octave; G major: 2 octaves

a or d minor: 1 octave

Separate bows in quarter notes (quarter note = 66)

2) Sinfonia: Repertoire includes shifting to third position and playing experience through several sharps and flats. Students must have beginning use of vibrato. This orchestra further expands the basics of ensemble playing and listening skills.

Scales required for audition:

E \flat and F major: 1 octave

G, A, B \flat , C, D major: 2 octaves

g, a, b, d, minor: 2 octaves

Separate bows in quarter notes (quarter note = 76)

3) Concertino: Repertoire includes more advanced bow strokes, such as martele, spiccato, 1st – 5th positions, vibrato and playing experience in four sharps and four flats. This orchestra further develops students' technical and ensemble skills.

Scales required for audition:

G, A \flat and A major: 3 octaves

B \flat , C, D, E \flat , E, F major: 2 octaves

g, a minor: 3 octaves

b, c, d, e minor: 2 octaves

Separate bows in quarter notes (quarter note = 92)

4) *Camerata*: Repertoire includes facility in higher positions and proficiency in 1st–6th positions. Students must have a continuous vibrato and playing proficiency in four sharps and four flats. **Students must be able to sight read in 3rd position.**

Scales required for audition:

G, A \flat , A, B \flat major: 3 octaves

B, C, D, E \flat , E, F, major: 2 octaves

g, a, b minor: 3 octaves

c, d, e, f minor: 2 octaves

Separate bows in quarter notes (quarter note = 104)

5) *Concert Orchestra*: Repertoire requires facility in higher positions, vibrato and various articulations. This ensemble develops students' more advanced technical and rehearsal skills through advanced repertoire which includes original classical works. Students must have good sight-reading skills and be proficient in advanced key signatures.

Scales required for audition:

G, A \flat , A, B \flat , B, and C major: 3 octaves

D, E \flat , E, F major: 2 octaves

g, a, b \flat , b minor: 3 octaves

c, d, e, f minor: 2 octaves

Separate bows in quarter notes (quarter note = 116)

6) *Philharmonic*: Music is from the standard professional repertoire. This orchestra develops individual musicianship and advanced ensemble skills. Students must be proficient in all major and minor keys and highly proficient in advanced positions and bow technique.

Scales required for audition:

All major and minor scales: 3 octaves

Separate bows in eighth notes (quarter note = 80)

7) *Symphony*: GTCYS' premier orchestra performs major symphonic repertoire at professional-style concerts. Students must be highly proficient in all major and minor keys, advanced positions and bow technique.

Scales required for audition:

All major and minor scales: 3 octaves

Separate bows in eighth notes (quarter note = 96)

3. Sight-reading:

- Sight-reading examples will be selected by judges at the audition.
- The sight-reading portion of the audition will begin with a simpler excerpt and may progress to excerpts with greater range, rhythmic complexity, and technical challenges.
- Sight-reading skills are an important aspect of the audition and of general musicianship. Students can improve their skills by reading new material daily, such as from books of solos or etudes.

4. Excerpts (Philharmonic and Symphony only)

- See the next page for the specific excerpt to prepare
- Consult with your teacher and recordings of the excerpt to determine the correct style, tempo and phrasing.
- Excerpts need not be memorized.
- Bring the copy that you downloaded from the website to the audition.

Violin

Symphony No. 8 in G, Opus 88

I
m. 177 – Letter J

A. Dvořák

Allegro con brio ♩ = 138

Musical notation for measures 177-180. The key signature is G major (one sharp). The time signature is common time (C). The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The music features a series of eighth notes with slurs and accents. Measure numbers 180 and 185 are indicated. A dynamic marking of *pp* (pianissimo) is present below the staff.

Musical notation for measures 181-185. The key signature is G major (one sharp). The time signature is common time (C). The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The music features a series of eighth notes with slurs and accents. Measure numbers 185 and 190 are indicated. A dynamic marking of *pp* (pianissimo) is present below the staff.

PLACEMENT

- The primary criterion for placement is the student's playing, including factors such as sound quality, pitch and rhythmic accuracy, intonation, technique, expression, scale knowledge, and sight-reading skills.
- Other factors such as age or instrumentation needs may be considered as well.
- All qualified students are offered placement in the appropriate GTCYS orchestra, space permitting.
- **Scholarships available.** GTCYS is committed to serving all qualified students regardless of financial constraints. Any student needing a scholarship is encouraged to complete an application at <https://www.gtcys.org/scholarships>
- Previous participation in GTCYS does not guarantee placement and all placements are final.

If you have questions, contact the GTCYS office at 651-602-6800 or email mail@gtcys.org.

REGISTER FOR AN AUDITION

- Register online at www.gtcys.org/auditions.
- \$35 audition fee is non-refundable and not applicable to tuition.