

Illinois Valley Youth Symphony Orchestra
Spring 2024 Seating Hearing Information

Prepare the following:

1) **Two scales**

D Minor

F Major

Students should play two or more octaves, if you have questions or concerns about this please email Miss Roberts.

2) **Two excerpts**

Violins and Violas

Ridin' the Rails m1-16

A Ralph Vaughn Williams Portrait m55-71

**learn either first violin or second violin-choose the one you anticipate playing in orchestra*

Cellos and Bases

A Ralph Vaughn Williams Portrait m 1-12

A Ralph Vaughn Williams Portrait m55-71

3) **Sightreading--in the audition**

We will test sightreading. Practice sightreading at home and in your lessons. If you're not sure how to get started with sight reading, talk to your private teacher about it or send Miss Roberts an email at stringsdirector@ivyouthsymphony.org if your teacher is not available/you don't have one.

Visit ivyouthsymphony.org for signup info

Rehearsals will be every Tuesday starting at 6:45 at LPHS band room starting January 9. Visit the website for the exact calendar.

Some Helpful Tips When Preparing for an Audition:

1. Do lots of listening. Know how your part should sound by itself and how it sounds when it is with the whole group.
2. Choose a tempo you can play well. I am not interested in hearing you play a bunch of wrong notes really fast. I'd rather hear you play a slower speed with correct pitches, bowings, articulations, etc.
3. Consider why I chose the excerpt and what skill I am evaluating. I am making your job easy by giving you hints at the bottom of this page
4. Pay as much attention to detail as possible. Those who are selected as principal will not only demonstrate that they can play the notes and rhythms, but have chosen appropriate articulations and followed the bowings printed in the part.

General Things I'm Looking For:

- Good tone with appropriate articulation
- Good intonation (I am assuming that you will play the right finger patterns)
- Steady Pulse with good rhythm
- Music-I don't mean notes and rhythms. I mean the things that give them meaning. Think dynamics, character, phrasing, etc.
- Technique/Posture

Some Specifics:

Violins and Violas.

Ridin' the Rails

I have chosen this excerpt because I want to see that you can play with excellent rhythm and that you can do the double up bows in m 8,10, and 12. I will be super impressed if you do an epic crescendo in m5. You will still want to consider everything on the list above.

A Ralph Vaughn Williams Portrait

I am mostly interested in hearing/seeing if you can play the "Linden Lea" with beautiful legato bows and smooth bow changes. Do not forget to phrase the notes so it is not boring! Using vibrato on this would be an excellent idea. First violins will show me that they can play in third position in tune.

Cellos and Basses

A Ralph Vaughn Williams Portrait

You have two excerpts from this piece. The first one I am mostly interested in hearing you play with a strong (solo) sound. This is the melody. It is also very important that you play in tune and add vibrato if you can.

The second excerpt will show me how you can play a beautiful legato accompaniment/bassline. Make sure you pay special attention to the counting. I am interested in hearing more than just beautiful notes/rhythms, so do some phrasing. It would be helpful if you can sing the melody in your head so you can make your playing support the melody.

STRING BASS - 2

61 62 63 64 65

66 67 68 69 70

71 "Overture to 'The Wasps' (Aristophanic Suite)"
Lively

71-72 73 74 75

76 77 78 79 80

81 82-86 87 88

89 90 91 92

93 94 95 96 97

98 99 100 101-104 105

106 107 108 109 110-111

112 113 114 115 116 117