Mira Mesa Orchestras

Audition Information 2016 – 2017

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Thank You for Your Interest in our Mira Mesa Orchestras!

Thank you for taking the initiative and showing interest in our orchestra program here at Mira Mesa High School! Our orchestra program consists of three orchestral ensembles: Symphony Orchestra, Concert Orchestra, and Debut Strings. Please note that all classes meet the University of California A-G requirement as it relates to Fine Arts ('F' credit).

DEBUT STRINGS | Non-Auditioned

Debut Strings is an introductory class which is appropriate for students in grades 9 – 12 with little or no previous orchestra experience. Students in this class will be provided the opportunity to study and acquire fundamental skills related to playing in an ensemble setting. No previous experience is necessary.

CONCERT ORCHESTRA | Non-Auditioned

Concert Orchestra is Mira Mesa High School's non-auditioned orchestra, appropriate for students in grades 9 – 12 who already have a at least one (but often, more) years of instrumental study. In addition to string orchestra selections, full symphonic works will be performed in collaboration with our wind and percussion students. During the academic year one rehearsal per week is held after school.

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA | Audition Required

Symphony Orchestra is Mira Mesa High School's audition-based orchestral ensemble, appropriate for students in grades 9 – 12 who possess not only the musical skills, but commitment required to perform advanced level orchestral repertoire. Typically, very few incoming 9th graders earn places in this class, although it does happen. This class will perform string orchestra and full symphonic orchestra works. In addition to the expectation that individual musicians prepare extensively outside of class, one rehearsal per week is held after school.

Do I need to audition?

An audition is only required if a musician is looking to earn a place in our Symphony Orchestra. Students may openly elect to participate in either our introductory string class (Debut Strings), or, for those with previous orchestra experience, our Concert Orchestra.

3rd Annual Summer String Camp – Save the Dates!

I want to encourage ALL of our Concert and Symphony Orchestra musicians to attend our 3rd Annual Summer String Camp, which will be held August 15 – 19. Please check our website and Facebook page for more information, including online registration, a daily schedule, and course offerings.

Symphony Orchestra Audition Information (2016 – 2017)

Musicians who are interested in becoming a member of our Symphony Orchestra for the 2016 – 2017 school year will prepare ALL of the following.

VIOLIN

- *Major Scales* – 3-octave scales of G major and A major. Scales are to be performed with one note per bow, with attention being paid to the consistency of tone quality and pitch.
- *Chromatic Scale* – 2-octave D chromatic scale, beginning on the open D string. Suggested chromatic finger patterns are either 0112234 or 0121234.
- *Excerpts* – Prepare both orchestral excerpts included below. Bowings and fingerings have been provided and are encouraged. Changes to either the bowings or fingerings are allowed if they remain stylistically appropriate.

VIOLA

- *Major Scales* – 3-octaves scales of C and D major. Scales are to be performed with one note per bow, with attention being paid to the consistency of tone quality and pitch.
- *Chromatic Scale* – 2-octave G chromatic scale, beginning on the open G string. Suggested chromatic finger patterns are either 0112234 or 0121234.
- *Excerpts* – Prepare both orchestral excerpts included below. Bowings and fingerings have been provided and are encouraged. Changes to either the bowings or fingerings are allowed if they remain stylistically appropriate.

CELLO

- *Major Scales* – 3-octaves of C major and 2-octaves of A major. Scales are to be performed with one note per bow, with attention being paid to the consistency of tone quality and pitch.
- *Chromatic Scale* – 2-octave G chromatic scale, beginning on the open G string. Suggested chromatic finger patterns are either 0123123.
- *Excerpts* – Prepare both orchestral excerpts included below. Bowings and fingerings have been provided and are encouraged. Changes to either the bowings or fingerings are allowed if they remain stylistically appropriate.

STRING BASS

- *Major Scales* – 2-octaves of G major and F major. Scales are to be performed with one note per bow, with attention being paid to the consistency of tone quality and pitch.
- *Chromatic Scale* – 1-octave D chromatic scale, starting on the open D string. The suggested chromatic fingering pattern is 0114.
- *Excerpts* – Prepare both orchestral excerpts included below. Bowings and fingerings have been provided and are encouraged. Changes to either the bowings or fingerings are allowed if they remain stylistically appropriate.

SCALE SHEETS: For assistance with scale fingerings please visit www.stringskills.com.

Please check with your director for specific audition dates!

Violin Excerpts (2016)

From: Two Pieces for Strings, from Henry V

Composer: William Walton

Tempo: ♩= 54 bpm

From: Symphony in B Minor, 'Unfinished' - Mvmt. I

Composer: Franz Schubert

Tempo: ♩= 96 bpm

Viola Excerpts (2016)

From: Two Pieces for Strings, from Henry V

Composer: William Walton

Tempo: ♩ = 54 bpm

From: Symphony in B Minor, 'Unfinished' - Mvmt I

Composer: Franz Schubert

Tempo: ♩ = 96 bpm

Cello Excerpts (2016)

From: Symphony in B Minor, 'Unfinished' - Mvmt I

Composer: Franz Schubert

Tempo: ♩= 96 bpm

From: Short Overture for Strings

Composer: Jean Berger

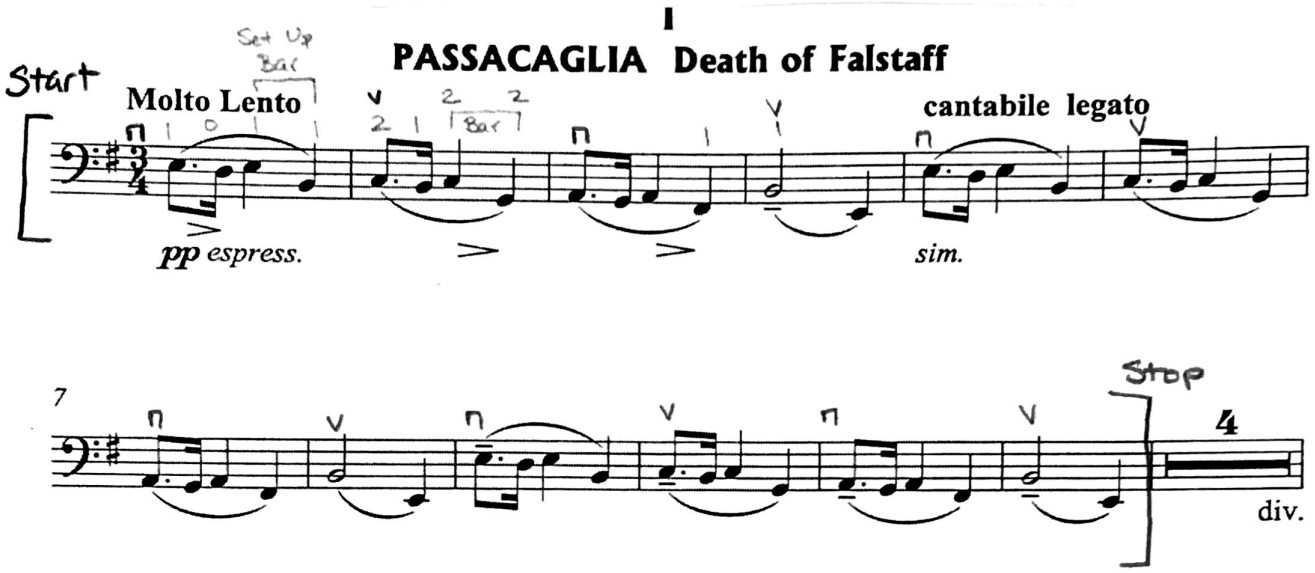
Tempo: ♩= 84 or ♩= 168

Bass Excerpts (2016)

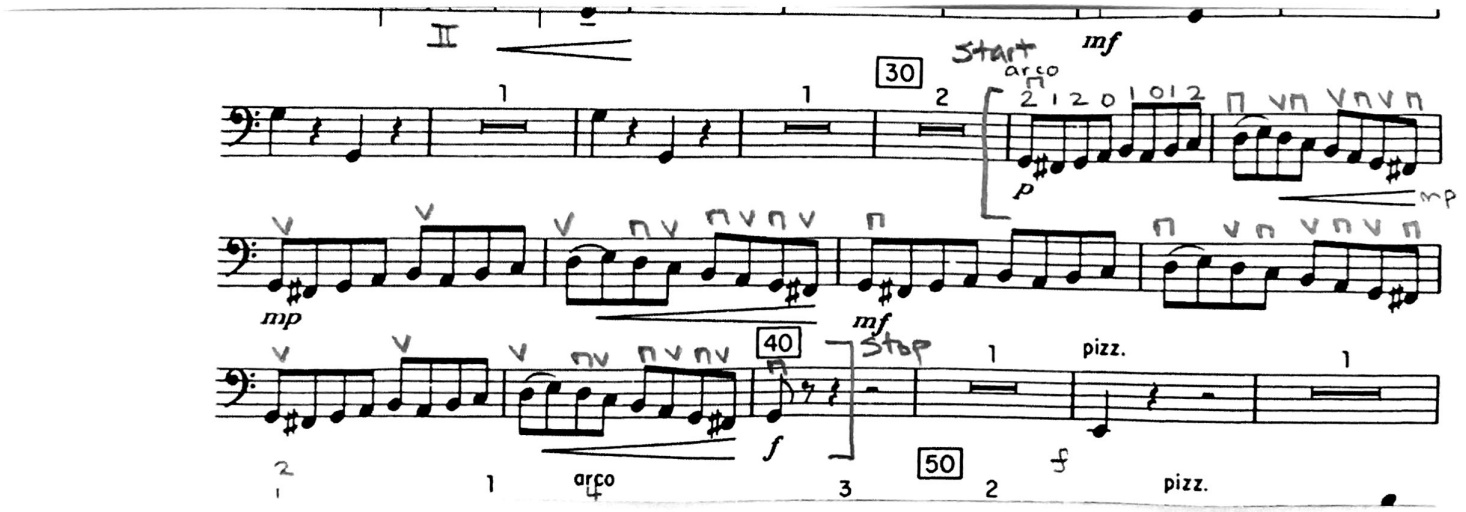
From: Two Pieces for Strings, from Henry V

Composer: William Walton

Tempo: ♩ = 54 bpm



From: Short Overture for Strings

Composer: Jean Berger

Tempo: ♩ = 84 or ♩ = 168 bpm