

Johnstown Symphony Youth Orchestra

June 1, 2024 Cello Auditions

This audition will consist of three parts:

1. Excerpts from solo repertoire

Select two contrasting excerpts of 1-2 minutes each. (ex: fast/slow)
Both can come from the same movement, or they can come from completely different pieces. Because of time, you will not get through entire movements – instead, please select small portions of music and prepare them to a high level.

2. Sight-reading

You will be given 8 measures of music to play that you have never seen before. Take 30 seconds to mentally go over this excerpt (especially rhythm), then do your best. Remember, correct rhythms are just as important as correct notes.

3. Excerpts from our Fall 2024 repertoire

All music is available below.

Excerpt #1

Márquez, Danzón No. 2
measures 66 to 112

Excerpt #2

Márquez, Danzón No. 2
measures 184 to 198

Excerpt #3

Bizet, Les Toréadors
beginning to rehearsal B

Excerpt #4

Bizet, Les Toréadors
rehearsal C to the 2nd bar before rehearsal D

To clarify: When you add up solo selections (2) with excerpts from the season (4), you are responsible for preparing 6 short excerpts.

Strategies:

If you have a private teacher, you should schedule several lessons with them between now and June 1st. If you do not have a private teacher, this would be a perfect time to begin lessons. Or, at the very least, play a handful of mock auditions for JSYO friends.

A Recording of Danzón No. 2 is available here:

<https://youtu.be/pjZPHW0qVvo?si=9vbCaNrNetxU7-iM&t=13>

A recording of Les Toréadors is available here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJo_EgkgDAo

Most of the excerpts happen in the middle of movements. You should listen from the beginning of each in order to hear the selections in their full context. (Feel free to make a note of the time when each of the excerpts begins so you can easily go back to these specific spots.)

Before you play one note, you should listen several times. Besides right notes and rhythms, the audition committee also listens for things like style, articulation, and appropriateness of the tempo – all things where recordings can help. Many of these excerpts have challenging rhythms, so practicing with a metronome is essential. (For these, about 90% of your playing should be with a metronome.)

If you have any questions, contact Mr. Anderson (david.anderson.jsyo@gmail.com).

Violoncellos

49

Poco Più Mosso ♩=124

Musical notation for measure 49. It begins with a double bar line and a fermata over a whole note. Above the staff is a large number '2'. The key signature changes to two sharps (F# and C#). The notation starts with a half note, followed by quarter notes, and ends with a dotted quarter note. The word 'arco' is written above the staff, and 'f' is written below it. There are also some handwritten accents (^) above the notes.

54

♩=132

Musical notation for measure 54. It consists of a continuous sequence of eighth notes. The tempo is marked as ♩=132. The word 'accel.' is written below the staff at the beginning and end of the measure. There are several accents (^) and a 'V' marking above the notes.

60

♩=136

Musical notation for measure 60. It consists of a continuous sequence of eighth notes. The tempo is marked as ♩=136. The word 'accel.' is written above the staff. There are several accents (^) and a 'V' marking above the notes.

66

♩=144

Musical notation for measure 66. It consists of a continuous sequence of eighth notes. The tempo is marked as ♩=144. The word 'ff' is written below the staff. There are several accents (^) and a 'V' marking above the notes. At the end of the measure, there are handwritten markings '1 3 2' and a circled 'VU'.

71

Con Fuoco ♩=160

Musical notation for measure 71. It consists of a continuous sequence of eighth notes. The tempo is marked as ♩=160. The word 'stacc' is written above the staff. The word 'accel.' is written above the staff with an arrow pointing to the right. Below the staff, 'sub p' and 'accel.' are written. The words 'ff' and 'f' are written below the staff. There are several accents (^) and a 'V' marking above the notes.

76

Musical notation for measure 76. It consists of a continuous sequence of eighth notes. There are several accents (^) above the notes.

Violoncellos

184

f

190

ff *mf* *dim*

196

mp

201

pizz
p 1-2 corde

206

>

211

> *dim*

215

> *rit.* *pp*

