



## Fall 2024 Sacramento State University Instrumental Ensemble Audition Guidance Sheet

Welcome to the Fall 2024 Sacramento State University Instrumental Ensemble Auditions!

These auditions are for placement of wind and percussion players in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, and Concert Band. All rehearsals are held in Capistrano 143.

Symphonic Wind Ensemble (MUSC 142W) rehearsals are MWF from Noon-1:15pm.

Symphony Orchestra (MUSC 142S) rehearsals are TR from 4:30-6:00pm.

Concert Band (MUSC 142B) rehearsals are MWF from 1:30-2:45pm.

### Pre-Audition Procedures:

The auditions will take place on Friday, August 23, 2024 in Capistrano 151 on the schedule posted on the [School of Music Ensemble Auditions website](#).

If you haven't already done so, go online [here](#) to fill out the **Audition Registration Form** prior to the audition date.

Audition excerpts are downloadable from a Google Drive linked [here](#). Please download and prepare the appropriate excerpts for your instrument and desired ensemble placement. Students interested in Concert Band only should prepare only those excerpts designated as Concert Band. Students interested in Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra should prepare all excerpts. These excerpts are the only music you will play for the audition.

Please note that the roster for the Symphonic Wind Ensemble is largely set in the Fall semester each academic year – there are no auditions scheduled for this group in the Spring. Any additions to the Symphonic Wind Ensemble in the Spring semester are made on a case-by-case basis and only if there is a vacancy. If you want to be part of the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, it is best to audition for it in the Fall.

### Audition Day Procedures:

- Please arrive early to the audition time for your instrument to fill out the required form (if you have not done so online beforehand)
- Please arrive ready to play – be warmed up prior to your arrival
- Have your instrument out of its case and ready to play before going in to your audition – take only yourself, your instrument, and your excerpts into the audition
- Give yourself plenty of time to do everything (i.e. get up early, have a leisurely meal, arrive early to the audition)
- Once you enter the audition space, put your music on the stand provided
- Once in the audition, please introduce yourself to the panel members and when directed, play the excerpts in the order they're published
- Play to your own standards; don't try to guess how the committee would like something performed
- Once finished, thank the panel, ensure you have everything you came in with, head out of the room, and have a nice day

## Reminders and Helpful Hints:

- Please note all ensemble rehearsal schedules and plan to accommodate your own schedule accordingly – do your best to avoid conflicts
- Avoid over-practicing, which may cause nerve problems and fatigue
- Warm up well and practice audition material under tempo
- Maintain a positive appearance even if you do not think you played well
- Present a professional image (you get only one chance to make a first impression)
- Take control of the situation (plan what you are going to play and do)
- Dress for the occasion – be professional
- Be there ahead of time and be warmed up
- Make sure your instrument and reeds are working properly
- Introduce yourself and your repertoire
- Get the committee's attention
- Speak clearly
- Look people in the eye
- Know correct pronunciations of composers and compositions
- Demonstrate your ability, facility and sensitivity
- Communicate if you have a legitimate problem (long before the audition)

## What NOT to do:

- Do not wear shorts, jeans, hats, sunglasses, flip-flops, etc.
- Do not make excuses or apologies (for anything)
- Do not draw attention to problems (the committee may not notice)

## What NOT to say:

- "I haven't warmed up."
- "I haven't had a chance to practice."
- "I didn't know..."
- "I just got this horn."
- "What should I play?"
- "What would you like to hear?"
- "I didn't have my instrument/sticks/etc..."
- "I didn't bring any music."
- "Nobody told me..."