

ADVANCED STRINGS (Orchestra 3-4)

Dwyer's String Orchestra earned Unanimous Superior ratings for Performance at their 2017 SCSBOA Festival.

Advanced Strings is a full-year elective for students who play orchestral string instruments. These include Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, and Piano Accompanist. Our ensemble plays challenging arrangements in a variety of genres. We participate in several concerts and events throughout the academic year such as festivals hosted by the Southern California School Band & Orchestra Association, and an annual Disneyland Performing Arts Workshop.

Students not accepted into this group will be placed in Beginning/Intermediate Strings (Orchestra 1-2).

Students will be expected to present the following during their audition:

Orchestral Strings (Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass):

Violin and viola students must bring their own instruments and bows. A Cello (1/2, 3/4, 4/4) or Double Bass (1/4, 1/2 size) can be provided, if needed.

- A 2 minute or less excerpt of your choice which best demonstrates your musical and technical ability
- One or two octaves of these Major Scales (memorization optional): **D, G, C**
- Specific melodies for your chosen instrument. Sheet music is available at dms.schoolloop.com/music or in the Dwyer Music Room B-4.
 - Choose **one** of the following three:
 - **Monday's Melody**
 - **Surprise Symphony Theme**
 - **William Tell Overture**
 - Mandatory melody:
 - *Violin: Minuet No.1* by Bach
 - *Viola: Minuet in C* by Bach
 - *Cello: Minuet No.2* by Bach
 - *Double Bass: March in D* by Bach
- Sight-reading: Melodies may include rhythms incorporating whole, half, quarter, eighth, dotted half, and dotted quarter notes, as well as equivalent rests

Orchestral Piano Accompanists:

Spots for orchestral piano accompanists are limited and are only open to 7th and 8th graders. 6th grade students and candidates who do not get accepted are strongly encouraged to learn a string, woodwind, brass, or mallet percussion instrument. Some candidates may be placed in Beginning/Intermediate Strings (Orchestra 1/2) to serve as accompanists.

Note that String Orchestra and Beginning/Intermediate Strings are not classes for piano instruction, but rather provide an opportunity for pianists to apply technical skills acquired through individual study toward an ensemble collaboration context.

A piano will be provided for the audition. Sheet music is available at dms.schoolloop.com/music or in the Dwyer Music Room B-4. Memorization is optional. Scales, cadences, and sight reading may be played with hands separately, if desired.

- A 2 minute or less excerpt of your choice which best demonstrates your musical and technical ability
- Two octave scales in these Major keys: **D, G, C, A, F, Bb**
- Major Cadence chord progression (I, IV, I, V (or V7), I) in all inversions in these Major keys: **D, G, C, A, F, Bb**
- Sight-reading (traditional notation):
 - Selection will be in the key of D
 - Excerpts may include rhythms incorporating whole, half, quarter, eighth, dotted half, and dotted quarter notes, as well as equivalent rests

Academy for the Performing Arts Junior

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