

The Colburn Community School of Performing Arts (CSPA)
2025–26 String Ensemble and String Orchestra Auditions

Audition Instructions

VIOLA

Record the audition components in the following order:

1. **Your name, the ensemble(s) that you are auditioning for, and the composer and title of your solo piece.**
2. **Three-octave scale.** The scale should be memorized and played slurred—two quarter notes per bow—at a moderate tempo (quarter note = 72).
Auditioning for String Ensemble (SE) only: Prepare the C major scale.
Auditioning for String Orchestra (SO) only: Prepare the C melodic minor scale.
Auditioning for String Ensemble and String Orchestra: Prepare the C melodic minor scale and check both boxes on your application.
3. **Polished solo piece.** Choose 2 to 3 minutes that represent your technical skill and musicianship. Do not use an accompanist.
4. **Audition excerpts.** Play the passage(s) identified by measure numbers in the upper left corner of each excerpt.

Observe all bowings, dynamics, and tempo markings. You will be evaluated on the accuracy of your performance based on intonation, rhythm, dynamics, tone quality, and style. Fingerings are suggested in some passages; your private teacher may have alternate fingerings.

Auditioning for String Ensemble (SE) only: Prepare excerpts #1, #2, and #3.

Auditioning for String Orchestra (SO) only: Prepare excerpts #4, #5, and #6.

Auditioning for String Ensemble and String Orchestra: Prepare excerpts #3, #4, #5, and #6 and check both boxes on your application.

Excerpt #1: Meyer, *Korean Folk Tune*

Excerpt #2: Dvořák (arr. Isaac), *Three Slavonic Dances*, Andante

Excerpt #3: Dvořák (arr. Isaac), *Three Slavonic Dances*, Moderato

Excerpt #4: Corelli, Concerto Grosso in D major, op. 6, no. 7, Allegro

Excerpt #5: Copland, Saturday Waltz from *Rodeo*

Excerpt #6: Grieg, Prelude from *Holberg Suite*

In order to facilitate page turns, the excerpts can be placed in a loose-leaf three-ring binder.

Adjust your camera so that the audition committee can see the bridge and scroll of your instrument, your face, and both hands throughout. Stand with your bow hand toward the camera.

All applicants must be studying privately on the instrument they are auditioning on, and the private teacher's name and email must be listed on the application. Private teachers do not need to be Colburn faculty members.

The deadline for uploading videos is 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, May 24.

Audition results will be emailed by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, June 9.

Viola excerpt #1
Measures 1-30

Korean Folk Tune

Traditional
Arranged by Richard Meyer

Allegretto semplice ♩ = 92

13 3 4

mp

9 4 soli

f *f*

16

mf

23

ff *mp* *p*

Viola excerpts #2
Measures 1-17

Three Slavonic Dances

Antonín Dvořák
Arranged by Merle J. Isaac

Andante ♩ = 96
espress.

Measures 1-17 of Viola excerpts #2. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a series of eighth and quarter notes with various dynamics and articulations. The first system (measures 1-8) starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes a crescendo. The second system (measures 9-17) starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic, includes a piano (*p*) dynamic, and ends with a piano-piano (*pp*) dynamic. The tempo is marked Andante (♩ = 96) and the style is *espress.* (expressive). There are four-measure rests in measures 4, 8, 12, and 16.

Viola excerpts #3
Measures 1-31

Moderato ♩ = 92

Measures 1-31 of Viola excerpts #3. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a series of eighth and quarter notes with various dynamics and articulations. The first system (measures 1-6) starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes a crescendo. The second system (measures 7-12) starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and includes a piano (*p*) dynamic. The third system (measures 13-18) starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic. The fourth system (measures 19-24) starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes a crescendo. The fifth system (measures 25-31) starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic. The tempo is marked Moderato (♩ = 92). There are four-measure rests in measures 10, 14, 18, and 22. The section is titled *Più mosso* starting at measure 7.

Viola excerpt #4
Measures 6-24

Concerto Grosso in D major
op. 6, no. 7

Arcangelo Corelli

Allegro ♩ = 120



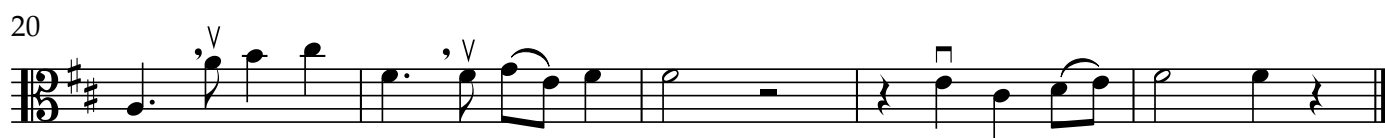
10



15



20



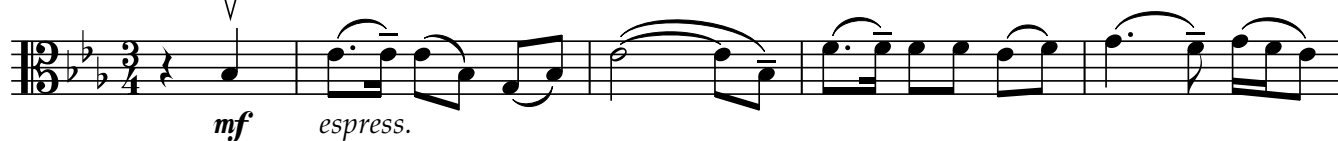
Viola excerpt #5
Measures 1-28

Saturday Night Waltz

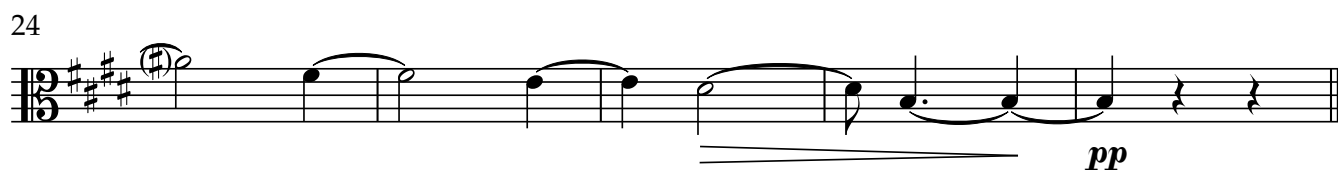
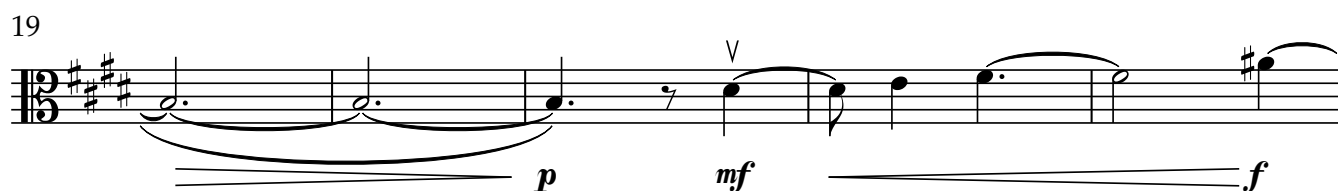
from *Rodeo*

Aaron Copland

Slow waltz ♩ = 72



Doppio movimento ♩ = 92



Viola excerpt # 6
Measures 1-9

Prelude
from *Holberg Suite*

Edvard Grieg

Allegro ♩ = 112

4

7

fp *cresc.* *fp* *fp*

fp *non div.* *fp* *pp*