

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

Audition Instructions

**CELLO**

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, place excerpts 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.

Cello excerpt #1  
Measures 1-30

Korean Folk Tune

Traditional  
Arranged by Richard Meyer

Allegretto semplice ♩ = 92

pizz.  
*mp*

6

arco  
soli  
*f*

12

*f* *mf*

21

non divisi  
*ff* *mp* *p*

Cello excerpt #2  
Measures 1-17

Three Slavonic Dances

Antonín Dvořák  
Arranged by Merle J. Isaac

**Andante** ♩ = 96  
espress.

1 2 3 4

*p* *mp* *p* *pp*

rit.

Cello excerpt #3  
Measures 1-31  
Play either part in measures 1-8

**Moderato** ♩ = 92

1 div. arco 1

pizz. *p* *mp* *p*

**Piu mosso**

arco *f* *p*

*f* *p*

*f* *ff* *p*

*mp* *cresc.*

1 2 3

*f* *ff*

Cello excerpt #4  
Measures 18-34

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

Arcangelo Corelli

Allegro ♩ = 140

5

*f*

5

solo

9

tutti

14

solo

18

tutti

*f*

solo

23

27

31

tutti

*p*

Cello excerpt #5  
Measures 1-28

Saturday Night Waltz  
from *Rodeo*

Aaron Copland

Slow waltz ♩ = 72

*mf* *espress.*

4

9

*mp* *p*

Doppio movimento ♩ = 92

14

*pp* *mf* *p* *mf*

22

*f* *pp*

Cello excerpt #6

Measures 1-16

Play upper part at *divisi*

Prelude

from *Holberg Suite*

Edvard Grieg

Allegro ♩ = 112

arco  
div.

*f*  $\text{fz}$  *ff* *div.* *sempre ff* *p*

5

8

12