

The Colburn Community School of Performing Arts (CSPA)
2026–27 String Ensemble and String Orchestra Auditions

Audition Instructions

CELLO

Please be prepared to demonstrate:

1. **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.

2. **Polished solo piece.** Choose 2 to 3 minutes that represent your technical skill and musicianship.
3. **Audition excerpts.** Play the passage(s) identified by measure numbers at the top of each excerpt. Excerpts are bracketed.

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. Preferred fingerings are suggested in some passages.

If you are auditioning for String Ensemble and String Orchestra, check both boxes on your application.

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

Auditioning for String Orchestra (SO) only: Prepare excerpts #3 and #4.

Auditioning for String Ensemble and String Orchestra: Prepare all excerpts.

Excerpt #1: Meyer, Cellos Olé!

Excerpt #2: Handel, La Réjouissance

Excerpt #3: Holst, Air from Brook Green Suite

Excerpt #4: Corelli, Concerto Grosso in G minor (cello solo)

In order to facilitate page turns, place excerpts in a loose-leaf three-ring binder.

4. **Sight-reading.** The passage will be presented to you during your audition.

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

Audition results will be sent to the email address given for the student's primary contact (Parent/Guardian #1) by midnight on Sunday, June 14, 2026.

Cellos Olé!

CELLO

Richard Meyer

Maestoso

ff *simile* *rit.*

6 **7** **Andante** $\text{♩} = 88$

f *slide* *off string*

11 12 13 14 *x1*

15 16 17 18

19 20 21 22 *cresc. e rit.*

Cello excerpt #2: Handel, La Réjouissance
Measures 5–28. Half note = 72 (quarter note = 144). Do not take repeats.

Violoncello

La Réjouissance

G.F. Handel

Allegro moderato $\text{♩} = 72$ ($\text{♩} = 144$)

Musical staff 1 (Measures 5-8): Bass clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), common time signature. The staff contains four measures. Measure 5 has a fermata. Measure 6 starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and a bowing mark (V). Measure 7 has a bowing mark (V). Measure 8 has a bowing mark (V) and a red bracket indicating a repeat.

Musical staff 2 (Measures 9-10): Bass clef, key signature of two sharps, common time signature. The staff contains two measures of eighth-note patterns.

Musical staff 3 (Measures 11-16): Bass clef, key signature of two sharps, common time signature. The staff contains six measures. Measure 11 has a bowing mark (V). Measure 12 has a bowing mark (V). Measure 13 has a bowing mark (V). Measure 14 has a bowing mark (V). Measure 15 has a bowing mark (V). Measure 16 ends with a fermata and a repeat sign.

Musical staff 4 (Measures 17-21): Bass clef, key signature of two sharps, common time signature. The staff contains five measures. Measure 17 has a bowing mark (V) and a fermata. Measure 18 has a bowing mark (V). Measure 19 has a bowing mark (V). Measure 20 has a bowing mark (V) and a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 21 has a bowing mark (V) and a forte (*f*) dynamic.

Musical staff 5 (Measures 22-26): Bass clef, key signature of two sharps, common time signature. The staff contains five measures. Measure 22 has a piano (*p*) dynamic. Measure 23 has a piano (*p*) dynamic. Measure 24 has a piano (*p*) dynamic. Measure 25 has a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 26 has a forte (*f*) dynamic.

Musical staff 6 (Measures 27-28): Bass clef, key signature of two sharps, common time signature. The staff contains two measures. Measure 27 has a bowing mark (V) and a red bracket indicating a repeat. Measure 28 has a bowing mark (V).

Air

Andante
PIZZ.

1 1

9 2 ARCO **p** 1 **p.**

18 **b \flat .** **L** **Poco animato** **PIZZ.** $\text{♩} = 92$

27 **SOLI**
ARCO

35 **v** 1

42 **cresc.** **f** **Andante** $\text{♩} = 88$
SOLI **mf**

50

57 **v** **p**

65 **III** **Poco animato** 4 2

76 **mf** **b \flat .** **rit. e dim.** **rpp**

Cello excerpt #4: Corelli, Concerto Grosso in G minor (cello solo)

Grave, measures 7-19. Half note = 62. Allegro, measures 1-42. Quarter note = 136. Do not take repeats.

Violoncello concertato

Fatto per la notte di natale

Arcangelo Corelli, Op. 6 Nr. 8

(1658-1718)

Grave $\text{♩} = 62$
Arcate sostenute e come sta

Vivace
Tutti

Allegro $\text{♩} = 136$