

Byng Arts Info

Information for students preparing for String Auditions



About the Lord Byng Strings Program:

Thank you for your interest in auditioning for the Lord Byng Secondary School Strings Program! Audition requirements are listed below. Students have the opportunity to be placed in 1 – 3 levels of 7 string and symphony orchestra ensembles at Lord Byng. The various levels allow students the opportunity to learn a variety of repertoire, including chamber/small ensemble music, string orchestra music, and full symphony music.

Auditions (8 – 10 minutes total):

Auditions give students the opportunity to showcase their best, and are held in a calm, relaxing environment. Auditions take place each year at Lord Byng in late January/early February at Lord Byng Secondary School and include the following requirements:

Solo (2 – 3 minutes):

Please prepare two contrasting solo pieces AND/OR etudes of your choice. One piece/etude must be fast, and one slow. Play something you have thoroughly prepared that best showcases your musical ability. Examples include two contrasting movements of a concerto and/or two etudes of contrasting tempi.

Scales (1 – 2 minutes):

Please prepare two scales of your choice, to best display your current level of playing ability. These scales should include two different key signatures, one major scale/arpeggio AND one minor scale/arpeggio.

Junior level (1 or 2 octaves) examples include: C, D, G major; C, D, A melodic minor.

Intermediate level (2 or 3 octaves) examples include: E, F B-flat major; C-sharp, G, E melodic minor.

Advanced level (3 octaves minimum) examples include: E-flat, A-flat and F-sharp major; E-flat, A-flat, B-flat melodic minor.

Sight-reading (1 – 2 minutes):

Students will be given a single-line sight-reading exercise. You will be given ONE minute to go over the key signature, time signature, pitches and rhythm on your own. You are welcomed to play out loud or clap the rhythm to practice.

Accompaniment:

Accompaniment is not required. Please showcase your best performing ability unaccompanied.

Interview:

During the audition, students will be put at ease in a relaxing environment. There will be some brief questions to get to know the student's general interests and overall music goals. I look forward to meeting you. Should you have any questions regarding the program and/or auditions, please contact Jon Hartley-Folz: byngarts@vsb.bc.ca

Kind regards,

Ms. Ruth Anderson

Director of Orchestras, Lord Byng Secondary School