

Summer 2017

Dear Current and Incoming K-State Orchestra Students:

Welcome to another season of the K-State Orchestra. The repertoire and more information can be found at www.ksu.edu/orchestra. Remember that the fall rehearsal schedule is Mon/7:30—9:30 p.m. and TuTh/2:30—3:20.

Several of you, especially freshmen, will have Chemistry I exam conflicts during a few of the Monday evening rehearsals. Though not ideal, it's an unavoidable conflict that we work around. You take your exam and then come immediately to rehearsal.

All string students will be required to perform a five-minute audition on Friday, August 18. Classes begin on Mon/21 and the first orchestra rehearsal is Mon/21 7:30-10:00 p.m. You will sign up for the audition by sending me an email dlitmus@k-state.edu with a two-hour window of preference. I'll email you an assigned audition time. The audition hours are 9:30a—3:00p Friday, August 19. We'll also have a few string auditions and all the wind/brass auditions on Sunday/20 for those who cannot possibly make the Friday audition time.

This is a serious audition. Should your audition be below the standard for successful participation in orchestra, you may not be allowed to join the Orchestra. You should treat this as an audition to remain/become a member of the Orchestra. You have these excerpts for three months, so there is really no valid excuse for lack of preparation, including Rush Week for sororities. The repertoire is chosen from the fall concerts. All violinists are auditioning with a Violin I part for the purposes of this audition. I suggest you practice these excerpts slowly and carefully when beginning the learning process. Some fingerings are suggested in the parts, but you may add your own. I have attached a PDF of practice suggestions. It's obvious that Dr. Cooper and I can't possibly hear all of the excerpts you are receiving. Nevertheless, you need to be prepared to play any of them.

The five-minute audition will consist of performing:

One three-octave major scale with quarter notes @ 132

- Violin: E scale
- Viola/Cello: A scale
- Double Bass: F major

One three-octave melodic minor scale with quarter notes @ 132

- Violin: C melodic minor scale
- Viola/Cello: F melodic minor scale
- Double Bass: G melodic minor scale
- You should expect to play *everything* on the audition sheets; however, we may have to shorten or not hear some of the excerpts at the audition for time considerations. It is expected you will listen to the repertoire on YouTube or through some other means so that you understand the style and tempo.

I look forward to seeing you in August. If you are not returning for any reason, please let me know via email dlitmus@k-state.edu as a courtesy.

Sincerely,

David Littrell
Conductor, K-State Orchestra