Fall 2024 Sonoma State Symphony Orchestra and Wind Ensemble Audition packet: Percussion

Auditions consist of excerpts for snare, timpani, and marimba, as follows. Auditionees are encouraged to prepare all three excerpts but may elect to prepare only one or two of the excerpts if they lack experience on a given instrument.

Excerpt One (snare): Whaley Etude

Excerpt Two (timpani): Carrol Etude, letter F to end of page Excerpt Three (marimba): Cirone, Orchestral Mallet Player

Tips on taking a successful audition

If possible, bring all music to a teacher early on (i.e. 1-2 months ahead of the audition) for advice and guidance on appropriate fingering, bowing, breathing, tonguing, practice strategies, etc. In addition, many (free) masterclasses on standard excerpts and audition strategies (how to prepare excerpts, how to deal with nerves, etc.) can be found on Youtube. See for example https://www.robknopper.com/auditionhackera and https://bulletproofmusician.com/

Get a concrete idea of the appropriate tempi (metronome markings), phrasing, articulations, etc. for your excerpts by listening to recordings. Repeated listenings to recordings while following along with your part will help you immensely.

Do a "mock audition" (or several mock auditions) by playing through your scales and excerpts in front of others for feedback and to simulate the stress factor of playing in front of other people.

Relax, breathe, and be kind to yourself! Remember that everyone gets nervous before auditions – a little bit of meditation, yoga, and/or positive imagery before the audition will go a long way.

SNACE - PLAY ALL

GARNON WHALEY 29 ETVOE

This exercise should be played "in 1." Start slowly in order to learn the dynamics and rhythms and gradually increase the tempo until a relaxed feeling of "1" is reached.





