Fall 2022 Sonoma State Wind Ensemble & Symphony Orchestra Audition packet: Saxophones

Auditions consist of the scales and excerpts found on the following pages.

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 can be found on Youtube.

Get a concrete idea of the appropriate tempi (metronome markings) for your excerpts. Have these goals in mind over the course of your preparation and work toward them gradually over the course of several weeks or months rather than expecting overnight miracles. Practice effectively and correctly from the beginning. Remember that "Practice makes permanent." Focusing on the most challenging passages over time will likely result in a more confident, fluid and even performance at the audition.

Listen to a recording of each excerpt. Even better, listen to several recordings, as different ensembles and conductors may have widely varying interpretations of the same piece, and you'll hear different and interesting things (solos, balances, tempi, etc.) in each one. The best approach would be to listen while following along with a score (many are available on imsl p.org) as well as your own part. This will enable you to get a sense of how your part functions within the entire ensemble.

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.

SSU WIND ENSEMBLE AUDITIONS SCALES

ALTO SAXOPHONE



Alto saxophone Excerpt: Grainger, Lincolnshire Posy (four pages)

"LINCOLNSHIRE POSY"

Based on English Folksongs gathered in Lincolnshire, England by Lucy E. Broadwood and Percy Aldridge Grainger and set for Wind Band (Military Band)

PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER

1. "LISBON" (Sailor's Song)



SBS-250
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3. "RUFFORD PARK POACHERS" (Poaching Song)





4. "THE BRISK YOUNG SAILOR" (who returned to wed his True Love)



*(If the large notes prove awkward, play the small.)

SBS-250

Soprano Saxophone Excerpt (optional): Grainger, Lincolnshire Posy (one page)

"LINCOLNSHIRE POSY"

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PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER



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