Fall 2023 Sonoma State Symphony Orchestra Audition packet: Percussion

Auditions consist of the following excerpts:

- 1. David Maslanka, *Traveler*, percussion part (required)
- 2. David Maslanka, *Traveler*, mallets part (optional)

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/auditionhacker 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.







