

THE CHILDREN'S ORCHESTRA SOCIETY

ORCHESTRA ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

YOUNG SYMPHONIC ENSEMBLE: Strings

I. Required Scales and Arpeggios

Candidates are required to demonstrate good facility in *all* the major and minor scales (and their arpeggios) from memory, particularly those listed below. For general qualification 3 octaves are required. For leadership and 1st violin positions, 4 octaves are required on the scales marked with *.

C Major – A minor
D Major – B minor
E Major* – C# minor*
F Major – D minor
A Major – F# minor
Ab Major* – F minor*
Eb Major – C minor
Bb Major – G minor

Candidates must be able to play scales using the following three bowings:

1. Slow long bow: one note per bow. From frog to tip and tip to frog, without losing tonal quality and sound projection.
2. Slurred bowing: up to 3 octaves per bow ascending, three octaves descending, without losing tonal quality and sound projection.
3. One octave ascending, in one up-bow staccato

II. Sight-reading

Sight-reading materials will be given to the candidate at the audition. The materials may include passages with artificial harmonics, left hand pizzicato, and double stops.

III. Orchestral Excerpts

Orchestral excerpts will be given at least 2 weeks prior to audition date. All applicants must meet the above technical evaluation requirements before the excerpts will be listened to by our COS audition panel.

IV. A short solo piece or movement of a concerto