

Seven Lakes High School Orchestras

2017 – 2018 AUDITION MATERIAL

Students should choose an ensemble to audition for. Please understand that auditioning for a certain ensemble does not guarantee placement in it. Students should understand that their placement at the junior high level does not determine or guarantee which ensemble he/she be placed in.

Sinfonia (Varsity-level group) *Students will need to:*

- Know all three-octave major scales (will be asked to perform two of them; no arpeggios or thirds)
- Perform a Class One (UIL PML) solo of your choosing -OR- Director-approved etude

Cambiata (Non-Varsity level group) *Students will need to:*

- Know all three-octave major scales (will be asked to perform two of them; no arpeggios or thirds)
- Perform a Class One (UIL PML) solo of your choosing -OR- Director-approved etude

Lyrica (Sub Non-Varsity A level group)

- Know all three-octave major scales (will be asked to perform two of them; no arpeggios or thirds)
- Perform a Class One or Two (UIL PML) solo of your choosing -OR- Director-approved etude

Philharmonia 7 (Sub Non-Varsity C level group) *Students will need to:*

- Know all two-octave major scales (will be asked to perform two of them; no arpeggios or thirds)
- Perform a Class One or Two (UIL PML) solo of your choosing -OR- Director-approved etude

Philharmonia 2

- Know all two-octave major scales (will be asked to perform two of them; no arpeggios or thirds)
- Perform a Class One, Two, Three (UIL PML) solo of your choosing -OR- Director-approved etude

Camerata (Non-competitive, entry-level group) *Students will need to:*

- Know all one-octave major scales (will be asked to perform two of them; no arpeggios or thirds)
- Perform a Class One, Two, or Three (UIL PML) solo of your choosing -OR- Director-approved etude

Auditions for incoming freshmen will be held **Fri – Sat Apr 21-22** at **Seven Lakes Junior High School**. Please sign up through your junior high orchestra director, or email desireeaoverree@katyisd.org for an appointment if you are from outside of the district. **Currently enrolled students:** Your audition is the week of May 22-26th. **Pianists:** your audition is Wednesday, May 10th only. **ALL STUDENTS SHOULD BRING AN EXTRA COPY OF THEIR SOLO PIECE WITH THEM TO THEIR AUDITION for the directors to view.**

Camerata

- *May compete at UIL C&SR (Sub NV D)
- *Monday Night rehearsals (seasonal)
- *UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest recommended
- *Performs at most concerts
- *Encouraged to take part in spring trip

Philharmonia 2/7

- *Competes at UIL C&SR (Sub-NV B/C)
- *Monday night rehearsals (seasonal)
- *After school rehearsals just prior to major concerts or contests
- *UIL Solo and Ensemble recommended
- *Performs at all concerts
- *Encouraged to take part in spring trip

Lyrica

- *Competes at UIL C&SR (Sub-NV A)
- *Monday night rehearsals (seasonal)
- *After school sectional requirement
- *UIL Solo and Ensemble required
- *Performs at all concerts
- *Encouraged to take part in spring trip

Cambiata

- *Competes at UIL C&SR (NV)
- *Monday night rehearsals
- *After school sectional requirement
- *UIL Solo and Ensemble required
- *Symphony Orchestra (Full Orchestra) participation required
- *Performs at all concerts
- *Encouraged to take part in spring trip

Sinfonia

- *Competes at UIL C&SR (Var)
- *Monday night rehearsals
- *After school sectional requirement
- *UIL Solo and Ensemble required
- *Symphony Orchestra (Full Orchestra) participation required
- *Performs at all concerts
- *Encouraged to take part in spring trip
- *Required to audition for Region (fall only)
- *Performs at gigs

How to Be Successful at Your Audition

- **Select the Appropriate Ensemble to Audition For.** Each ensemble has different time commitments and ability levels appropriate for that group. Be aware of how you fit into our existing system. CHECK YOUR PIECE to be sure that it fits into the UIL rating system. The PML (Prescribed Music List) is listed here: <https://www.utexas.edu/uil/pml/browse>
- **Prepare.** You are given 10 minutes to display your ability: make the most of your audition. This audition determines your placement for the entire YEAR!
 - **Scales:** You will be asked to perform 2 scales of our choosing. Preparing them would be to your benefit. There are 15 major scales.
 - **Prepared Piece:** Selecting a solo piece that showcases your ability is crucial to the success of your audition. For junior high students, it is recommended that you perform the work that you played for your Solo and Ensemble contest. DO NOT play just a portion of a solo work: if you prepare just the first page or a partial performance of the piece, then you are not actually performing the piece: it is likely that only the first page of your Class One is actually a Class Two or Three. You should never perform “orchestra music” for an audition.
 - **Pianists:** will have an additional piece to sight-read. You will be given 10 minutes to work on a piece that you have never seen before, and then will present it to the best of your ability.
- **Show up on time (which means ten minutes early).** Unlike Solo and Ensemble Contest, the auditions at SLHS tend to run early. Arrange for rides and be sure to bring your own instrument for the audition. All auditions are held at Seven Lakes HS in the Orchestra Room (1150).
- **Bring an extra copy of your piece** so that the SL directors can assess your performance.

Currently-Enrolled Seven Lakes Students Only:

Final Exam Information

Your Final Exam is comprised of two parts: a) Written Portion (50%) and b) Performance Portion (50%). The Written Portion is the Terminology Worksheet that was distributed to you in August 2016. The Performance Portion is comprised of scales and a prepared piece. (Pianists: sight-reading is NOT considered for the grade). There are no exceptions.

- Students cannot choose a solo work that they have already performed. For example, a sophomore cannot play the same piece that they did for their freshman audition. Another example: you cannot perform the same piece that you performed for UIL Solo and Ensemble, but you can play the piece you will perform for TSSEC.
- Students NOT continuing in orchestra must perform the level that they are currently in: they may not “drop” to a lower ensemble for their final exam. For example, a Lyrica student cannot play a Class Three solo as their final because the minimum is a Class Two. Scales follow the same requirement. **Your audition will be held Friday, May 12th only.**
- The Performance Portion will take place during and after school PRIOR to the final exam dates (mid-May).
- The Written Portion will take place during your final exam time slot. No written finals will be taken early.
- Failure to take one half or the other will result in a significant decrease in points (50 points) from your final exam.

Placement is based on:

- **Your Audition** (i.e. Prepared Piece, Scales)
- **Your Director’s Recommendation** – Each director fills out a recommendation form that informs your directors of your character and work ethic in and out of the classroom. Your ten-minute audition is not the only factor when determining placement.

Audition Results will not be made public until early summer.

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