

# BDJH Orchestra Auditions

## Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders

If you are currently in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, already play the violin, viola, cello or bass and would like to be in orchestra, you may choose to audition for a more advanced group. The Camerata orchestra is the most advanced, followed by the Advanced orchestra, then the Sinfonia, and then the Philharmonic. All the students in each of these orchestras have played for at least one year. Most of the students in these classes are in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. However, 6<sup>th</sup> graders are allowed in these classes if they pass the audition.

Auditions occur in late April/early May each year for placement the following school year. Students will be placed into one of three ability-based orchestras. Audition music will be distributed in April on the BDJH orchestra website ([www.beckendorfforchestra.org](http://www.beckendorfforchestra.org)) and via email. You will have approximately 2 weeks to work on the audition music. Students will not be allowed to re-audition after the auditions have concluded. The only exception will be students who move into the BDJH district over the summer. Audition results will be posted on the BDJH orchestra webpage the last week of school.

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**A recorded audition will be due on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**The sightreading portion will be a live audition beginning on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.**

### Audition scores will be taken from the following:

Scales, arpeggios, and thirds: 200 points

Etude: 100 points

Sight-reading: 100 points

Character grade: 100 points

Instrument hold/posture: 100 points

\*\*\*Audition music will be distributed two weeks prior to the audition due date. Audition music will be taken from the following skills for the orchestra listed.

### Camerata and Arietta Orchestras skill requirements:

One octave scales, arpeggios, and thirds: (CM, GM, DM, AM, FM, and BbM)

Bowing articulations: all basic articulations: legato, staccato, slurs, hooked bows, and accents

#### **Violins and violas:**

Etude with high 3's

Sight-reading with high 3's

#### **Cellos:**

Etude with extended first position

Sight-reading with extended first position

#### **Basses:**

Shifting to third position

Etude with half position-third position

Sight-reading with shifting to third position

### Required rhythms:



Time Signatures:  $\frac{4}{4}$   $\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{3}{4}$

## **Philharmonia and Lyrica orchestras skill requirements:**

**Private lessons are strongly encouraged for students who wish to be considered for the Philharmonia or Lyrica orchestra.**

Vibrato (whole note scale at mm=60-70)

Bowing articulations: all basic articulations and spiccato

Two octave scales, arpeggios, and thirds from Essential Techniques  
CM, GM, DM

### **Violins and violas:**

Shifting to 3<sup>rd</sup> position

Sight-reading in third position without shifting

Etude with shifting up to third position

### **Cellos:**

Shifting to 4<sup>th</sup> position

Sight-reading with shifting to third and fourth positions.

Etude with shifting up to 4<sup>th</sup> position

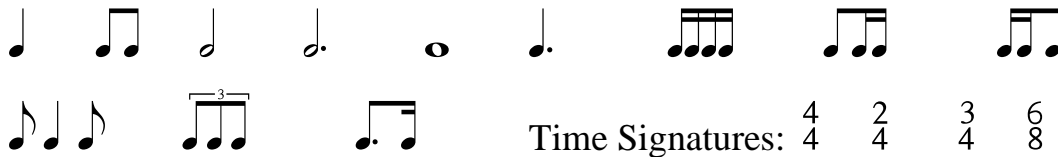
### **Bass:**

Shifting to 5<sup>th</sup> position for bass

Sight-reading with shifting up to fourth position

Etude with shifting up to fourth position

Required rhythms:



## **Sinfonia and Honor orchestra skill requirements:**

**Private lessons are strongly encouraged for students who wish to be considered for the Honor and Sinfonia orchestra. While not required, a large percentage of the students (90%) are taking private lessons.**

Vibrato

Bowing articulations: all basic articulations and spiccato, portato/loure, and grand martele

Sixteenth note scale (repeated notes) mm=140 minimum

Knowledge of 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> position (5<sup>th</sup> position for basses)

Sight-reading with possible shifting to second, third, and fourth positions

Two octave scales, arpeggios, and thirds from Essential Techniques  
CM, GM, DM, AM, FM, BbM, EbM

Three octave scale, arpeggios, and thirds

Violins: G major, A major, Bb major, C major

Violas and cellos: C major, D major, Eb major, F major

Bass: no three octave scales required

Etude with shifting up to fifth position

Required rhythms:

