

2008-2009 WSHSB Placement Auditions CONCERT JUNIOR BAND

If you are currently in Concert Junior Band and want to stay there, **OR** you wish to join Concert Junior Band for the first time as a new member, you need audition for Concert Junior Band only.

NEW MEMBERS' NOTE: You are invited and encouraged to come with at least one of your parents to the Parents' & New Members' meeting in September. See the **CALENDAR** webpage for the exact date and time for this meeting as well as for the first band practice.

AUDITIONING FOR A PARTICULAR BAND DOES NOT GUARANTEE ACCEPTANCE IN THAT BAND. You will be placed in a band level based on your proficiency and the needs within each section and band.

What We're Looking For

For current members, practice times and attendance record are taken into account when determining chair assignments.

We realize it is very difficult to play everything perfectly, especially for those with less experience. Part of being a good performer or "showman" is to keep going, despite mistakes. A solid performance, incorporating the following aspects is more important than playing all the correct notes with incorrect rhythms, tempos, articulation, etc.

Musical aspects that will be considered when evaluating a performance are

- Note accuracy
- Correct rhythms **and** tempos
Note - Avoid the tendency to slow down or stop when a difficult passage is encountered. Stay with the beat. Do not let the metronome simply be "white noise" in the background while you play at a different or uneven tempo. Weakness in playing at the correct rhythm and/or tempo is often what prevents one from getting a higher placement.
- Continue to play at tempo through mistakes
- Articulation, which includes things like tonguing, accents, staccatos, correct phrasing and slurs
- Dynamics
- Tone

CONCERT JUNIOR AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

(Instructions for BOTH percussion and wind)

For recording

- At the beginning of the recording clearly state your first and last name and announce which band and instrument the audition is for
- If you are not interested in being 1st chair, assuming a leadership position and playing solos, please say so at the beginning of your recording. There is much expected of a principle player.
- Announce each selection before playing e.g.; **Bb** chromatic scale, passage name, etc.
- **Everything must be played with a metronome at the designated tempo where specified.**
- **VERY IMPORTANT** – You may choose to record parts of your audition on different days or at different times. However, there is to be no break or editing within any passage/exercise/scale. If you make a mistake or stop within a passage, etc., leave the video running and pick-up where you left off. Points will be deducted for breaks in the recording, other than at measured rests. One or two measures of rest should be counted out on the video. Where there are three or more measures of rest, leave the video running, pause playing and announce, "I am continuing at measure ____." Resume playing at that measure. **While making your audition video if you record any passage/exercise/scale more than once you must edit that video to a final video with only one take of each audition requirement.**
- AUDITION VIDEOS MUST BE AT THE DIRECTOR'S HOME BY 9PM, AUGUST 8, 2008.

REQUIREMENTS FOR WINDS (percussion requirements follow winds')

All requirements are from **Essential Elements 2000 Book 1 "GOLD"**- (*instrument specific*)

Try to get the newest version now available, which includes both a play-along CD (tracks 1-58), as well as a DVD (all 185 tracks)

Requirements 1 through 4 are to be played with metronome tempo at one quarter note = 88

1) Page 35, exercise 181

"Bb", Essential Elements Quiz - Scale Counting Conquest

2) Required following Concert pitch Scales from pages 40 and 41:

Play the first exercise in each of the following keys, exactly as written,

Concert Eb, #1

Concert F, #1

Concert Ab, #1

3) Page 33, exercise 174

"Chromatic scale", Half-Steppin'

4) Page 43, PLAY (do not clap) the complete rhythm line for measures listed below.

Metronome again set to 88

Rest four beats between each line

Measures:

37-40

41-44

45-48

49-52

5) Page 38, exercise #185,

Performance Spotlight Solo

PLAY with metronome **AT YOUR SELECTED TEMPO** – please state tempo on video

NOTE – If two students are identical in all musical aspects, the one playing at a faster tempo will have an edge. However, do not play at a faster tempo and sacrifice your accuracy or another musical aspect.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PERCUSSION

Concert Junior – FIRST YEAR Percussion (For those who just completed cadet band)

1. From Essential Elements 2000 Book 1 – "GOLD" (*instrument specific*)

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a) BELLS - Play on bells

Same requirements as **WINDS #1, 2, and 3** above

b) SNARE - Play on drum pad

Pages 42 and 43, measures 13-52, quarter note = 120

Play as one whole song. Do not stop until reaching measure 52, even if mistakes are made.

Concert Junior Percussion Audition –

(For those who have one or more years of experience. Also for those first year Concert Junior members who wish to attempt to rank higher on the roster.)

In addition to the First Year Percussion Audition above

1. Demonstrate on drum pad

- Rudiments: drum roll to be played in 4/4 time, for three measures, quarter note = 100
- Five-stroke roll, play six total
Start slow, increasing speed for each roll, ending at a fast tempo by the last one
- Paradiddle: demonstrate in the same manner as the five-stroke roll.
- Flams: play four
- Rimshot: play one

2. From Essential Elements 2000 Book 1 – “GOLD”

Play on snare drum with CD accompaniment or as quickly as possible

Page 38-A, solo # 185, within Allegro tempo (120-168)