



2 June 2025

Subject: Auditions for Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Orchestra Students

Dear GCHFA Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Orchestra Students and Parents,

We hope you're having a wonderful start to your summer—it's hard to believe June is already here! As we look ahead, we're excited to welcome everyone back to GCHFA this fall.

Audition materials for 2025-26 are on our GCHFA/Member site. Please read all the information in this letter before you access the audition material.

This year, we are making a few changes to our audition process, and we want to clearly outline who is required to audition. Auditions will be held on **August 4, 2025**, at **Faith Presbyterian Church**.

Who Needs to Audition:

1. ALL Students wanting to advance to the next level orchestra:

- Example: Students in Beginning Orchestra who would like to be in Intermediate Orchestra or a student in Intermediate Orchestra that would like to be in Advanced Orchestra. (cellists read #2)

2. Advanced Orchestra only has one Cello Opening:

- All Intermediate cellists are welcome to audition for this cello opening.
- Only one cellist will be selected. We will keep a list of runner-ups in case of unexpected openings.

3. Violists and Cellists wishing to remain in their current level of orchestra, do not need to audition.

- Example: A cellist planning to stay in Beginning, Intermediate or Advanced Orchestra *does not* need to audition.
- Students may elect to audition for the experience or to show summer progress.
 - *Note:* If in-person audition slots fill up, these optional auditions may be moved to a virtual format to prioritize those who must audition.

4. ALL Violinists – Required to Audition:

Every violinist, in all orchestras, is *required* to audition—whether or not they plan to move up a level.

- This allows us to evaluate your playing alongside new incoming students and determine appropriate placement.

We hope this clarifies the updated audition requirements. If you are unsure whether your child needs to audition or have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Blessings,

Mrs. Wiley, GCHFA Orchestra Director
Coyote7294@aol.com or 941-321-4473



Audition Information

Advanced Orchestra



We are excited your child will be auditioning for Intermediate Orchestra! Please read all instructions thoroughly. If you have questions, contact Ms. Cynthia Wiley at Coyote7294@aol.com well before your audition date.

Audition Overview

There are 2 parts to the audition. Students must prepare all materials provided for their audition. The Director(s) will select what is performed during the audition. *Incomplete preparation will affect placement and/or eligibility.*

Audition Requirements

1. Major Scales & Arpeggios as stated in Audition Materials for Advanced Orchestra:
 - a. The scales and arpeggios should be performed in even eighth notes using separate bows at a tempo of MM quarter note = 60.
 - b. Strive for accurate intonation and steady tempo.
2. Excerpts as provided in the Audition Materials for Advanced Orchestra:
 - a. Study the excerpts carefully. Intonation, style, all markings, specified tempo and dynamics are all important.

Tips for Success

- ♪ Practice slowly and consistently.
- ♪ Use a metronome to ensure tempo accuracy.
- ♪ Observe and play dynamics, all markings and fingerings in the music.
- ♪ Practice sight reading often (try new pieces regularly).
- ♪ Get a good night's rest before your audition.

Gulf Coast Homeschool Fine Arts

Advanced Orchestra 2025-26: Violin

Students must be prepared to play ALL of the specified requirements when auditioning. Please note that at the discretion of the committee listening to the audition, some items will be omitted during the actual audition.

1. Major Scales & Arpeggios: C, G, D, A & Eb. The G & A Major scale & arpeggio MUST be performed three octaves. The C, D & Eb Major are required two octaves, but may be performed as three octaves. All scales and arpeggios should be performed even eighth notes using separate bows at a tempo of MM quarter note = 60. Strive for accurate intonation and steady tempo.
2. Provided excerpts. Please take the time to study this excerpt carefully. Style, character, and musicianship will be as important as intonation, tempo, and technique.

Advanced Orchestra 2025-26: Violin, p . 2

This excerpt is from **Tempus Fugitive** by Robert Moore/edited by J. Cameron Law. Play from m. 101 to the half note in m. 107. *Pause and then play* m. 113 to the end.

Excerpt #1: ♩=120

Violin score for the excerpt, measures 101 to 127. The score includes handwritten annotations:

- Red $\text{♩} = 120$ at the beginning.
- Blue fingering numbers (1, 2, 3, 4) above notes.
- Green bracket markings above measures 101, 107, and 121.
- Dynamic markings: *ff* (measures 101-104), *p* (measures 113-114), *mp* (measures 115-116), *mf* (measures 117-118), *f* (measures 119-120), *ff* (measures 121-122), and *fff* (measures 123-124).
- Red note: "upper note only" next to measure 121.

Advanced Orchestra 2025-26: Violin, p. 3

Alice's Wonderland by David Bobrowitz. Time Signature is 4/4. Play m. 37 through m. 50.

Excerpt #1: ♩=130. All separate 8th notes are off the string. M. 40-41 the 8th note in m. 40 is the same speed as the 8th notes in m. 41 with the new time signature 6/8.

The image displays a musical score for Violin, measures 33 through 55. The score is written on five staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as ♩=130. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. Handwritten annotations in red and green ink provide additional information:

- Measure 35: A green bracket indicates a tempo change to ♩=130.
- Measure 37: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 38: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 39: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 40: A red arrow points to the 8th note, with the word "heavier" written above it.
- Measure 41: A red arrow points to the 8th note, with the text "speed of 8ths remains the same" written above it.
- Measure 43: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 44: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 45: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 46: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 47: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 48: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 49: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 50: A green bracket indicates a tempo change to ♩=130.
- Measure 51: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 52: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 53: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 54: A blue '0' is written above the staff.
- Measure 55: A blue '0' is written above the staff.

The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *ff* (fortissimo). The score also includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and accidentals.