



General Information

Middle School Orchestra Auditions

- All students interested in Apex Arts must complete an online application [here](#).
- All applicants must complete an audition to be considered for the program.
- Audition appointments will be automatically scheduled by the application system. Please plan accordingly.
- All applicants must pass the auditions and meet academic requirements to be eligible for the lottery.
- All students expressing interest in Apex Arts are highly encouraged to audition, regardless of previous training or experience level.
- Students should be warmed-up, tuned, and ready to perform at the start of their audition appointment.
- Students must come prepared with their instrument, tuner, amp etc.
- All students expressing an interest in the Apex Arts Magnet Program are highly encouraged to audition, regardless of whether they have had formal or informal training.

Orchestra Audition Components

An orchestra audition consists of:

- D major scale. Scale must be memorized.
- The **prepared selection** is posted on Apex Arts website (www.aacps.org/apexarts)
- Melodic sight-reading
- Rhythmic sight-reading

Scoring Criteria

You will be scored on the following criteria:

- **Prepared selection (as published at www.aacps.org/pva):**
 - Melodic and rhythmic accuracy
 - Tempo
 - Intonation
 - Tone (beauty, blend, control)
 - Technique (articulation, bowing, facility)
 - Interpretation (expression, phrasing, style)
- **Scale:**
 - Memorization
 - Accuracy
 - Tone
 - Tempo/pulse
- **Melodic sight-reading:**
 - Note accuracy
 - Intonation
 - Rhythmic accuracy
 - Tempo/pulse
 - Tone (beauty, blend, control)
- **Rhythmic sight-reading (may clap hands or tap on lap):**
 - Rhythmic accuracy
 - Tempo/pulse

Middle school applicants must score at least an average score of 6 on their audition AND meet academic requirements to be eligible for this program.

Recommendations for Preparation

- Visit www.aacps.org/apexarts for more information about Info Sessions, Workshops, applications, and auditions.
- See your school counselor for assistance with the application or for more details about the academic requirements.
- Speak to a music teacher at your school about your prepared piece, scales, and sight-reading preparation.
- Rehearse regularly leading up to the audition to build confidence.
- Come prepared to discuss your interest in the Music program.
- Contact Mr. Dembowski, Apex Arts Music Chair at pdembowski@aacps.org with any specific questions you may have.
- *Si necesita una explicación en español de los requisitos, llame a José al 410 533 4815*