Pershing MS

Fine Arts Magnet

ORCHESTRA

Audition

2026-2027 SY

Middle School Orchestra Audition

Pershing MS Fine Arts Magnet



Selected Guidelines

PMS offers three levels of orchestra performance. Membership in each group is determined solely by audition, ability and achievement.

Our two highest levels of Orchestra enroll mostly 7th & 8th grade players. Each group meets for one class period every day.

Audition Requirements:

- Audition candidates are encouraged to bring their instrument and prepare the audition pieces attached to this audition prep material.
- All incoming seventh grade students will play as much of the audition music that is possible for their level of achievement. The required music starts on a very simple level and becomes increasingly more difficult. Each player should start at the beginning and proceed as far as possible.
- You will be asked to sight read a short piece, play a scale that you choose and a scale the director chooses, and match pitches.

The audition will be evaluated on a scale of 100 points with points being adjudicated and accumulated from the following performance areas:

- pitch and intonation • rhythmic precision • tone quality • technique
- bow control • reading/interpreting notation • posture/playing position

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Selected Guidelines Continued

The approximate number of each instrument in band and orchestra and voice types for choir is an important factor. For example we could not participate, nor offer a full range of choral literature if all the accepted audition candidates were sopranos.

The auditions will be adjudicated by the directors of each arts magnet area. After all auditions are completed, scores will be tabulated and students prioritized for placement into auditioned magnet areas of concentration. Every student will be notified of their audition results by mail.

The Orchestra allotment of each instrument is as follows:

Violins	50% of the total orchestra group
Violas	15% of the total orchestra group
Cellos	20% of the total orchestra group
String Basses	15% of the total orchestra group

PMS student artists will:

- receive a grade for their art magnet classes that is as important as any other grade on their report card and are part of the cumulative grade point average.
- take good care of their equipment, instruments, music and supplies.
- participate in every performance. There are evening and Saturday performances as well as some after school rehearsals or classes in every department. All students must attend these special events which are an important part of their grade.

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Selected Guidelines Continued

• students must have some performance skills to be in the orc hestra program. Students should have their own violins. We do have violas, cellos and string basses for students to use as rentals.

Thank you for considering Pershing
as your school of choice. We hope your audition experience is positive and rewarding.

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Orchestra Rubric

E V A L U A T I O N

O r c h e s t r a

instrument: _____

previous school: _____

pitch reproduction	4	8	12	16	20
intonation	4	8	12	16	20
rhythmic precision	4	8	12	16	20
bow control	4	8	12	16	20
posture and playing position	4	8	12	16	20

Student Name: _____

Total Score (100 pts. max.): _____ Date: _____

Evaluators: _____ , _____

_____ , _____

Comments / Observations: _____
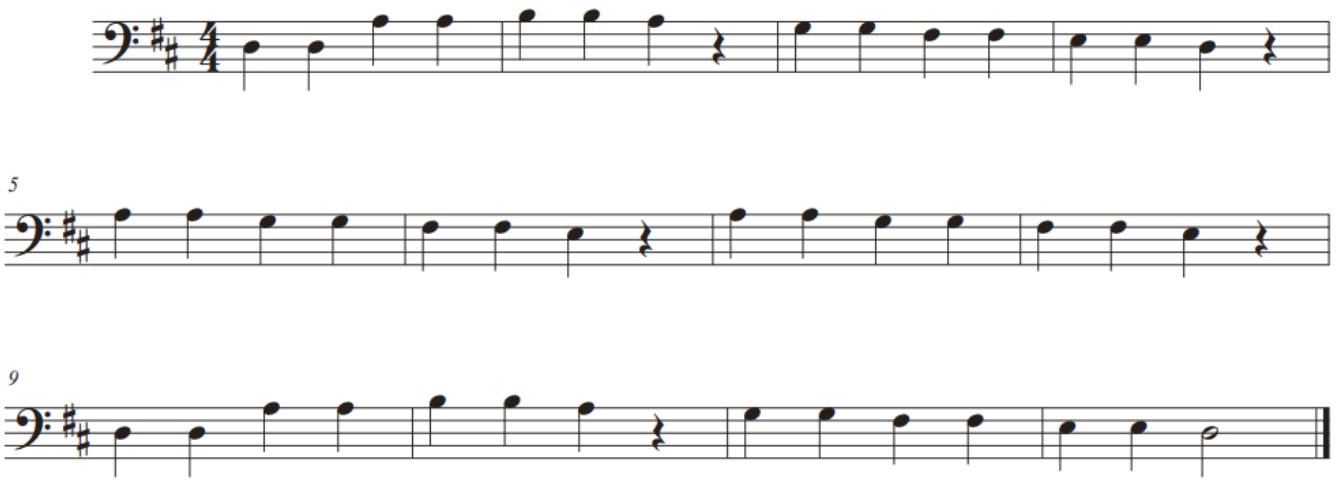
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Cello/Bass
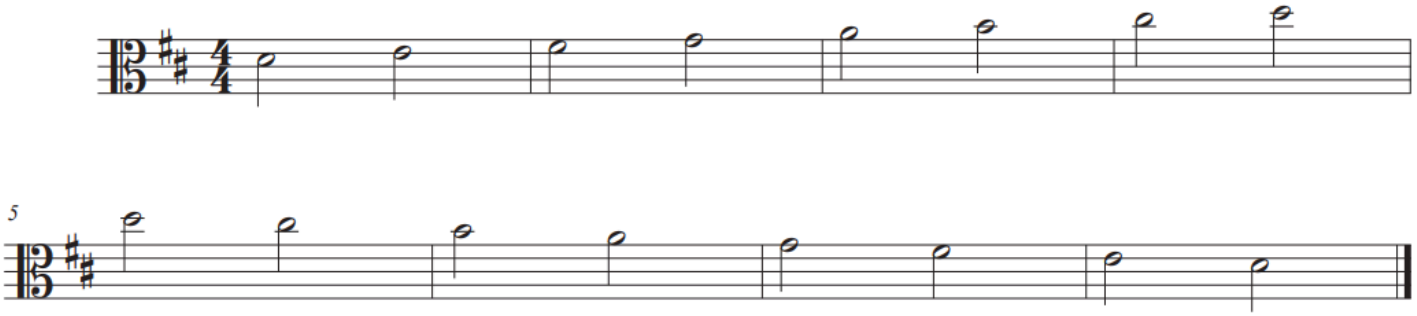
Twinkle, Twinkle

2) Please prepare this music or a similar piece of music W.A. Mozart



Viola

1) Play a D Major Scale
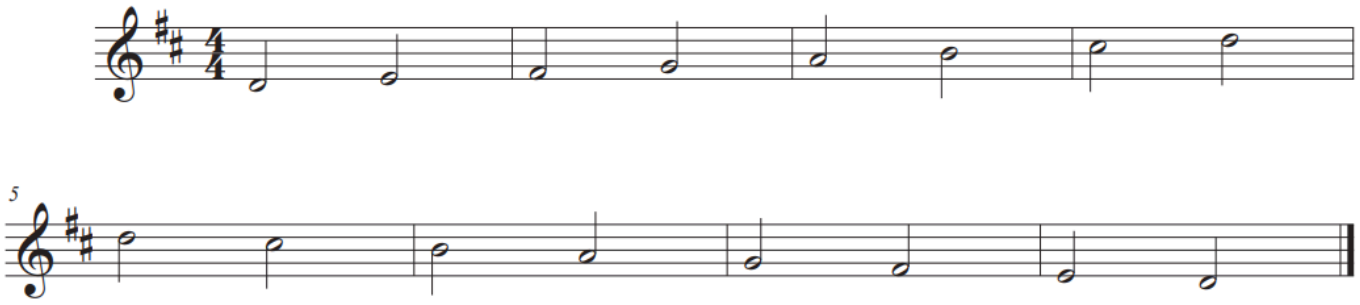


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Violin

1) Play a D Major Scale



Cello/Bass
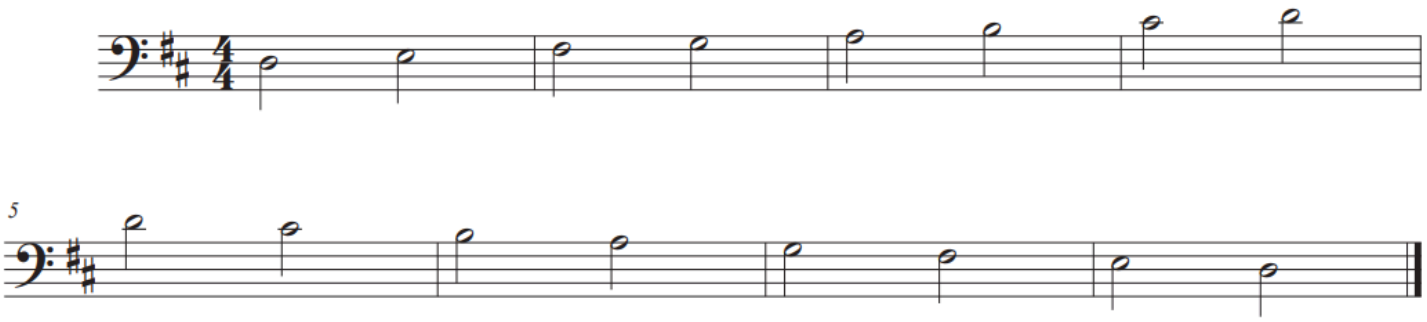
1) Play a D Major Scale

