

**INSTRUCTOR RECOMMENDATION – SYMPHONY and string ORCHESTRA**

Dear Music Teacher,

Please put a check mark by all the skills the student has mastered. Keep in mind that SMMC's emphasis is on rapid learning and performing a wide variety of music. It is recommended that all players have previous ensemble experience & be well advanced in the command of their instrument. Confidence in sight-reading & advanced control of intonation & tone quality is expected for the symphony. ***All musicians will be asked to sight-read to ascertain ability.***

The **Symphony** is an advanced full symphonic orchestra including strings, winds, brass & percussion. The students in this orchestra are generally in high school or the upper grades of middle school. Advanced Player's Solos should be of the level required for CMEA Capital Section Honor Orchestra or Band, or solos rated level 4 & above.

The **Orchestra** is an intermediate level strings group.

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_ Owned or rented? \_\_\_\_\_ How long have you used it? \_\_\_\_\_

Condition? \_\_\_\_\_ Last time evaluated/serviced? \_\_\_\_\_

Years studied: \_\_\_\_\_ Years of private lessons: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred style of music? \_\_\_\_\_

**Solo Selection:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Composer:** \_\_\_\_\_

Ability Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Scales studied: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of study book(s): \_\_\_\_\_

My student is currently studying the following pieces: \_\_\_\_\_

Prior symphony, orchestra, band or instrument experience: How long? \_\_\_\_\_ years \_\_\_\_\_ months

Name of group(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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**STRINGS**

**Intermediate Student:** Should be working in, at the very least, Suzuki book 2 or the equivalent.

- Be able to read first position notes on all 4 strings without difficulty.
- 1 octave scales, major keys: C, G, D, F
- Be able to respond to accidentals.
- Understand basic simple meters (2/4, 3/4, 4/4) & basic rhythm patterns with whole, half, quarter, 8<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> notes/rests
- Have begun 3rd position if he/she plans on trying out for first violin.
- Know martelé, détaché, and legato bowing.

**Advanced Student:** All of the above as well as be studying in Suzuki book 4 or equivalent to be safe, (book 3 will be considered for 2nd violin.)

- 2 – 3 Octave scales, major scale in quarter notes at a tempo of 144, minor scale in quarter notes at a tempo of 120
- Understand simple & compound meters (4/4, 6/8, etc)
- Be comfortable in 3rd position and know some additional positions.
- Be able to play keys that have up to 3 or 4 sharps or flats.
- Have prior orchestra/ensemble experience. Includes advanced skills in following a conductor.
- Have advanced sight-reading skills
- Have mature concentration level/and be seriously motivated.
- Be able to respond to accidentals
- Know martelé, détaché, and legato bowing. Be able to use vibrato

**Winds**

- 2 octaves of any major scale in quarter notes, at a tempo of 144
- 2 octaves of any melodic minor scale in quarter notes at a tempo of 120
- A Chromatic scale using the full range of your instrument
- 3-4 minute excerpt of an unaccompanied solo (skip over long rests) that demonstrates your ability.\*

**Brass (does not include saxophone at this time)**

- 2 octaves of any major scale in quarter notes, at a tempo of 144
- 2 octaves of any melodic minor scale in quarter notes at a tempo of 120
- A Chromatic scale using the full range of your instrument
- 3-4 minute excerpt of an unaccompanied solo (skip over long rests) that demonstrates your ability.\*

**Percussion**

Mallets:

- Scales (up to 4 flats or sharps), ascending and descending, two octaves

Timpani:

- Ability to tune the timpani to a pitch in the B flat scale, utilizing a tuning fork
- Fifteen-second roll, dynamics: pp to ff to pp
- Demonstrate dampening, moving between 4 timpani

Snare Drum:

- Demonstrate the appropriate rudiments on snare drum: closed rolls, alternating flam taps and drags, ruffs
- Sight-reading: You will be asked to sight-read on snare

SKILL Type/RATING	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair
<b>Musicality/interpretation</b>				
<b>Technical Skills</b>				
<b>Sight reading ability</b>				
<b>Rhythmic independence</b>				
<b>Speed of learning</b>				
<b>Sensitivity in group playing</b>				

Additional Comments:

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**Teacher's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return Recommendation and CD or tape no later than June 1, 2008.

**AUDITIONS AT CAMP**

Musicians should prepare 3 – 4 minutes of their best piece & scales, currently demonstrating their best abilities, (shifting, vibrato, etc).

\*See Audition Repertoire List for recommended selections. See your Teacher for additional recommendations (or your best piece) for your performance level. Please send a cassette tape or CD recording of your solo selection prior to camp.

\*\*Sierra Mountain Music Camp does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or physical disability in its admissions, financial aid, educational programs, activities or employment policies.