



UNH Department of Music
Paul Creative Arts Center
30 Academic Way
Durham, NH 03824-3538

 unh.edu/music
 facebook.com/UNHSYMS
 [@unhsyms](https://twitter.com/unhsyms)

Jr. SYMS Audition Requirements: Strings

Auditions are challenging, but they will always be part of your life as a musician. Remember that we are only trying to make the best possible ensemble placements. We will do our best to make the most accurate decisions for part assignments. You can help us do that by being well prepared in advance.

Suggestions: Get to the warm-up room a few minutes before your audition. Prepare yourself physically and mentally to do your best. Dress casually. There is no need to dress to "impress the judge." Introduce yourself as you enter the room. The people listening to you are likely to become your teachers throughout the duration of the program. Hand the judges your audition card. Try not to let nerves bother you too much. Almost everyone gets nervous and the judges know that. They will do the best they can to place you properly.

All string players will play scales and a prepared piece for their audition. You should consult with your private music teacher or school music director to select scales and a prepared piece that are appropriate for you, and best demonstrate your abilities.

Scales: Please prepare a major scale and a melodic minor scale. Both scales should be played both ascending and descending.

Ideally, both scales will be in at least 2 octaves, will use shifts into upper positions, and will be memorized.

- Violinists: Two-octaves scales starting on D, Eb, E, and F are appropriate, as are all three-octave scales.
- Violists and cellists: Two-octaves scales starting on G, Ab, A, and Bb are appropriate, as are all three-octave scales.
- Bassists: All two-octave scales are appropriate.

Prepared Selection: Please prepare 2-3 minutes of a solo that best demonstrates your ability. You may prepare two 1-minute long contrasting pieces. This does not need to be memorized.

Questions?

Lyndsay Boysen, Program Assistant
lyndsay.boysen@unh.edu