

INTERSCHOOL ORCHESTRAS OF NEW YORK

2010-2011 Guidelines for Admission and Placement

Welcome to ISO!

Before your audition please be sure to:

- Complete the Registration Form (available at www.isorch.org) and mail it to:
ISO – 1556 Third Avenue, Suite 601 – New York, NY 10128
- Submit the non-refundable registration fee: \$150 (Turtle Bay, Morningside, Carnegie Hill Orchestra, Concert Orchestra, Symphonic Band and Chamber Music) and \$250 (ISO Symphony). Please make payable to ISO.
- Be sure to read and sign the Statement of Commitment on page 3 of the Registration Form

Auditions

Students will be asked for scales, their prepared repertoire and to sight-read. Adjudicators will place each musician in the appropriate ensemble based on the level of playing at the audition. **The following information is provided for students and teachers as a general guide to the level of musicianship essential for each ensemble. The applicant's prepared piece should be one that is an accurate representation of their technical and artistic ability. Remember, it is not what you play that matters most, but how well you play.** If you have any questions regarding repertoire, the auditions or ensembles please contact a member of the ISO staff. We are here to make sure that this is a positive and successful experience for everyone.

Morningside and Turtle Bay Orchestras

Rhythm

- Play in 4/4, 2/4, 3/4
- Begin to read and understand rhythmic patterns up to 16th notes, rests, and dotted rhythms.
- Repeat basic call and response rhythms.

Aural Acuity - Good intonation in required keys (C,G,D,F)

Reading – Ability to read rhythms and contour of line.

Required Keys - Able to play pieces and 1 octave scales

in: **Strings:** C, G, D, F (recommended)

(violins - 2 octave G scale suggested)

Winds: 1 sharp and 2 flats

Musicianship

Demonstrate basic understanding of good sound; articulations including slurs and détaché; basic legato and staccato; and loud and soft dynamics.

Technique

Strings - First position (ready to begin, or starting 3rd position for 1st violins)

Winds - At least one and a half octave range, **1st Clarinet** over the break

Brass - At least one octave range (C to C)

Percussion - Basic snare, bass drum and triangle ability. 6/8 time. Understanding of matched and/or traditional grip.

Student's ability level should be equivalent to one year of playing. Student should be receiving instruction in addition to ISO, such as a private teacher, or school music program, or preferably both.

Carnegie Hill Orchestra

Rhythm

- Able to play in 4/4, 2/4 and 3/4; rhythmic patterns up to 16th notes, rests, and dotted rhythms.
- Comfort in executing mixed rhythmic figures and triplets
- Demonstrated ability to subdivide
- Knowledge of compound time and cut time

Aural Acuity - Ability to repeat basic major & minor call and response in the range of a fifth and demonstrated accurate intonation in required keys.

Reading - Ability to sight read music representative of Carnegie Hill repertoire

Required Keys - Ability to play pieces and 2 octave scales in up to three sharps and flats.

Winds – also 1 octave chromatic scale

Bass – 1 octave scales up to 3 sharps/flats;
2 octave E major scale only

Musicianship - Demonstrate basic understanding of good sound, slurs and détaché, legato and staccato, accents, marcato, tenuto, asymmetrical slurs and dynamics (*ff, f, mf, mp, p, pp*; crescendo & decrescendo)

Technique

Strings - Demonstrated ability of basic bowing technique, slurs, détaché, legato, staccato and comfort with spiccato

Violin & Viola - Ability to play through third position including good shifting and intonation

Cello – Able to play through fourth position

Bass – Ability to cross strings in fourth position

Winds - two octave range, 1 octave chromatic scale; able to execute phrases with appropriate breaths; ability to tongue and slur

Brass – 1½ – 2 octave range

Percussion

Snare - Seven basic rudiments (perform and sight-read), Right-hand lead sticking

Mallets - Single stroke sight-reading, scales in two octaves up to 3 sharps and flats

Timpani - Be able to use two drums, hear perfect intervals

Cymbals - Proper hold

Student must be receiving individual instruction in addition to ISO.

**Concert Orchestra
and
Symphonic Band**

Rhythm – Able to play in all time signatures

Aural Acuity - Repeat basic major & minor call and response in the range of an octave and demonstrated accurate intonation in scales, arpeggios, solo and orchestral work

Reading - Able to sight read music representative of Concert Orchestra repertoire

Required Keys - Able to play scales and pieces in up to five sharps and flats.

Strings: 3 octave scales

Winds: 2 octave scales

Technique

Strings – Ability to play through 5th position, demonstrated vibrato and good bow technique

Winds – Play in 2 octave range; use of multiple articulations; flutes double tongue; clarinet should have access to A clarinet; bassoon should have knowledge of tenor clef.

Brass – 2¼ octave range; trumpet and horn demonstrated knowledge of transposition; trombone should have knowledge of tenor clef

Percussion - Prior experience in band/orchestra and with cymbals, triangle, and bass drum; advanced snare drum and good timpani technique; ability to tune timpani

Students must be receiving individual instruction in addition to ISO

ISO Symphony

Rhythm – Able to play all time signatures

Aural Acuity - Accurate intonation in scales, arpeggios, solos and orchestral work

Reading - Able to sight read music representative of ISO Symphony repertoire

Required Keys - Able to read and play in all major and minor keys throughout the full range of instrument.

Students must be receiving individual instruction in addition to ISO.



The InterSchool Orchestras of New York
1556 Third Avenue, Suite 601 ♦ New York, NY 10128
Telephone: 212-410-0370 ♦ Fax: 212-410-1606 ♦ www.isorch.org