

CONSERVATORY PLACEMENT ACTIVITY GUIDELINES

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CONSERVATORY STRINGS & ORCHESTRA PROGRAM (Grades 7-12) Digital Submission Placement Activity

Application & YouTube Video Submission

All applicants should submit a completed application and YouTube video, performing the materials outlined below. All repertoire and scales must be performed in a single take and time stamped.

Total video length should be approximately 5-8 minutes.

Video Content Guidelines:

All instrumentalists should film themselves performing the following:

1. Scales:

- **Violin:** A major and c melodic minor (at least two octaves for 7th-8th grade applicants and three octaves for 9th-12th grade applicants)
- **Viola:** D major and f melodic minor (at least two octaves for 7th-8th grade applicants and three octaves for 9th-12th grade applicants)
- **Cello:** D major and f melodic minor (at least two octaves for 7th-8th grade applicants and three octaves for 9th-12th grade applicants)
- **Bass:** F major and a melodic minor (two octaves)

Note: All scales should be performed slurring four sixteenth notes with quarter beat = 60 to 100 bpm.

2. One slow movement from a Bach suite/sonata/partita **or** similar piece. Approximately 2-3 minutes.
3. One fast movement from a standard concerto **or** similar piece. Approximately 2-3 minutes.

Note: 7th and 8th graders are required to perform repertoire from **at least** Suzuki Book 4 or higher; 9th-12th graders are required to perform repertoire from **at least** Suzuki Book 6 or higher (or comparable repertoire).

Harpists: Must demonstrate facility with the seven-pedal harp. Please perform one slow, lyrical, melodic piece and one fast, technical piece.

**We highly recommend you select standard string repertoire and exclude popular music, arrangements of classical repertoire, and concerti.*

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Video Submission Guidelines:

- To protect your privacy, your YouTube video should be saved as “UNLISTED” so it cannot be publicly viewed.
- Copy and paste your YouTube video URL (web address) directly into your conservatory application.
- YouTube video must be included at the same time as the application submission.
- At the beginning of your video, please start by clearly stating your name and the grade you are applying to. Be sure to indicate if you are a current OCSA student, and, if so, which conservatory you are in.
- Please state the date before you perform the items. (i.e. “Today is December 1, 2025.”)
- The YouTube video should have no disruptive background noise, good lighting, and a framing that views the student’s hands and torso in the video.
- The video should be filmed in landscape orientation (horizontal). Do not film in mirror mode.
- It is not required that the format be a professional or studio recording, but the sound quality should be as good as possible. **All recordings must be unedited.**
- Once your YouTube video has been submitted to OCSA, the submission is final and changes cannot be made.
- YouTube video should be specifically produced for your OCSA application. Do not include videos from previous stage performances.

Applicants who are English language learners, have a disability, or need technology assistance are encouraged to reach out for support with the admissions process. Please contact admissions@ocsarts.net or 714.560.0900 ext. 5510 for more information.

Hay asistencia disponible para los solicitantes aprendiendo inglés, que tienen una discapacidad, o los que necesitan asistencia tecnológica. Favor de ponerse contacto con nosotros por correo electrónico admissions@ocsarts.net o por llamar 714.560.0900 ext. 5510 para más información.

Applicants requesting accommodations must have established eligibility under IDEA, Section 504 or an established Academic Support Plan (private schools only). The documentation must be provided at the time of application submission. Confidential documents must be sent directly to Lauren Reynolds, Director of Special Services, at lauren.reynolds@ocsarts.net.

Accommodations must be requested 15 days in advance of placement activities for planning purposes.