

2017 Western States Honor Orchestra Festival
34th Annual
Weekend for Strings
Union Colony Civic Center ♦ Greeley, Colorado
November 2 - 4, 2017

Each year, the University of Northern Colorado hosts the Western States Honor Orchestra Festival here in Greeley, Colorado—a celebration of orchestral and solo string playing for advanced high school musicians.

We form a chamber orchestra and symphony orchestra from the invited string players; wind and percussion musicians from the award-winning UNC Symphony Orchestra join these ensembles. Two days of intense rehearsal follow, interspersed with a master class by a celebrated guest artist, who also performs on the opening concert Thursday evening and the final concert on Saturday.

We invite advanced high school string players to send audition audio files for this festival. We hope that you will consider joining this wonderful music event that is sure to give inspiration to you for the entire year.

We ask that each director nominate his/her high school string players that he/she feels would most benefit from participation in the festival. Students that are homeschooled are also welcome to audition.

Audition Recording Submission Procedures

1. Audition recordings (mp3 files only) must be submitted by email or via Dropbox:
 - A. Email recorded audition files to WSHOF@unco.edu
 - B. Dropbox is a free online data storage service (for up to 16GB). You do have to register and create an account. To use this option, please email WSHOF@unco.edu to request an invitation to a folder with your school's name. You will then follow the link on the email, and drop your auditions into the folder. **DO NOT USE THE LEFTOVER FOLDER FROM LAST YEAR. YOU MUST REQUEST A NEW FOLDER.**

2. The audition document (mp3 file) must be labeled:
LastName_FirstName_School_Instrument.mp3

3. All required audition material must be included in **one** file in the following order: Scales, Orchestral Excerpts, Solo Selection. Only one file including all audition requirements should be submitted per applicant.
4. Audition recordings must be recorded without accompaniment. Recordings must also be unedited with no added “overdubs” or reverb.
5. Mp3 files must be compressed at a bitrate of no more than 256 kbps. Files larger than 20MB will not be accepted. Consider that the quality of the audition recording may reasonably affect the perception of the adjudicators.
6. Links to the required audition materials are listed in the Resources Section.

Application Forms and Fees

1. Include a completed application form and the \$25.00 audition fee for each student that auditions. You will need to mail this in separately since all auditions will be submitted electronically. Please type or print application forms, as they are used for program information. Make checks payable to UNC Orchestras and mail the audition form and fee to:

University of Northern Colorado
Western States Honor Orchestra Festival
501 20th Street, Campus Box 28
Greeley, CO 80639

2. Orchestra directors may include recommendations for the section (1st or 2nd) for which each violinist would be best suited. Indicate this on the application form.
3. The student’s orchestra director, the school principal, and a parent/guardian **must** sign all application forms. Students that are homeschooled should have the signature of their private teacher and parent/guardian.

Required Recorded Audition Materials

Violin

- 1) E major scale, G melodic minor scale, Chromatic Scale, tempo as marked
- 2) Orchestral excerpts from Mozart, Symphony No. 39, K. 543, quarter note = 128-132 AND Shostakovich, Symphony No. 5 in D Minor, quarter note = 72.
- 3) Piece of your choice that is most indicative of your musical and technical abilities, **2 ½ minute time limit**

Viola

- 1) D major scale, F melodic minor scale, and Chromatic Scale, tempo as marked
- 2) Orchestral Excerpts from Tchaikovsky, Symphony No. 6 in B Minor, Op. 74, quarter note = 112-116 AND Shostakovich, Symphony No. 5 in D Minor, quarter note = 72.
- 3) Piece of your choice that is most indicative of your musical and technical abilities, **2 ½ minute time limit**

Cello

- 1) B major scale, G melodic minor scale, and Chromatic Scale, tempo as marked
- 2) Orchestral Excerpts from Bach, Brandenburg Concerto No. 6, dotted- quarter note = 75 AND Wagner, Tristan und Isolde, eighth note = 77.
- 3) Piece of your choice that is most indicative of your musical and technical abilities, **2 ½ minute time limit**

Double Bass

- 1) F major scale, E melodic minor scale, tempo as marked
- 2) Orchestral excerpt from Berlioz, Symphonie Fantastique, Op. 14, half note = 72 AND Mozart, Symphony No. 39, K. 543, quarter note = 140.
- 3) Solo piece of your choice, please no orchestral or ensemble bass excerpts, **2 ½ minute time limit**

Harp

- 1) Audition excerpt is TBD. Please check back for updates.
- 2) Piece of your choice that is most indicative of your musical and technical abilities, **2 ½ minute time limit**

Application Deadlines and Address

1. The recorded audition, completed application form and audition fee must be **RECEIVED** by **4:00 PM ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2017** . Audition recordings must be submitted via Dropbox or emailed to WSHOF@unco.edu. **Any recordings or applications received after this date will not be eligible!**
2. Please send the audition form and fee as soon as possible to avoid possible ineligibility from postal delays.
3. Mail the completed applications and audition fee to:

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Results

1. Audition results will be posted to the WSHOF website by 5:00 pm on Friday, September 29th.
2. We regret that we are unable to provide evaluations of each student, nor are we willing to repeat the process in order to possibly reconsider a student's audition. All judges' decisions are final.