



**2025-2026**

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# **AUDITION EXCERPTS**

***bass***

## **Instrumental Ensembles** *(involving basses)*

*Symphony Orchestra*

*Symphonic Band*

*Jazz Ensemble*

*Pep Band*

## Dear Bassists,

Thank you for your interest in participating in an instrumental ensemble at Wheaton College, where **music is an act of worship**, and where we pursue the highest level of artistic achievement in a Christ-centered environment that fosters musical excellence, creativity, and spiritual growth.

In this packet, you will find audition materials for the instrumental ensembles at Wheaton that include bass:

**Symphony Orchestra**  
**Symphonic Band**  
**Jazz Ensemble**  
**Pep Band**

Please complete the online [2025 Performing Arts Interest Form](#) to schedule your bass audition. After submitting your form response, you will be contacted with an assigned day and time between August 27 and 30 (first week of fall semester classes).

We look forward to hearing your audition and invite you to contact us if you have any questions as you prepare the enclosed materials.

**Dr. Benjamin Klemme, Symphony Orchestra** | [benjamin.klemme@wheaton.edu](mailto:benjamin.klemme@wheaton.edu)  
**Dr. Brady McNeil, Symphonic Band and Pep Band** | [brady.mcneil@wheaton.edu](mailto:brady.mcneil@wheaton.edu)  
**Dr. Crystal Rebone, Jazz Ensemble** | [crystal.rebone@wheaton.edu](mailto:crystal.rebone@wheaton.edu)

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# SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

*audition excerpts*

## BASS

Students interested in being considered for the **BASS** section will be asked to play the following excerpts during the audition:

1. Mozart, Symphony No. 35, Mvt. I, mm. 13–48
2. Holst, *The Planets*, “Mars,” Rehearsal VI–m. 108
3. Mahler, Symphony No. 1, Mvt. III, 2 measures after Rehearsal 1–2 measures after Rehearsal 2
4. Mahler, Symphony No. 1, Mvt. II, 4 measures before Rehearsal 11–Rehearsal 13

In addition to the excerpts listed above, **BASSISTS** should also be prepared to play a 1-to-2-minute excerpt from a solo (unaccompanied).



WHEATON  
COLLEGE  
CONSERVATORY of MUSIC  
*For Christ & His Kingdom*

# 1. MOZART

## Symphony No. 35, Mvt. I

mm. 13–48

2/2, half note=76 (4/4, quarter note=152; Allegro con spirito)

This musical score is for the first movement of Mozart's Symphony No. 35, measures 13 through 48. The music is written in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is Allegro con spirito, with a 2/2 time signature where the half note equals 76 beats (or 4/4 time where the quarter note equals 152 beats). The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, trills (tr), and dynamic markings (f, sfz, p). There are two red annotations: a bracket spanning measures 13-14 and 15-16, and another bracket spanning measures 48-49. The score is divided into systems, with measure numbers 8, 15, 21, 26, 31, 37, 42, and 48 marked at the beginning of their respective lines.

8 1

15

21

26

31

37

42

48 1-8 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

*f*

*sfz*

*sfz*

*f*

*p*

*f*

*p*

## 2. HOLST

### *The Planets, "Mars"*

Rehearsal VI—m. 108

5/4, quarter note=132 ("quasi" Allegro)

94 V (d=d) nvh **VI** v 7

98 p

101 cresc.

104 **VII** p cresc.

107 1 2 ff

The image shows a musical score for Gustav Holst's 'The Planets, Mars'. It covers measures 94 to 108. The score is written in 5/4 time, with a tempo of 'quasi' Allegro. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into five staves. The first staff (measures 94-97) begins with a 'V' and a '(d=d)' marking, followed by a red bracket and a 'VI' marking. The second staff (measures 98-100) has a 'p' marking. The third staff (measures 101-103) has a 'cresc.' marking. The fourth staff (measures 104-106) has a 'VII' marking and a 'p' marking. The fifth staff (measures 107-108) has a red bracket, a '1' marking, and a 'ff' marking. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

### 3. MAHLER

#### Symphony No. 1, Mvt. III

2 measures after Rehearsal 1–2 measures after Rehearsal 2

4/4, quarter note=69

Feierlich und gemessen, ohne 'zu schleppen.

1 (Pauken)  
*pp*  
*p* mit Dämpfer  
8  
3 Nur eine Hälfte.  
*pizz.* 1 2 3 4  
Alle Dämpfer ab *pp*



## 4. MAHLER

### Symphony No. 1, Mvt. II

4 measures before Rehearsal 11–Rehearsal 13

3/4, dotted half note=66 (Kräftig bewegt, doch nicht zu schnell)

(Play top staff only)

mit dem Bogen geschlagen = *col legno*

wieder gestrichen = *arco*

The image displays a musical score for the first staff of Mahler's Symphony No. 1, Movement II, covering measures 7 through 14. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked '3/4, dotted half note=66 (Kräftig bewegt, doch nicht zu schnell)'. The performance instruction '(Play top staff only)' is noted. The score includes various dynamics and articulations: *molto cresc.*, *fff*, *ff*, *f*, *p*, *pp*, and *ppp*. It also features performance directions: 'geth.' (with bow), 'mit dem Bogen geschlagen.' (col legno), and 'wieder gestrichen.' (arco). A red bracket highlights measures 7 through 11. A red 'J' mark is placed below measure 13. The score is divided into sections: measures 7-8, 9-11, 12-14, and 15-16. The first section (measures 7-8) is marked 'molto cresc.' and 'fff'. The second section (measures 9-11) is marked 'ff' and 'f'. The third section (measures 12-14) is marked 'p' and 'pp'. The fourth section (measures 15-16) is marked 'ppp' and 'ppp'. The score is divided into sections: measures 7-8, 9-11, 12-14, and 15-16. The first section (measures 7-8) is marked 'molto cresc.' and 'fff'. The second section (measures 9-11) is marked 'ff' and 'f'. The third section (measures 12-14) is marked 'p' and 'pp'. The fourth section (measures 15-16) is marked 'ppp' and 'ppp'. The score is divided into sections: measures 7-8, 9-11, 12-14, and 15-16. The first section (measures 7-8) is marked 'molto cresc.' and 'fff'. The second section (measures 9-11) is marked 'ff' and 'f'. The third section (measures 12-14) is marked 'p' and 'pp'. The fourth section (measures 15-16) is marked 'ppp' and 'ppp'.

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# SYMPHONIC BAND

*audition requirements (string bass)*

- Prepare the excerpt below.

## GRAINGER

Children's March

$\text{♩} = 98-102$

Fast 10 11 7 18 19 20 3

21 22 3 23 24 3

25 26 3 27



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# JAZZ ENSEMBLE

## audition requirements (bass)

- Prepare the excerpt below. You will perform the excerpt along with [this recording](#) (YouTube link) via Bluetooth speaker.
- Play one song of your choice in the jazz style that best showcases your abilities.
- Improvise over two choruses of a B-flat blues progression, backing track [here](#) (Dropbox link).

## PORTER (arr. Paul Baker)

You'd Be So Nice to Come Home To

mm. 1–33

SWING  $\text{♩} = 168$

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33

Chords:  $A_{mi}9$ ,  $B_{mi}7(b9)$ ,  $E7$ ,  $G_{mi}7$ ,  $C7$ ,  $F_{maj}7$ ,  $F\#$ ,  $B_{mi}7(b9)$ ,  $E7$ ,  $B_{mi}7(b9)$ ,  $A_{mi}7$ ,  $D7$ ,  $F7$ ,  $E7$ ,  $A_{mi}7$ ,  $G_{mi}7$ ,  $C7$ ,  $F_{maj}7$ ,  $F\#$ ,  $F\#$ ,  $C\#$ ,  $E7(b9)$

Dynamics:  $ff$ ,  $mf$ ,  $ff$ ,  $mf$

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## PEP BAND

*audition requirements (electric bass)*

- Choose and play one of the excerpts below.
- Sight reading

## BRUNO MARS

Uptown Funk

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These are the lyrics of the song "Uptown Funk" by Bruno Mars.

The image shows a musical score for the bass line of Bruno Mars' "Uptown Funk". It is written in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The tempo is marked as 115 beats per minute. The score consists of three staves. The first staff has a measure number 45. The second staff has a measure number 45. The third staff has a measure number 45. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and rests. There are also some performance markings like accents (^) and slurs.

## MICHAEL JACKSON

Thriller

The image shows a musical score for the bass line of Michael Jackson's "Thriller". It is written in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The tempo is marked as 124 beats per minute. The score consists of three staves. The first staff has a measure number 23. The second staff has a measure number 32. The third staff has a measure number 42. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and rests. There are also some performance markings like accents (^) and slurs. The score ends with the instruction "D.S. al Coda".