



2025-2026

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# AUDITION EXCERPTS

*piano*

## INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

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

# Dear Auditioners,

Thank you for your interest in auditioning for our instrumental ensembles! It is a joy to offer these music making opportunities at Wheaton College, where we seek to glorify, honor, and praise Almighty God through the musical gifts with which He has blessed us.

**In this packet, you will find audition materials for the following instrumental ensembles\*:**

- *Symphonic Band*
- *Symphony Orchestra*
- *Jazz Ensemble*

Please complete the online [2025 Performing Arts Interest Form](#) to schedule your piano 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 are grateful you are considering joining us for the 2025-2026 academic year and look forward to supporting you in your studies. Please reach out with any questions you may have.

**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)**

*\*There are not excerpts for all instruments for Pep Band. If interested in playing an instrument not in the traditional instrumentation of that ensemble, please contact Dr. McNeil.*



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# PIANO

## SYMPHONIC BAND REQUIREMENTS

- Be prepared to perform a 1-to-2-minute piano solo of your choice.
- Perform the provided selection:
  - *Grainger's Children's March*

## SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA REQUIREMENTS

- Be prepared to perform a 1-to-2-minute piano solo of your choice.
- Perform both of the orchestra excerpts provided:
  - *Holst's The Planets, "Venus" (Rehearsal 7–End) [CELESTE]*
  - *Copland's Appalachian Spring (Rehearsal 7–Rehearsal 10) [PIANO]*

## JAZZ ENSEMBLE REQUIREMENTS

- Perform the provided excerpt, which you will perform along with [this recording](#) via Bluetooth speaker:
  - *Cole Porter's You'd Be So Nice to Come Home To*
- Play one song of your own choice in the jazz style that best showcases your abilities.
- Improvise over two choruses of a Bb Blues progression, backing track [here](#).



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# SYMPHONIC BAND

## GRAINGER

Piano

### Children's March

Dotted quarter note=126

221

ff *louden* *fff* *sf*

Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. \*

This system contains measures 221 through 228. The music is in 2/4 time with a key signature of two flats. It features a piano accompaniment with chords and a melody in the right hand. Dynamics include fortissimo (ff), fortississimo (fff), and sforzando (sf). The instruction 'louden' is written above the staff. Rehearsal marks are indicated by 'Red.' and asterisks.

229

*fff* *very heavy*

Red. \* Red. \*

This system contains measures 229 through 236. The piano part continues with a steady accompaniment. The instruction 'very heavy' is written above the staff. Rehearsal marks are indicated by 'Red.' and asterisks.

237

*mf*

8va

This system contains measures 237 through 243. The melody in the right hand is marked with an 8va (octave up) instruction. The dynamic is mezzo-forte (mf).

245

*mf* gradually *louden* *hugely*

8va

This system contains measures 244 through 251. The music features dense chordal textures in both hands. The instruction 'gradually louden hugely' indicates a significant increase in volume. An 8va instruction is present at the beginning of the system.

252

*fff*

8va

This system contains measures 252 through 259. The music continues with dense chordal textures. The dynamic is fortississimo (fff). An 8va instruction is present at the beginning of the system.

# SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

## HOLST

### The Planets, "Venus"

Rehearsal 7-End

Quarter note=63

Celeste

2  
121  
9  
Hp. I.  
pp

133

137  
*morendo al fine.*



# SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

## COPLAND

Piano

### Appalachian Spring

Rehearsal 7–Rehearsal 10

Quarter note=160

Allegro (♩=160)

[6] *vigoroso* *f* *pedal* *8va* *3* *sfp*

[7] *mf* *f* *marc.* *8va*

*sub. p* *1* *2*

[8] *mf* *f* *non legato* *'bell-like'*

*8va* *f*

(excerpt  
continues on  
following page)

# SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Piano

Piano

Handwritten musical score for Piano, measures 9-10. The score is written on four systems of grand staves (treble and bass clef). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is common time (C). Measure 9 is marked with a box containing the number 9. The first system includes a dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo) and an 8va (octave) marking. The second system includes an 8va marking and a measure with a cross (x) indicating a rest. The third system includes an 8va marking and a measure with a cross (x) indicating a rest. The fourth system includes an 8va marking, a measure with a cross (x) indicating a rest, and a measure with a Solo marking and a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte). A blue bracket is drawn under the first two measures of the fourth system. The score is written in a cursive, handwritten style.



# JAZZ ENSEMBLE

## COLE PORTER

Piano

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

(excerpt  
continues on  
following page)



# JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Piano

PIANO 25

Handwritten musical score for piano, measures 25-28. The score is written on two staves (treble and bass clef). Measure 25 starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody begins with a quarter rest, followed by eighth notes G4, A4, Bb4, and A4. Measure 26 continues the melody with eighth notes G4, F4, E4, and D4. Measure 27 features a quarter rest followed by eighth notes D4, C4, Bb3, and A3. Measure 28 concludes the phrase with a quarter rest followed by eighth notes G3, F3, E3, and D3. The bass staff contains whole rests for measures 25, 26, and 27, and a whole note D3 in measure 28. Measure numbers 25, 26, 27, and 28 are written below the bass staff.

Handwritten musical score for piano, measures 29-32. The score is written on two staves (treble and bass clef). Measure 29 begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by eighth notes G4, A4, Bb4, and A4. Measure 30 continues with eighth notes G4, F4, E4, and D4. Measure 31 features a quarter rest followed by eighth notes D4, C4, Bb3, and A3. Measure 32 concludes the phrase with a quarter rest followed by eighth notes G3, F3, E3, and D3. The bass staff contains whole rests for measures 29, 30, and 31, and a whole note D3 in measure 32. Measure numbers 29, 30, 31, and 32 are written below the bass staff. A large black bracket is positioned to the right of measures 29 through 32.