

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CONSERVATORY

STRINGS & ORCHESTRA PROGRAM

Placement Activity Guidelines

Strings & Orchestra Program (Grades 7-12)

All CSArts-SGV applicants must bring one (1) **Personal Statement** to their **Placement Activity**.

Personal Statement

(minimum of 500 words, professionally presented)

An essay describing why they are passionate about attending an art-focused program.

Placement Activity Guidelines

Strings and Harp:

The placement activity will happen in three parts:

1. Scales - Students will be asked to perform one or two major scales in as many octaves as the student is capable. The judges will request the scales. Students will not know in advance which one(s) will be chosen. Harpists will not be asked to perform scales.

2. Solo Performance - Demonstrate two distinct styles of solo playing:

- Lyrical, melodic, and slow.
- Fast and more technical.

The solo selections are to be chosen by the student. The two different styles can be two separate pieces or two contrasting movements from the same work. Repertoire chosen for the placement activity cannot be a folk song, Broadway show tune, or pop tune, and should be drawn from the traditional repertoire (i.e. Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Stravinsky, etc.).

Bring two extra copies of your music for the adjudicators. Your music will be returned.

3. Sight Reading - Students will be given a short excerpt of music that they have not seen before and will be asked to play it for the judges.

Do not bring an accompanist to the placement activity. The student will play without accompaniment and we cannot guarantee the availability of a piano in the placement activity room.