

How To Prepare Your Student To Audition For A Scholarship

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A. Audition Dates

1. Make an appointment
2. After you are prepared, audition as early as possible

B. Documents and Applications

1. Have audition forms completed prior to arriving on campus
2. List references, awards and grade point average
3. List of private teachers and conductors with contact information
4. Career aspirations
5. Have you completed any hours that will apply towards a degree?
6. What type of scholarship funds are available, and when are the deadlines for application?

C. Audition Requirements

1. Solos, etudes, sight-reading, scales, etc.
2. Length of audition?
3. Accompanied or unaccompanied?

D. Location of the Audition Room

1. Find the room well in advance of your scheduled time
2. Is there a piano available?

E. First Impression

1. Be early to your audition
2. Warm-up prior to your audition
3. If you are a reed player, make sure that your reed is working well
4. Look professional
5. Be prepared to answer questions
6. Be prepared to ask questions
7. Be prepared to pronounce correctly the title and composer of the music that you are about to perform
8. What area of music are you interested in pursuing?

F. Your Performance

1. Review your scales and chromatic
2. Sight-reading is very important; in the eyes of many, it is the most revealing part of the audition process
3. Don't use part of your band music as an audition piece
4. Carefully prepare your audition materials
5. Don't expect to play a perfect audition
6. Don't respond negatively to your mistakes during or after the audition

G. Additional Consideration

1. Basic keyboard skills are very helpful
2. A basic understanding of music theory is vital
3. Some high students have the misconception that all music majors do is perform in band or jazz band
4. What do you know about the instrumental teacher that you will be studying applied lessons with?
5. The audition process is as much for you to decide rather or not you are comfortable with the quality of the learning environment (faculty, staff, student body, curriculum, and facilities)