

Fall 2014 Wind Symphony/Band Placement Auditions

Important Information

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE of the Wind Symphony/Band Placement Audition?

- Actually, the audition serves several important purposes, as follows: 1) To determine which undergraduate music majors (whose major instrument is in woodwinds, brass, or percussion) will be assigned to Wind Symphony as their primary ensemble assignment; 2) To determine the seating and part assignments for Wind Symphony; 3) To determine which students are appropriate for membership in Chamber Players (co-requisite with Wind Symphony); 4) To determine which undergraduate music majors (whose major instrument is in woodwinds, brass, or percussion) will be assigned to Symphonic Band as their primary ensemble assignment; 5) To determine which undergraduate music majors (whose major instrument is in woodwinds, brass, or percussion) should be assigned to Concert Band as their primary ensemble assignment; and, 6) To determine from among the students chosen for Wind Symphony, which of them, if any, desire to also participate in either Symphonic Band or Concert Band as an elective ensemble.

WHO is REQUIRED to PERFORM for the Wind Symphony/Band Placement Audition?

- This is a required audition for ALL full-time undergraduate woodwind, brass, and percussion music majors and music minors. Specifically, it is a required audition for all BM degree “intent” students (those who wish to be considered music majors in pursuit of either the BM degree in Music Performance, or the BM degree in Music Education), and also those pursuing the music minors. **Note:** It is also an ELECTIVE audition for graduate students who wish to play in Wind Symphony, and for any non-music major or part-time student who wishes to be considered for Wind Symphony.

For students not required to audition, but want to anyway, WHO is ALLOWED to Audition?

- Any **graduate music student** who wishes to play in Wind Symphony is welcome to sign-up and perform the audition, in order to be considered for membership in the ensemble. **Note:** Degree requirements for graduate music performance degree students (MM degree candidates majoring in woodwinds, brass, or percussion) include two semesters of participation in a large major ensemble (typically this is fulfilled by being in either Chamber Orchestra or Wind Symphony). The large ensemble assignment is determined and approved by one’s applied studio faculty mentor.
- Any **full-time WSU student** who is a **non-music major** (graduate or undergraduate, in any major), who wishes to be considered for Wind Symphony, is welcome to sign-up and perform the audition.
- Any **part-time WSU student** (graduate or undergraduate, in any major), who wishes to be considered for Wind Symphony, is welcome to sign-up and perform the audition.

Is Wind Symphony for MUSIC MAJORS only?

- No, not necessarily. Even though the majority of Wind Symphony members are music majors (sometimes all of them), music minors and any WSU student, regardless of major, are welcome to audition for membership. Regardless of major, everyone who wishes to be in Wind Symphony must first audition, and then be selected for membership through the competitive audition process. Please see the previous section entitled “*For students not required to audition, but want to anyway, Who is Allowed to Audition?*”.

WHEN are the auditions HAPPENING?

- Fall 2014 Wind Symphony/Band Placement Auditions will be held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, August 25-27, (the first three days of Fall 2014 classes). This year the auditions for the various studios will be held in “reverse score order,” on the following days:

Monday, August 25 – Percussion, Tuba, Euphonium, Trombone, Double Bass

Tuesday, August 26 – Horn, Trumpet, Saxophone

Wednesday, August 27 – Bassoon, Clarinet/Bs. Clarinet, Oboe/Eng. Horn, Flute/Piccolo

Please Note: Specific time slots for each of the days listed above will be revealed on the audition sign-up board, which will be posted on Dr. Booth's office door the week before fall classes begin. Also Please Note: We attempt to schedule auditions during time blocks that normally occur for Studio Class times, during rehearsal time slots for the large wind bands (Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Concert Band), and mostly during the afternoons and early evenings. We are trying to avoid conflicts with as many academic classes as possible (in the School of Music, most of our core academic classes occur in the morning hours).

WHERE will the auditions BE HELD?

- All woodwind and brass auditions will be held in the Creative Arts Center, Room M-140 (Dr. Booth's Office). Percussion auditions will be held in the Creative Arts Center, Room M-162 (Band Room).

WHAT are the REQUIREMENTS and EXPECTATIONS for the students the DAY OF THE AUDITION?

- Auditioning students should arrive a few minutes BEFORE their scheduled audition time, with their instrument assembled, and fully warmed up and ready to perform.
- Just outside the audition area, a REGISTRATION FORM will be available to each auditioning student. Each auditioning student should fill out this form before entering the room for the audition.
- As each student enters the audition space, they should present their completed registration form to Dr. Booth.
- If desired, each auditioning student will be allowed to play a few test notes before performing the audition excerpts.
- Each student should then play through (in order) the audition excerpts for the Fall 2014 WS/Band Placement Audition (those made available online in July 2014).
- Afterward, each student will be asked to sight read a brief passage, an excerpt that will be supplied at the time of the audition.
- Note: Auditions will NOT be held behind a screen, like last year. Instead, each auditioning student will be seen and known by the faculty members listening to the audition, and each student will be able to see them as well.

HOW does one SIGN-UP for an audition time?

- All auditioning students must schedule their specific audition time on the "sign-up" board that will be posted on Dr. Booth's office door, (CAC—M-140), as in years past. **This sign-up board will be made available beginning Wednesday, August 20.** Students can sign-up for their audition time, on a first-come, first-serve basis.

WHEN and HOW will the FINAL RESULTS be made known?

- At the conclusion of each audition day (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday), an email will be sent to appropriate applied/studio faculty and to band faculty conductors, as audition results become known, and also will be posted on the band bulletin board (in the hallway across Room M-156), and the bulletin board next to Dr. Booth's office door (in the hallway, next to Room M-140).