Welcome to the Fall 2019 Sacramento State University Instrumental Ensemble Auditions!

These auditions are for placement of wind and percussion players in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, and Concert Band.

Symphonic Wind Ensemble rehearsals are MWF from Noon-1:15pm.
Symphony Orchestra rehearsals are TR from 4:30-6:15pm.
Concert Band rehearsals are MWF from 1:30-2:45pm.

Pre-Audition Procedures:

The auditions will take place on Friday, August 23, 2019 in Capistrano 151 on the following schedule:

8:00am    Saxophone/Euphonium
9:10am    Clarinet
10:15am   Oboe/Bassoon
11:00am   Flute
1:00pm    Trombone
1:30pm    Tuba
2:00pm    Horn
2:45pm    Trumpet
4:00pm    Percussion (Capistrano 329)

There are two different sets of audition excerpts posted on the website or the linked Google Drive – one for students desiring to play in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble and/or Symphony Orchestra and one for Concert Band (except for clarinets – all clarinets will use the same excerpts). Please download and prepare the appropriate excerpts for your instrument and desired placement ensemble. These excerpts are the only music you will play for the audition.

Go online here to fill out the Audition Registration form prior to the audition date.

Audition Day Procedures:

- Please arrive early to the audition time for your instrument to fill out the required paperwork (if you have not done so online beforehand)
- Please arrive ready to play – be warmed up prior to your arrival
- Have your instrument out of its case and ready to play before going in to your audition – take only yourself, your instrument, your excerpts, and your completed audition paperwork into the audition
- Give yourself plenty of time to do everything (i.e. get up early, have a leisurely meal, arrive early to the audition)
• In the audition, play the excerpts in the order they are posted
• Play to your own standards; don’t try to guess how the committee would like something performed

Reminders and Helpful Hints:

• Please note the Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Concert Band Rehearsal Schedules and plan to accommodate your own schedule accordingly – do your best to avoid conflicts
• Avoid over-practicing, which may cause nerve problems and fatigue
• Warm up well and practice audition material under tempo
• Maintain a positive appearance even if you do not think you played well
• Present a professional image (you get only one chance to make a first impression)
• Take control of the situation (plan what you are going to play and do)
• Dress for the occasion – be professional
• Be there ahead of time and warmed up
• Make sure your instrument and reeds are working properly
• Introduce yourself and your repertoire
• Get the committee’s attention
• Speak clearly
• Look people in the eye
• Know correct pronunciations of composers and compositions
• Demonstrate your ability, facility and sensitivity
• Communicate if you have a legitimate problem (long before the audition)

What NOT to do:

• Do not wear shorts, jeans, hats, sunglasses, etc.
• Do not make excuses or apologies (for anything)
• Do not draw attention to problems (the committee may not notice)

What NOT to say:

• “I haven’t warmed up.”
• “I haven’t had a chance to practice.”
• “I didn’t know…”
• “I just got this horn.”
• “What should I play?”
• “What would you like to hear?”
• “I didn’t have my instrument/sticks/etc…”
• “I didn’t bring any music.”
• “Nobody told me…”