

TOMPKINS HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRAS

2025 - 2026 AUDITION MATERIAL

Students should choose an ensemble to audition for. Please understand that auditioning for a certain ensemble does not guarantee placement in that group. Sinfonia & Sinfonietta auditions will take place live with Mr. Porter (details to follow). **All other orchestra auditions should be submitted by May 1st through our online audition/self-evaluation form that can be found at www.tompkinsorchestras.org.** The link to this form will be posted on our website by April 1st.

While you are there, please sign up for our online newsletter.

Sinfonia (Varsity-level group) *Students will schedule a live audition of the following:*

- Perform two three-octave major scales and arpeggios to be chosen by directors at audition.
- Perform three-octave F# & Eb melodic minor scale with arpeggio.
- Perform the Sinfonia portion of the Tompkins Sinfonietta/Sinfonia etude.
- Select and perform a 3-5 minute excerpt from your solo piece that best demonstrates your musicianship and technical facility. Must be a UIL class one solo. Current HS students may not use the same solo they played for UIL Solo & Ensemble.

Sinfonietta (Non-Varsity level group) *Students will schedule a live audition of the following:*

- Perform two three-octave major scales and arpeggios to be chosen by directors at audition.
- Perform three octave F melodic minor scale with arpeggio.
- Perform the Sinfonietta portion of the Tompkins Sinfonietta/Sinfonia etude.
- Select and perform a 3-5 minute excerpt from your solo piece that best demonstrates your musicianship and technical facility. Must be a UIL class one solo. Current HS students may not use the same solo they played for UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest.

Cambiata/Lyrica (Sub Non-Varsity A & B) *Students must send a recording link performed in this order:*

- Perform a three-octave Eb and A major scale with arpeggios.
- Perform a three octave C melodic minor scale with arpeggio.
- Prepare the Tompkins Cambiata/Lyrica Etude at the marked tempo.
- Sing a one octave D major scale without accompaniment (up and down).

Philharmonia (Sub Non-Varsity C level group) *Students must send a recording link performed in this order:*

- Perform a three-octave C and A major scale.
- Perform a two octave Bb major scale with arpeggio.
- Prepare the Tompkins Philharmonia/Camerata Etude at the marked tempo.

Camerata (Sub Non-Varsity D level group) *Students must send a recording link performed in this order:*

- Prepare the Tompkins Philharmonia/Camerata Orch Etude at the marked tempo.
- Perform a two-octave D major, F major, and Bb major scale.

For all current OTHS orchestra students: This playing evaluation counts as a double test grade on the 6th six weeks. You may not play an audition lower than the orchestra you are currently enrolled.

Audition Tips:

- **Select the right ensemble to audition for.** Remember that if you are an incoming 9th grade student you are joining approximately 250 students in grades 10-12.
- **Prepare.** Make the most of your audition recording. This audition determines your placement for an entire year. Alteration or digital enhancement of the audition is prohibited.

Pianists:

- If you have played piano for a number of years prior to entering high school and would like to audition to become one of our groups' pianists, please contact Mr. Porter at to arrange an audition.
- Students that already play a stringed instrument are not encouraged to tryout on piano.
 - 1. You must prepare all your major scales (12 total) up and down the keyboard with two hands (arpeggio included)
 - 2. Perform a solo from the UIL PML class one list. www.uiltexas.org/pml/
 - 3. Sight-reading - You will be given 5 minutes to learn a music that you have not seen before, and then will perform it to the best of your ability.

Audition Evaluation:

- Placement is based on several factors:
 1. Audition self-evaluation.
 2. Your audition quality/accuracy.
 3. Your director's recommendation or, in the case of current OTHS orchestra students, your overall effort over the past school year. This includes attitude, effort, reliability, consistency, demeanor, etc.

Tompkins High School Orchestras

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