



JazzArts Youth Ensembles + Workshops

Placement Audition Requirements

Placement Auditions are for the purpose of placing students into groups of similar skillsets. Students entering grades 7-12, with at least one (1) year experience in a school band or private music lessons are eligible.

Once the application materials have been received, students will be assigned an audition time on the date, which corresponds with the applicant's instrument. Auditions are conducted on an individual basis with each slot being approximately ten minutes in length.

All applicants should be prepared to demonstrate the following:

WOOWINDS, BRASS, GUITAR, PIANO, BASS, AND MISC. INSTRUMENTS

1. **SCALES:** Major Scales and Chromatic Scale (these scales may be chosen at random by the JazzArts Charlotte faculty). Advanced students may be asked to play other various scales.
2. **SONG OF CHOICE:** one (1) to two (2) songs of the student's choice (the songs may be music learned in band, etudes learned during private instruction, etc.) Jazz style preferred, but not required.
3. **SIGHT READING:** A short excerpt may be provided to the student during the audition.
4. **EAR TRAINING ASSESSMENT:** A short ear training/pitch matching exercise may be administered
5. **(OPTIONAL) IMPROVISATION:** Students will have the choice to perform the melodies and improvise on one or more of the chosen tunes:
 - a. **BLUES:** Choose from Sonny Moon for Two (B-flat), Now's the Time (F), C-Jam Blues (C) or any standard 12-bar blues of your your choice.
 - b. **STANDARD:** Choose from Autumn Leaves, All the Things You Are, Beautiful Love, or a standard song of your choice.
 - c. **LATIN:** Choose from Blue Bossa, Song for My Father, Black Orpheus, St. Thomas, or a Latin song of your choice.

ADDITIONAL RHYTHM SECTION NOTES:

Bass players should be able to play the melodies to the tunes, improvise and "walk" bass lines. Guitar/piano players will be expected to play the melodies, improvise, and "comp."

DRUMMERS

Drummers will be asked to demonstrate the following:

- Perform various styles such as swing, Latin grooves, rock, & funk.
- Sight read a piece provided by the JazzArts adjudicators.

BEGINNERS

We realize that preparing all of the above materials may be beyond some students' abilities. This should not deter students from attending the placement audition as everyone will be assessed based on their individual skillset. Note: The **minimum** repertoire performed for the audition *must* be (Concert) Bb, Eb, and F scales.

Questions may be directed to Dr. Patrick Brown, Education Director, at pbrown@thejazzarts.org