

## 2025 Cello Applicant Guide

### How to apply:

To apply for the orchestra program, applicants will upload a video audition consisting of the components listed below. Audition videos should have the applicant's entire playing area shown (including hands, torso, playing area of instrument, etc.) You may upload each element separately, but each video should be unedited. Please label each file with the component name (e.g., Scale).

### 1. 3-Octave C Major Scale

- Higher scores will be given to scales played accurately and evenly throughout the whole range, regardless of tempo
- Playing with or without vibrato will have no effect on applicant's score

### 2. Solo Piece of Applicant's Choice

- Work of your choice that demonstrates overall musicianship, especially your ability to play lyrically as the Selected Excerpt (below) will demonstrate technical ability
- May be a solo, etude, All-State etude, or excerpt from an orchestral work
- Maximum of one minute in length
- Must provide a copy of the selected work for the audition
- Does NOT have to be memorized
- No accompaniment

### 3. Selected Excerpts

- OkMEA All-State Excerpts # 5 & 6
  - Elgar: *Enigma Variations, IX. Nimrod*
  - Shostakovich: Symphony No. 5, IV. Allegro non troppo

Video Recording Guidelines and Tips:

- Do NOT introduce yourself or give any other identifying information in your video recording.
- If possible, position your camera at eye level.
- Choose a neat, neutral background for your video.
- Eliminate any moving/noisy elements in the room that might distract from your audition (e.g., circulating fan).
- Face the primary light source in the room (e.g., a window) to ensure you are well lit from the front. The darkest part of the room should be behind you.
- Wear clothing appropriate for an audition:
  - **DO** wear comfortable, neutral attire. A simple, solid-colored shirt, jeans, pants, or a long skirt are recommended.
  - **DON'T** wear garments that distract from your performance. Examples of inappropriate audition attire include garments that are graphic, shredded, torn, too revealing, or too tight (e.g., pajamas, crop tops, ripped jeans, shirts with characters/logos/words, or short shorts/skirts).

Evaluation Criteria:

***PLEASE NOTE:*** OSAI audition scores may be used to determine chamber music or orchestra seating assignments, so prepare for the OSAI audition accordingly.

**Scale – 10%**

**Solo – 15%**


**Excerpt – 25%**

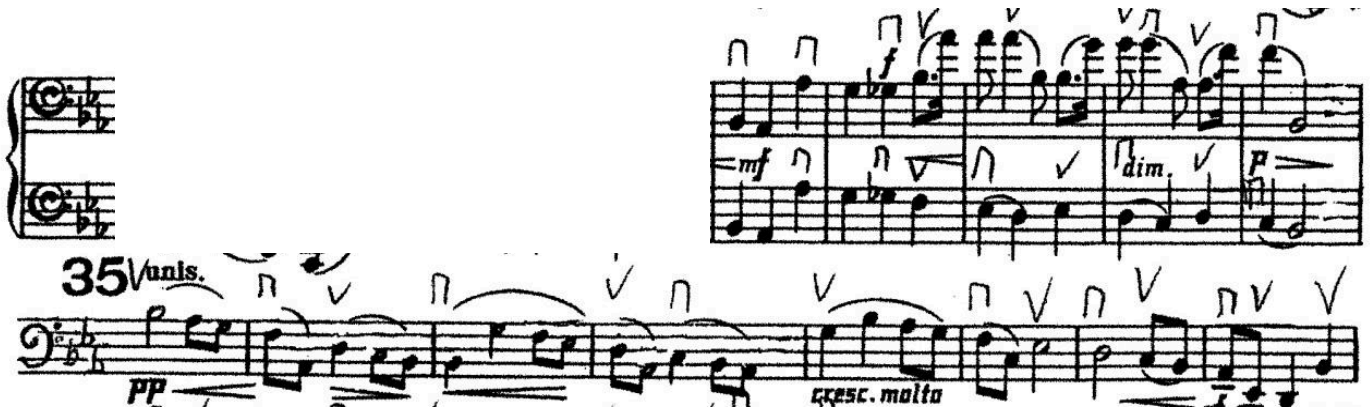
**Overall tone, intonation, technique, and rhythm – 50%**

[Read general information about our evaluation procedures here.](#)

EXCERPT #5

Enigma Variations, IX. Nimrod, E. Elgar  
Play Top Line Only


 =76



Musical score for Excerpt #5, featuring a piano and a bass line. The piano part is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat and a 3/4 time signature. The bass line is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The score includes dynamic markings such as *pp*, *mf*, *f*, *dim.*, and *cresc. molto*. A tempo marking of 35 *unis.* is present. The score is annotated with various musical symbols including accents, slurs, and fermatas.

EXCERPT #6

Symphony No. 5 in D Minor, Op. 47: IV. Allegro non troppo, D. Shostakovich

 =120



Musical score for Excerpt #6, featuring a bass line. The score is in bass clef with a key signature of two flats and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a boxed measure number 102. The tempo marking is *Allegro non troppo* with a metronome marking of 120. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf* and *f*. The score is annotated with various musical symbols including accents, slurs, and fingerings.