

## 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%**

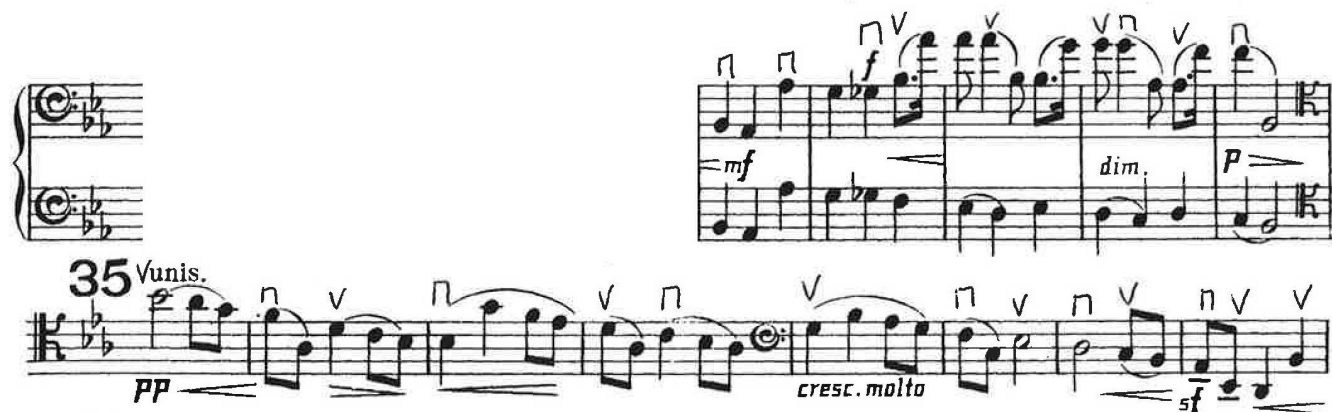
**Overall tone, intonation, technique, and rhythm – 50%**

[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 violin. The score is in 3/4 time and D minor. The piano part consists of two staves. The violin part is a single staff starting at measure 35, marked 'unis.'. The score includes dynamic markings: *mf*, *f*, *dim.*, *p*, *pp*, *cresc. molto*, and *sf*. There are also performance instructions like 'Play Top Line Only' and a tempo marking of 76 bpm.

**EXCERPT #6**

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

 =120



Musical score for Excerpt #6, featuring a double bass. The score is in 3/4 time and D minor. It starts at measure 102, marked with a boxed '102'. The tempo is marked 'Allegro non troppo' with a tempo marking of 120 bpm. The score includes various performance markings such as accents, slurs, and fingerings (e.g., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5). There are also dynamic markings like *mf* and *f*.