

Bergen County Academies

Academy for Visual and Performing Arts: Music Audition

The final step in the application process for the Academy for Visual and Performing Arts (music concentration) is an audition and interview. Students may choose only one band/orchestra instrument or voice to audition.

Scales:

Winds, strings, keyboard: must perform a memorized, two-octave major scale as indicated below. Transposing instruments should play in the key of their instrument, as opposed to concert pitch. Students may articulate the scale in any manner that allows for a smooth, flowing performance. All candidates must use the following tempo and rhythm:

Allegro ♩ = 120



Starting pitch Bb:

flute, trumpet, viola, cello, bass

Starting pitch Db:

piano, mallets

Starting Pitch Eb:

oboe, clarinet, saxophone, guitar

Starting pitch F:

euphonium (bass clef), tuba, violin

Starting pitch G:

bassoon, French horn, trombone, euphonium (treble clef)

Vocalists: must perform a memorized, one-octave major scale: E major or A major (student's choice). The scale must be performed ascending and descending and sung on the syllable "ah" as in "father" with an even tempo of all quarter notes, mm=96

Percussion (snare drum): must perform memorized snare drum rudiments from the New Jersey Music Educators Association website (www.njmea.org). The rudiments performed will be of the judge's choice, so all of the rudiments must be prepared.

Solo:

All candidates must perform one unaccompanied solo. The prepared solo is of the candidate's choice but must demonstrate the absolute highest level of their technical and artistic proficiency. Solos may not exceed 3 minutes. Memorization is not required. Percussionists must prepare their solo for snare drum (not drum set, timpani, or other percussion). Except for piano, students must furnish their own instrument.

Reading:

All candidates will perform a *tonal memory* exercise. A recording of a melody will be played while they look at a copy of notes; then sing the melody using the syllable "la".

All candidates will be given a short excerpt of music *to sight-read*. They will have 30 seconds to look at a short work never seen before, and then perform the excerpt.

Paperwork:

All candidates must bring a one-page resume highlighting their musical involvement/accolades and a copy of the solo to be performed at the audition.

