

## **CWU Large Ensemble Fall 2026 Audition Excerpts**

Auditions will take place during the first week of classes. Prepare and practice these excerpts so that you are ready. Here are some tips:

- Listen to and watch recordings. Do your research and get a feel for style, approach, tempo
- Mark part with tempos, fingerings, bowings
- Organize part so that all pages are ready
- Five things that we will look for:
  - Rhythm
  - Intonation
  - Articulation
  - Sound
  - Preparation
- Rhythmically count measures of rest if two or less. Skip to next section without counting if there are three or more measures of rest
- For audition purposes, always take the top line if marked divisi.
- All excerpts will be performed behind a screen and you will be led in by a proctor. Do not make any noises that could be identifiable (coughs, comments).

Finally, some things to remember:

- Auditions are a measure of your progress and suitability for a specific ensemble (chamber or/and symphony).
- Except for principal seats, string seating is done by rotation. Seats at the front of the section are not reserved for stronger players.
- There is a place for everyone. No one will be left out.
- You are a member of an orchestral team – attitude, character, preparation, ability to work with others is as important as musical skill and preparation.

## VIOLIN

### EVERYONE PREPARE

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Brahms | [Symphony No. 4](#)

- Movement I, first page

Shostakovich | [Symphony No. 5](#)

- Movement I, Reh 9-12

Sibelius | [Symphony No. 2](#)

- Movement I, mm. 41-letter B

### PRINCIPAL

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If interested in a principal position, also prepare:

Strauss | [Ein Heldenleben](#)

- First page

Key responsibilities:

- Serve as role model for section and orchestra
- Demonstrate professional conduct
- Lead sectionals