Duke Ellington School of the Arts
SY27-28 Audition Procedures – Instrumental Music

GUIDELINES

All students must complete an audition in-person.

We are auditioning for the following instruments: Violin, Viola, Cello, Acoustic Bass, Guitar, Piano, Harp, Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet, Saxophone, French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Percussion

All auditions are closed to parents/guardians, family members or peers. If you leave for non-emergencies during your audition, you may be disqualified from completing the admissions process.

If you have any questions, conflicts, and/or health concerns, please contact the Admissions Office at admissions@ellingtonarts.org for further assistance.

What We Are Looking For

We are primarily evaluating your potential and passion for your instrument, your musicality, and your willingness to work hard to move to the next level.

What to Have/How to Prepare

For their audition, all auditioners must:

1. Prepare major scales and one musical selection for the audition and have sheet music for the selection, be sure to bring a copy of the sheet to your audition.
2. There will be a written music theory assessment.
    a. Please bring a pencil.
3. Make sure to have their own musical instrument, except for piano.
    a. Drummers should only bring their own drumsticks

NOTE: We cannot provide an audition instrument for auditioners. If you do not have an instrument to audition with, please contact admissions@ellingtonarts.org to discuss other arrangements.

The Audition Process Itself

All auditioners in instrumental music will be required to:

- Perform a prepared musical selection
- Perform a sampling of major scales
- Take a music theory assessment
- Be tested on musical response and sight-reading
- Participate in a personal interview.

- Accompaniments are not required.

In addition to the procedures above, percussion auditioners must present at least one of the following:

- A variety of snare drum rudiments from the Percussive Arts Society (PAS) List of International Drum Rudiments
- Any technical/musical skills on mallet percussion or timpani, drum set styles such as Jazz, Latin, Funk, Rock and/or soloing.

Have a Successful Audition

1. Practice! Truly prepare your musical selection.
2. Arrive promptly to your audition with all required materials.
3. Present yourself well – speak confidently and clearly.
4. Be prepared to talk about yourself – your musical background and your goals for the future.

Please note 504 and IEP accommodation is available. Please contact admissions@ellingtonarts.org with any requests, questions or concerns.