

# ASHLAND UNIVERSITY

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## SYMPHONIC BAND

### CLARINET AUDITION PACKET

#### INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in the Ashland University Symphonic Band. This audition packet provides the required excerpts and instructions for placement within the ensemble. The Ashland University Department of Music supports a long tradition of rigorous ensemble performance, a collaborative culture of musicianship, and an academic environment shaped by the liberal arts. Students in the program participate in a wide range of musical experiences that include large ensembles, chamber groups, applied study, and an expanding schedule of concerts and community engagement. The Symphonic Band serves as the University's top performing wind ensemble and provides opportunities for meaningful artistic growth for both music majors and non-majors.

#### EXPECTATIONS

Auditionees are expected to demonstrate a high level of technique, rhythmic control, and musical sensitivities consistent with collegiate ensemble performances. All excerpts should reflect a level of preparation that allows the committee to evaluate your readiness for the responsibilities of membership in the Ashland University Symphonic Band.

#### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Ashland University Department of Music fosters a close-knit musical community supported by dedicated faculty, strong student involvement, and regular collaboration with campus and regional partners. Students benefit from individualized instruction, active ensemble participation, and performance opportunities that include concerts, festivals, outreach events, and interdisciplinary projects. The Symphonic Band contributes to the cultural life of the university through high-quality performances of standard and contemporary repertoire, with a focus on artistic excellence and inclusive music-making.

Your preparation for this audition is an important step in joining a vibrant musical community built on commitment, respect, and shared artistic purpose.

#### AUDITION FORMAT

Auditions are conducted as blind auditions. When you enter the audition room, the judges will be positioned so they cannot see you, or a screen will be placed to ensure full anonymity. This process allows the committee to evaluate each performer solely on musical merit.

Each candidate will be asked to perform two or more excerpts selected from this packet. You will not be informed in advance which excerpts will be requested. You should therefore prepare the entire packet with attention to accuracy, tone quality, rhythm, articulation, intonation, expression, and stylistic understanding.

Excerpts will be selected from the following (enclosed):

1. Ballet Music from *Faust* (Gounod/Tobani)
2. Symphony No. 3 in F, Opus 90 – 2nd movement (Brahms)
3. Serenade No. 10 in B-flat, K. 361 (Mozart)
4. Symphony No. 5 – 1st movement (Nielsen)
5. Symphony No. 1 – 1st movement (Sibelius)
6. Symphony No. 2 – 3rd movement (Rachmaninoff)
7. Hammersmith, Opus 52 (Holst)
8. *Lincolnshire Posy* – 4th movement (Grainger/Fennell)

Ballet Music from *Faust* (Gounod/Tobani)

**Allegretto** (♩=112)

*p*

*p*

*cresc. .... molto*

*f*

Detailed description: This musical score consists of seven staves of music in 2/4 time. The tempo is marked 'Allegretto' with a quarter note equal to 112 beats per minute. The music begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The first two staves feature a complex rhythmic pattern with many sixteenth and thirty-second notes. The third staff continues this pattern with some rests. The fourth and fifth staves show a similar texture with some melodic lines. The sixth staff is marked with a crescendo (*cresc.*) and reaches a 'molto' dynamic. The seventh staff concludes with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

Symphony No. 3 in F, Opus 90 – 2nd movement (Brahms)

**Andante**

*p espress. semplice*

Detailed description: This musical score consists of three staves of music in 4/4 time. The tempo is marked 'Andante'. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The music is characterized by long, flowing lines with many slurs and phrasing slurs. The first staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and the instruction 'espress. semplice'. The second staff continues the melodic development. The third staff shows a simple harmonic accompaniment.

Serenade No. 10 in B-flat, K. 361 (Mozart) - Excerpt 1

**Thema mit Variationen.**  
(Andante.)

*p sfp sf p sf p*

*p cresc. f p*

*f*

Serenade No. 10 in B-flat, K. 361 (Mozart) - Excerpt 2

**Rondo.**  
Allegro molto.

*f*

*f*

**A.**  
*f*

**B.**  
*p f p f p f p fp p*

Symphony No. 5 - 1st movement (Nielsen)

*Solo Cad.*

*Quasi molto lontano*

*espr. dim. poco*

*lunga*

Symphony No. 1 – 1st movement (Sibelius)

*in A.*  
*Andante, ma non troppo.*  
*Solo, espressivo*

*mf*

*pp*

*pppp*

*morendo*

*Allegro energico.*

Symphony No. 2 – 3rd movement (Rachmaninoff)

*in A.*  
*Adagio, poco rit. a tempo*  
*(♩ = 50)*

*Solo*

*p espressivo e cantabile*

*poco cresc.*

*dim.*

*46*

*dim.*

*p*

*poco cresc.*

*p*

*mf cresc.*

*f*

*dim.*

*pp*

*p*

*mf*

*p*

*p poco cresc.*

*dim.*

*47*

*p dim.*

Hammersmith, Opus 52 (Holst)

Excerpt 1

(Poco vivace) (♩ = 120)  
Soli

*p stacc.*

*p*

*mf* *stacc.*

*cresc.*

*f stacc.*

Excerpt 2

(♩ = 120)

*ff*

