

ASHLAND UNIVERSITY

SYMPHONIC BAND

PICCOLO 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. "Easter Monday on the White House Lawn" (Sousa)
2. Procession of the Sardar from *Caucasian Sketches* (Ippolotov-Ivanov)
3. "Rufford Park Poachers" from *Lincolnshire Posy* (version B) (Grainger)
4. Overture to *Semiramide* (Rossini)

"Easter Monday on the White House Lawn" (Sousa)

Excerpt 1:

Allegro brillante (♩ = 112)

Musical score for Excerpt 1, measures 1-16. The score is in 2/4 time and B-flat major. It begins with a *ff* dynamic and a trill (tr) on the first measure. The melody is characterized by eighth-note patterns. Measure 8 is marked with a box containing the number 8, and measure 16 is marked with a box containing the number 16. The piece concludes with a trill (tr) and a *mf* dynamic.

Excerpt 2:

Musical score for Excerpt 2, measures 68-90. The score is in 2/4 time and B-flat major. It begins at measure 68 with a *p* dynamic and features triplet eighth notes. Measure 73 is marked with a box containing the number 73. Measure 81 is marked with a box containing the number 84 and a *ff* dynamic. Measure 86 is marked with a box containing the number 86. The piece concludes at measure 90 with a final triplet eighth note.

Procession of the Sardar from *Caucasian Sketches* (Ippolotov-Ivanov)

Allegro moderato, tempo marziale ♩ = 92-108

p

p

p

mf *p* *mf*

p

"Rufford Park Poachers" from *Lincolnshire Posy* (version B) (Grainger)

Flowingly ♩ = 80

C Piccolo

pp *mf* *p*

p *f*

p

p

Overture to *Semiramide* (Rossini)

Excerpt 1:

Musical score for Excerpt 1, measures 128-142. The score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = ca. 144$. Measure 128 starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and features a melodic line with eighth-note triplets and a bass line with chords. Measure 138 shows a crescendo (*cresc.*) leading to a fortissimo (*f*) dynamic in measure 142, which is marked with a fermata and the letter 'H'.

Excerpt 2:

Musical score for Excerpt 2, measures 331-336. The score is in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = ca. 144$. Measure 331 features a melodic line with eighth-note triplets and a bass line with chords. Measure 336 is marked with a fermata and the letter 'U'.