

Cello Audition Repertoire

Note: You do NOT have to prepare both sets of music.

Cello majors: prepare the Arizona Symphony Orchestra list.

Non-majors can prepare either the University of Arizona Philharmonic or the Symphony list.

To maximize your experience in this demanding audition setting, prepare the excerpts beyond thoroughly and well ahead of time. Study the full score. Compare various recordings for tempo, style, bowing options, etc. Explore all the resources available such as www.orchestraexcerpts.com. Think of audition excerpts as a chance to polish an immaculate, small gem.

Email Dr. Buchholz with any questions: buchholz@arizona.edu.

Fall 2023

Symphony:

1. Exposition of any concerto, a movement from the Bach Suites, or a movement of a work for solo cello
2. Johannes Brahms – Movement 3 from *Piano Concerto No. 2*: Bars 1-25 (top line)
3. Felix Mendelssohn - Scherzo from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*: C-D and N-O (top line)

Philharmonic:

1. Any solo piece
2. Florence Price - Movement 1 from *Symphony No. 1*: Bars 23-31

Symphony:

1. Exposition of any concerto or a movement from the Bach Suites
2. Johannes Brahms – Movement 3 from *Piano Concerto No. 2*: Bars 1-25 (top line)

This musical score is for the Violoncelli I, II, and III parts of Johannes Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 2, Movement 3, bars 1-25. The score is written in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked "Andante (M. M. ♩ = 84)". The score is divided into systems, with bar numbers 4, 8, 13, and 20 indicated. The Violoncelli I part is marked "Solo" and "mp espress.". The Violoncelli II and III parts are marked "div. p." and "pizz.". The Violoncelli I Solo part is marked "mf arco". The Violoncelli II and III parts are marked "p" and "cresc.". The Violoncelli II and III parts are marked "Solo" and "pizz.". The Violoncelli II and III parts are marked "mf" and "arco". The Violoncelli II and III parts are marked "p" and "dolce". The Violoncelli II and III parts are marked "pp rit." and "in tempo". The Violoncelli II and III parts are marked "8".

Violoncelli I Solo
Violoncelli II III
Vcell. I Solo
Vcell. II
Vcell. III
Vcell. II, III arco
Vcell. II, III arco
Vcell. II, III arco

Andante (M. M. ♩ = 84)
Tutti 3
mp espress.
div. p.
pizz.
mf arco
p
cresc.
p
cresc.
cresc.
Solo
pizz.
dolce
arco mf
Solo rit.
pp rit.
in tempo
8
8

Symphony (continued):

3. Mendelssohn - Scherzo from A Midsummer Night's Dream: C-D

This musical score is for the Scherzo from Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, specifically measures 21 through 25. The piece is in 3/4 time and E-flat major. The notation is for piano, with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs).
Measure 21 begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The right hand features a series of eighth-note chords, while the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. A *pizz.* (pizzicato) instruction is placed above the right hand in the second half of the measure.
Measure 22 continues the pattern, with a *pizz.* instruction also present. The dynamics shift to *pp* (pianissimo) at the start of the measure.
Measure 23 is marked with a *arco* (arco) instruction, indicating the return to bowing. The right hand plays a more complex, flowing line, while the left hand continues its accompaniment.
Measure 24 shows the right hand with a series of sixteenth-note runs, and the left hand with a similar but slower accompaniment. The dynamic is *p* (piano).
Measure 25 is the final measure shown, marked with a *cresc.* (crescendo) instruction. The right hand continues its sixteenth-note pattern, and the left hand provides a supporting accompaniment. The measure ends with a repeat sign.

Symphony (continued):

Mendelssohn - Scherzo from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*: C-D and N-O (top line)

The image displays a musical score for the Scherzo from Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, specifically measures C-D and N-O (top line). The score is written for piano and features four systems of staves. The first system (measures C-D) includes a large bracket labeled 'N' and a 'pizz.' (pizzicato) instruction. The second system (measures N-O) includes a 'p' (piano) instruction. The third system (measures C-D) includes a 'cresc.' (crescendo) instruction. The fourth system (measures N-O) includes a 'f' (forte) instruction, a 'p' (piano) instruction, and a 'arco' (arco) instruction. The score is written in G major and 3/4 time. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

Philharmonic:

1. Any solo piece
2. Florence Price - Movement 1 from *Symphony No. 1*: Bars 23-31

Violoncello

SYMPHONY No. 1

I

Florence Price

Allegro ma non troppo *rit.* *a tempo*

pizz. *p* *mp* *p* *pp* *mp* *(pizz.)*

16 *arco* *V*

22 *div.* *mf* *unis.* *mp* *cresc. poco a poco* *V*

26 *(cresc.)* *ff*

29