

# NVSO Adult Audition Instructions

Thank you for preparing to audition for NVSO!! Many of us have bad memories of auditions and “juries,” or simply lots of anxiety just hearing the word “audition.” But, in the world of performing arts, it is a part of the fabric of what we do. And as a conductor, I absolutely need to know how well each member of the orchestra can play. Thank you so much for giving me that consideration and courtesy. In return, I vow to make the audition process as “painless” as possible.

Auditions will be held before the Musical Director, Concertmaster, and the appropriate principal and/or section leader.

All players should prepare:

1. **Solo Piece:** This solo piece (or excerpt from a piece) of your choice should be representative of your overall musical and technical ability. Solos and excerpts should be no more than 2 minutes in length. Choose a piece that you are comfortable with, and has both a technically challenging section, and a more lyric section that can demonstrate your expression.

2. **Scales:** Prepare a major and melodic minor scale throughout the range of your instrument (for stringed instruments, please be prepared to play 3 octaves). The scale will then be used to demonstrate different bowings and tonguings.

- Strings: Be prepared to accomplish different bowings of slur 4, slur 8, and spiccato.
- Winds/Brass: slur, staccato, double or triple tongue on each note.

3. **Sight Reading:** You will sight-read a portion of a piece that we will perform at NVSO this season. We recommend practicing sight-reading pieces you are unfamiliar with to help prepare for this part of the audition.

4. **Excerpts:** Download the excerpts specific to your instrument from the “Join Us/Adult Orchestra” page of the NVSO public website at [www.northvalleysymphony.org/adult-orchestra](http://www.northvalleysymphony.org/adult-orchestra) . Please prepare to play all the excerpts.

Final Note...

- Make sure you contact me for an audition appointment time and location.

Best of Luck!!

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