Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra

Auditions – What to Expect

Thank you for your interest in auditioning for the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra. We strive to create an audition process that is fair, transparent, and focused on musicianship. The following information outlines what candidates can expect throughout the audition process.

Pre-Recorded Round

All auditions will begin with a pre-recorded round.

These recordings are intended to evaluate the quality of the candidate's playing, not the quality of the recording equipment. Candidates should aim to submit a clear recording that accurately represents their playing, but professional recording equipment is not required.

The pre-recorded round will require a smaller selection of excerpts taken from the complete excerpt list. Candidates who advance will perform from the full excerpt list in later rounds.

In-Person Rounds

All in-person rounds will be conducted double blind. This means:

- The audition committee will not be able to see the candidates.
- The committee will not know the candidates' names.
- The committee will only hear the performance.

A union proctor will be present throughout the audition to help ensure the process is fair and runs smoothly.

Before entering the audition space, the proctor will announce the candidate's audition number. Audition numbers will change from round to round. This helps the committee evaluate each round independently and prevents comparisons based on earlier performances.

Warm-Up Time

For each in-person round:

- Every candidate will receive the same amount of time to warm up in a private room.
- The excerpts for that round will be provided at the beginning of the warm-up period.

While the committee may not request every excerpt during the round, candidates should be prepared to perform all listed excerpts.

Between Rounds

After completing a round, candidates are welcome to:

- Remain in the common waiting area with other candidates, or
- Leave the venue temporarily for lunch, coffee, or other personal needs.

The audition coordinator will provide an approximate time for when candidates should return to the venue for advancement announcements and subsequent rounds.

We appreciate the time, preparation, and artistry that candidates bring to this process and look forward to hearing your performance.