

COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY
SCHWOB SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Instrumental Ensembles at Columbus State University

PROF. PAUL HOSTETTER | DIRECTOR OF ORCHESTRAL ACTIVITIES

DR. JAMIE L. NIX | DIRECTOR OF WIND ENSEMBLE ACTIVITIES

PROF. BEN WEATHERFORD | DIRECTOR OF JAZZ BANDS

ENSEMBLE PLACEMENT AUDITIONS FOR FALL 2023

We hope you had a great summer and are looking forward to a new season of wonderful music making. Below you'll find information regarding the audition process, contacts, and some other data that should help you get started in the 2023-24 season.

Firstly to confirm, here are the rehearsal schedules for each ensemble listed below:

Wind Ensemble

Tuesday 1:30-4:00 PM

Thursday 1:30-4:00 PM

Wind Orchestra

Monday 1:30-4:00 PM

Wednesday 1:30-4:00 PM

Philharmonic

Monday 1:30-4:00 PM

Wednesday 1:30-4:00 PM

Schwob Jazz Orchestra

Monday 10:30 AM-11:45 AM

Wednesday 10:30 AM-11:45 AM

Friday 10:30 AM-11:45 AM

As always, the auditions are critically important for you and the ensembles. Placement/seating will be based upon the audition, conversations we will have with your applied professors, and if you are returning, our experience with you in ensembles. The December audition for the Spring Semester will be based on the same criteria (both the audition and our knowledge of you as an ensemble member). **All students must audition in August**, and all wind, brass, and percussion students must audition in December as well. The Schwob Jazz Orchestra is an elective, which offers a unique opportunity to delve into some of the finest music written.

Auditions will be very competitive this year, so please be prepared. You will need to present **three minutes** of your most musical playing. To be considered for the Schwob Philharmonic or Wind Ensemble, **we encourage you to use the supplied excerpts in consultation with your applied professor.** If you do not use them, please plan to play two contrasting works that reflect your technical and musical abilities fully. For placement in jazz ensembles, please prepare the appropriate excerpt posted online. A jazz improvisation audition is required for those seeking placement into jazz combos; literature selections for this audition will be posted online.

Winds/Brass/ Auditions—Room 1715—WEA Rehearsal Room

Percussion Auditions - Room – 1716 – Orchestra Rehearsal Room

Thursday, August 10, 2023

9:00-10:50 AM Clarinets
11:00-11:40 AM Oboes
1:15-2:30 PM Saxophones
2:40-3:50 PM Flutes
4:00-4:30 PM Bassoons

Friday, August 11, 2023

9:20-10:45 AM Trombones
11:00-11:30 AM Tubas
11:30-12:00 PM Euphoniums
1:20-2:35 PM Trumpets
2:45-4:40 PM Horns
4:50-6:30 PM Percussion

Strings—Room 1716—Orchestra Rehearsal Room

Saturday, August 12, 2023

9:30-11:45AM	Violins
1:15-2:15 PM	Violas
2:25-3:20 PM	Basses
3:20-4:30 PM	Celli
4:30-4:40 PM	Harps

Below are the times and locations for the Jazz Ensembles Auditions:

Thursday August 10, 2023 - ROOM 1717

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Trumpets - w/Dr. Jensen

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM: Trombones - w/ Dr. Palmer Palmer

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM: Rhythm Section (piano, guitar, bass, drums) - w/ Dr. Vaillancourt, Dr. Lombardi

4:15pm-5:15pm: Saxophones – w/Dr. Girard

Sign-up sheets for the auditions are posted online at:

<https://www.columbusstate.edu/music/current-students.php>

You will also find your audition excerpts at this location as well.

Please sign up for a time under your instrument and be prepared to go a few minutes before your time. To keep the process moving, you may enter the room as soon as the previous person leaves, so do not wait to be called.

We will need the following info when you check in with the Grad. Assts. (Room 1921/1922) before auditioning:

1. Local Phone Number and cell phone number
2. Local Address (apt #, etc.)
3. E-mail Address (columbusstate.edu or one you check most frequently)

Have this information when you check in with the Grad Assts in Room 1921/1922 before you audition. To confirm, **you will enter the audition room from the back hallway.**

Important Ensemble Information

1. You are required to have proper performance attire:

Option 1: Formal black. Long black dress or blouse with pants, long sleeves, black stockings, black formal shoes – no stiletto heels please. No décolletage, bare shoulders, or open backs.

Option 2: Formal black. Black tuxedo, black bow tie, cummerbund/vest, black socks, polished black dress shoes.

2. Every member of the ensemble should own a personal metronome AND tuner or highly rated smartphone apps such as Cleartune, Tonal Energy Tuner, Tempo, etc. Please acquire now.

3. Make sure you have all the appropriate mutes, reeds, strings, and accessories that go with your particular instruments. CSU does not supply these. Percussionists all need a big bag of appropriate mallets for all standard mallet and battery equipment (CSU owns bass drum, tam-tam mallets, etc.).

4. Flute (piccolo and alto flute), Oboe (and English Horn), Clarinet (E^b, Bass, Contrabass Clarinet), Bassoon (ContraBassoon), Saxophone (Soprano, Tenor, Bari) may prepare music for these auxiliary instruments as well. Horns should be prepared to read multiple transpositions.

5. **Lockers** will be ready for semester check out during the ensemble auditions – there will be grad assistants stationed under the stairwell making the assignments and providing locks. If you need access on your scan card to rooms in Schwob, other than the front door and practice rooms, you can request those at this time as well.

6. Select **school instruments** may be checked out as necessary for \$10 per semester with the Instrumental Graduate Assistants. Instruments (like bass clarinet) that are assigned to you on a rotation do not require a rental fee.

7. Placement **audition results** will be posted by Sunday evening (Aug. 13). It is your responsibility to alter your schedule to accommodate the ensemble in which you have been placed. See your advisor if you have trouble. However, you must attend your correct ensemble on Monday, Aug. 14 and Tuesday, August 15. Folders should be ready for Orchestra and Contemporary Ensemble outside the GA office (1922) Sunday evening, 6pm on August 13, and in Room 1715 for Wind Ensemble and Wind Orchestra on Monday morning, August 14, all for pick-up as soon as the results are posted. All students in each ensemble should report at the beginning of the first class meeting to discuss the syllabus. Rehearsals will begin immediately afterward so check your part assignments and schedule to be ready play on time.

Dates

You will receive dates for the Fall Semester and tentative dates for the Spring Semester either in your syllabus or as an addendum on the first day of classes. **Input all of that information into your calendar immediately following rehearsal and check for any potential conflicts.** Most can be resolved if found early enough. It is your responsibility to stay organized and proactive about your schedule. Check the bulletin boards/and your emails frequently for rehearsal schedules and information, as times and dates may change.

Wind Ensemble Activities Graduate Assistants:

Yuji Jones jones_ethan@columbusstate.edu

Orchestra Ensemble Graduate Assistant:

Megan Castaneda castaneda_megan@columbusstate.edu

Jazz Ensembles Graduate Assistant:

Matthew Siegmund siegmund_matthew@columbusstate.edu

Conductors can be reached at the following emails:

Prof. Hostetter: hostetter_paul@columbusstate.edu

Dr. Nix: nix_jamie@columbusstate.edu

Prof.. Weatherford: weatherford_ben@columbusstate.edu

If our assistants cannot answer your questions, we'll do our best to get right back to you. We look forward to meeting you/seeing you at your audition, if not before! Welcome back!!!

With best wishes and thanks,
Professors Hostetter, Nix, and Weatherford