

Large Ensemble Placement Audition Guidelines for Trombone

General thoughts: EVERYONE is welcome to play in ensembles. Whether you are a seasoned performance major or a novice who would like to continue playing trombone in college, you are welcome and encouraged to participate in ensembles at Lawrence. Auditions are meant to place students in ensembles with players of similar ability and experience. There is an ensemble for everyone at Lawrence. Work diligently on the material below over the summer, and come prepared to play your best!

Performance and Education Majors: Prepare all material listed below for your instrument (tenor or bass trombone). For excerpts, play only the bracketed passages. **These auditions will be blind** (the committee will be behind a screen).

Music Minors, BA students, or anyone interested in joining the Symphonic Band: Prepare two contrasting pieces (etudes, solos, excerpts, etc.) of your choice. Contact me if you would like me to suggest pieces for you.

Tenor Trombones only: The Lawrence Symphony Orchestra will perform Bolero on October 12, 2019. Play the Bolero excerpt only if you would like to be considered for this performance.

Tips for preparation:

- Listen to several recordings of these works!!! Listen along with the score (see useful resources below). Take note of tempi, phrasing and breaths, orchestration, dynamics and style.
- Practice with a metronome.
- Practice with a tuner and/or a drone (see useful resources below).
- Practice playing from memory.
- Practice playing with a sense of style appropriate to the piece.
- Know what the other instruments are playing before, during and after you play.
- Know how this excerpts fits into the grand scheme of the whole piece.
- Above all else, the audition committee will be listening for tone, pitch (intonation), rhythm and expression.
- Relax. Practice mindfulness, meditation, deep breathing, etc to help calm nerves.
- Enjoy the process. The audition committee's goal is to make the audition as painless as possible. We want to hear you enjoying the music.

Useful resources:

- tromboneexcerpts.org. This invaluable website has numerous recordings of your excerpts for free!
- [Cello Drones](#) and [Tonal Energy Tuner](#). A must for better intonation.
- IMSLP.org. Find full scores of many of your excerpts here.
- [Mudd Library](#). Many great resources here including online recordings of the rep.
 - For example: A quick search for "La gazza ladra" produced [this recording](#).
- YouTube: various online masterclasses on orchestral repertoire.
- [Toby Oft YouTube Channel](#). Toby has recorded several Bordogni etudeds here. Number 24 is not yet available, but you'll get a good idea of style and phrasing by listening to these.

If you have any questions, please contact me at albright@lawrence.edu.

Gillis 20 etudes for bass trombone

Slowly

The musical score consists of seven staves of music in bass clef, 2/4 time, and B-flat major. The first staff is enclosed in a large left-facing bracket and includes the tempo marking "Slowly". The second staff has two "b4" annotations below the staff. The fourth staff is enclosed in a large right-facing bracket. The sixth staff has a "6" annotation below the staff, followed by two "V" annotations. The seventh staff has "V" and "6" annotations below the staff. The music features a variety of note values, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests, often grouped with slurs and ties.

Beethoven Symphony No. 9

Allegro assai vivace alla Marcia

331 162 **L** Vello, C.-B. 48 **M** Archi 48 Archi

Andante maestoso $\text{♩} = 72$

595 *ff* *f* *sf* *ff* *f*

606 **N** *f* *ff* *f*

618 *f* *sf* *p*

3. Posaune.

53 8 54 6 55

56

dim.

2. Pos.

57

58

mf

ff

p subito cresc.

59 4 60 2

61

cresc.

62

ff

63

ff

64

ff

65

mit Dämpfer