Instructions for the Preliminary Audition Video

All String students will be asked to record one scale and one excerpt from their solo repertoire that best reflect their current skill level.

The following are guidelines to be used when recording the preliminary audition video:

- Recordings must be submitted online through Acceptd. Physical CDs, DVDs, tapes, emailed files and YouTube links will not be accepted.
- For technical support with your Acceptd submission, please contact support@getacceptd.com.
- The recording should be in a video format such as MP4, MOV, MPG, MPED, etc.
- Video submissions must be in one continuous take that includes all components. Video submissions should not be edited.

Tips and Tricks for the Preliminary Audition Video

- The student should state their name at the top of the video. They should also state information such as the scale they are playing and the name of their prepared piece or excerpt.
- Stay within the frame. It is okay to move your head, hands and body – be natural and not stiff. Your hands, instrument and bow stroke should remain in the frame while you are playing.
- There is no specific dress code requirement though dressing nicely may help exude more confidence and wearing pajamas may be frowned upon.
- Don’t leave your recording for the last minute. Practice the music you’ll be submitting well before the deadlines and don’t leave the final recording for the last day. A number of things can go wrong with the recording so plan ahead, figure out what you’re going to record with, get your questions answered, and fix any problems in enough time to meet the deadlines. It may also be helpful to record a few practice videos in advance.
- Breathe. Everyone wants you to succeed!
- Ask your private lesson teacher and/or school band or orchestra director for help preparing for your video.

String Preliminary Audition Video FAQ

Is piano accompaniment required for my audition video?
No. Videos must be recorded without accompaniment.

How long should my video be?
The length of audition videos may vary based on age and level. Videos should not exceed 10 minutes.

What counts as "one excerpt"? How long should my excerpt be?
If you have an entire piece or movement prepared by the time you make your video, you should feel free to record all of it. If you are currently working on a long piece or movement and you have not yet mastered all of it, you should record the portion that reflects your best playing.

Can I record the same repertoire I would play for a live audition?
Yes, the repertoire for the video can be the same as one of the pieces you intend to play in a live audition.
Should the video be one long clip or multiple clips?
Video submissions must be in one continuous take that includes both the scale and the excerpt. Video submissions should not be edited.

What type of device should I use to record my video?
Videos will not be evaluated on the quality of the recording device, i.e. a reasonably good and clear computer or smartphone recording should be sufficient.

How many scales should I play?
Students should choose one scale only.

How many octaves should my scales be?
Choose quality over quantity. Pick the number of octaves that you can play well and in tune.

Should the content on my video be memorized?
Memorization is not required.

When will I receive my preliminary audition results?
Audition results will be released the week of April 15th by email only.

What is the deadline for submitting the preliminary audition video?
Audition videos must be submitted by March 31, 2019 at 11:59pm.

Why are you requiring a preliminary audition video for string players?
The preliminary audition video has been added for all string players (both new and current) due to high numbers of applications and a limited number of live audition slots.

Can I be admitted based on my video?
It is our goal to hear as many applicants as possible in a live audition. If the number of applicants exceeds our capacity to schedule live auditions, however, we reserve the right to make decisions based on the preliminary video alone, when an accurate decision can be made regarding placement or non-placement in BYSO.