



TWIGS Music Audition Instructions 2024

Thank you for your interest in the TWIGS Instrumental and Vocal Music Program!

Baltimore City residents entering the 2nd–8th grades in School Year 2024/25 may audition for specific instruments and students entering the 6th-8th grades may audition for vocal music. (*See information on grade level by instrument below).*

All Music Program Auditions will be held during Audition Week May 28, 2024, through June 3, 2024, at the Baltimore School for the Arts, 712 Cathedral Street, 21201.

Auditions will be held by appointment only. **All applicants must have submitted an online application by Wednesday, May 8, 2024, to receive an appointment.** Each student's audition appointment day and time will be sent out via email no later than Monday, May 20, 2024.

Instructions for both the Instrumental Music and Vocal Music auditions are listed below and should be used to prepare for your audition.

Instrumental Music Audition Preparation & Requirements:

For the TWIGS Instrumental Music auditions, students will need to bring their instrument and sheet music. A piano, a harp and a snare drum will be provided for students auditioning on these instruments. Percussionists are advised to bring their drumsticks but NO sets or kits. Percussion applicants are expected to play their audition on snare drum.

Auditioning students should be prepared to play at least one solo piece AND one or two scales. Students should choose pieces that represent their current skill set on the instrument. We are looking for students who exhibit potential and a level of proficiency, both musically and technically, regardless of the amount of experience on their instrument. **To best prepare, some experience with the instrument is required.**

Instrumental Program Instruments and Grade Level Requirements:

Students entering the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th grade in School Year 2024/25 can audition for the following instruments: **Piano, Harp, Violin, Viola, Cello**

Students entering the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade in School Year 2024/25 can audition for the following instruments: **Piano, Harp, Violin, Viola, Cello, Double (Stand Up) Bass, Classical Guitar, Percussion, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Tuba, Euphonium/Baritone, Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet, Saxophone**

Harp Audition Exception:

Harp is currently the only instrument where no training or experience is required to audition. For the Harp audition, no specific preparation is required, although we welcome harpists with all levels of experience. Our harp instructor will meet individually with students to introduce the instrument and assess the student's interest, musicality, initiative, and potential.

Vocal Music Audition Preparation & Requirements:

No former training or experience is required to audition for Vocal Music!

Students may sing a song of their choice that demonstrates the quality of the voice and the clear articulation of the song's words. Examples are patriotic songs, church hymns, or folk songs. Popular music that imitates the style of that particular singer is *not helpful* in determining the quality of a young voice and should not be used.

One example of a song that students may choose to sing is *The Water is Wide*. This song is recommended for students who cannot decide what to sing for the voice audition. Students can search *The Water is Wide* on YouTube to hear the melody. (One example can be found [here](#))

Students should not have accompaniment during their vocal music audition. They will be singing acapella.

The Water is Wide - traditional Scottish folk song

Verse 1: The water is wide, I cannot get o'er
And neither have I wings to fly
With a little boat that can carry two
We both shall row,
My love and I

Verse 2: I leaned my back against an oak
Thinking it was a trusty tree
But first is bent and then it broke
So did my love false to me

Verse 3: O love is handsome and love is kind,
Bright as a jewel when first it's new
But love grows old and waxes cold,
And fades away like morning dew

If you have any questions, email us at TWIGS@bsfa.org