

UIC Orchestra String Auditions and Other Info Fall 2025

Thanks for your interest in playing in the UIC Orchestra! We have an exciting year planned, beginning with the inaugural UIC Honors Orchestra Festival in October and continuing through a complete performance of Antonin Dvorak's Symphony No. 8 in April. Through all of it, look forward to great music, fun times, and a community of friends.

NOTE: THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW ARE FOR STRING PLAYERS WHO PLAN TO PLAY WITH UICO. ANY WINDS OR PERCUSSION WHO WANT TO PLAY IN ORCHESTRA SHOULD SIGN UP FOR A WIND ENSEMBLE/SYMPHONIC BAND AUDITION. Be sure to indicate your interest in playing with Orchestra during your audition. Priority for Orchestra wind and percussion slots will go to those who express an interest, who are available during rehearsals (Tu/Th 4:00-6:00), and who play the best auditions.

String auditions

All string players are expected to complete an in-person audition this fall. **Don't worry—all string players with prior experience are accepted into UICO.** So the audition is not an acceptance audition, but a chance for us to get to know each other so I can devise a seating arrangement that is best for the group.

When are auditions?

Auditions will take place **Tuesday**, **August 26 from 3:15-8:30 pm**. You do NOT need to be there the whole time! Signups for time slots are coming soon.

Where are auditions?

Auditions are in the Education, Theatre, Music, and Social Work (ETMSW) building, **1040 W. Harrison St.** in the basement level.

What should I play for auditions?

Scroll through this document to find TWO PAGES for your instrument. You will see two excerpts clearly marked #1 and #2.

- Everyone should play excerpt #1.
- Those who are music performance majors, music education majors, OR interested in being considered for front stand or principal chair must also play excerpt #2.

I need an instrument. What do I do?

I can help you with this! Please email me at tfawkes@uic.edu as soon as possible.

Will we have winds and percussion this year?

Yes. We will use winds and percussion on every concert this year. This year's music includes great stuff for string orchestra and full orchestra.

Do I have to register for the class in order to play in Orchestra?

Yes—generally, all string players should sign up for MUS 157, University Orchestras. Please contact me if you have questions about this.

I have a friend who is interested in playing in Orchestra. What should they do?

Tell them to sign up for the class! It's not too late.

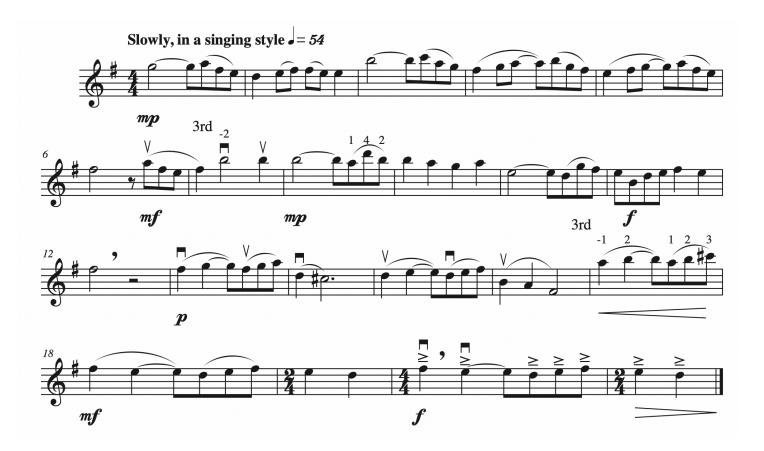
I am looking forward to working with you this year. Please don't hesitate to reach out (tfawkes@uic.edu) if you have any questions.

Prof. Timothy Fawkes (he/him)
Director of Orchestral Activities

UIC Orchestra Auditions Fall 2025 - Violin

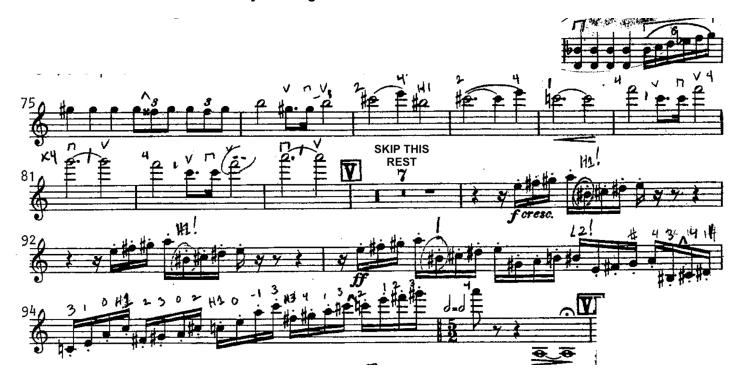
- Everyone should play excerpt #1.
- Those who are music performance majors, music education majors, OR interested in being considered for front stand or principal chair must also play excerpt #2.

Violin Excerpt #1



Violin Excerpt #2

Holst, "Mars, the Bringer of War" from *The Planets*Play mm. 74-83; skip the rest from 84-90; play mm. 91-95
Quarter note = 150 or as close as you can get to it



UIC Orchestra Auditions Fall 2024 - Viola

- Everyone should play excerpt #1.
- Those who are music performance majors, music education majors, OR interested in being considered for front stand or principal chair must also play excerpt #2.

Viola Excerpt #1



Viola Excerpt #2

Holst, "Mars, the Bringer of War" from *The Planets*Play mm. 77-83; skip the rest from 84-90; play mm. 91-95
Quarter note = 150 or as close as you can get to it



UIC Orchestra Auditions Fall 2024 - Cello

- Everyone should play excerpt #1.
- Those who are music performance majors, music education majors, OR interested in being considered for front stand or principal chair must also play excerpt #2.

Cello Excerpt #1



Cello Excerpt #2

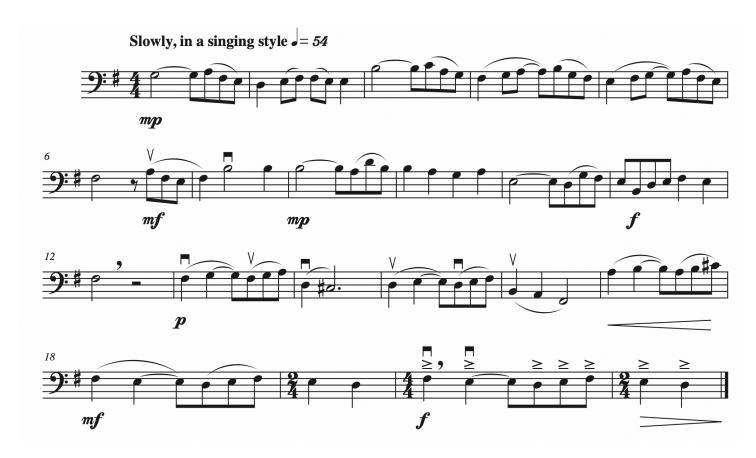
Holst, "Mars, the Bringer of War" from *The Planets*Play mm. 151-167; skip 168-171; play mm. 172-178
Quarter note = 130 or as close as you can get to it
Please take note of the tenor clef portions of this music!



UIC Orchestra Auditions Fall 2024 - Bass

- Everyone should play excerpt #1.
- Those who are music performance majors, music education majors, OR interested in being considered for front stand or principal chair must also play excerpt #2.

Bass Excerpt #1



Bass Excerpt #2 Holst, "Mars, the Bringer of War" from *The Planets* Play mm. 93-108 Quarter note = 150 or as close as you can get to it

