



Dear UIC Instrumental Music Student,

Welcome to the Fall 2025 semester at the University of Illinois Chicago! The following information is important for all students playing **woodwind, brass, and percussion** instruments intending to participate in one or more of the following **UIC Ensembles: Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Orchestra, and Chamber Music/Percussion Ensemble**.

Ensemble Information:

- **Wind Ensemble:** This ensemble rehearses every Monday/Wednesday from 4:00 - 5:50 pm and Friday from 4:00 - 4:50 pm. Wind Ensemble's **first meeting will take place on Friday, August 29 at 4:00 pm in L060**. For more information or questions regarding Wind Ensemble please contact Professor Weren at sweren@uic.edu.
- **Symphonic Band:** This ensemble rehearses every Monday/Wednesday from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. Students interested exclusively in the Symphonic Band should plan to attend the **first meeting on Monday, August 25 at 6:00 pm to complete the hearing**. Music for the hearing will be sent via email after completing the [online audition form](#). These are quick hearings held to place students on appropriate parts and not exclude anyone from participation. For more information or questions regarding Symphonic Band please contact Professor Carlson at carlsonn@uic.edu.
- **Orchestra:** This ensemble rehearses every Tuesday/Thursday from 4:00 – 6:00 pm and the **first meeting will take place on Thursday, August 28**. For more information or questions regarding Orchestra please contact Professor Fawkes at tfawkes@uic.edu.
- **Chamber Music:** Students selected for chamber music will be placed into small ensembles that will meet twice a week on Monday/Wednesday 2:00-3:00 or 3:00-4:00 pm or Tuesday/Thursday 2:00-3:00 or 3:00-4:00. For more information or questions regarding Chamber Music please contact Professor Cordle at acordle@uic.edu.
- **Percussion Ensemble:** This ensemble rehearses every Tuesday from 6:30 – 9:30 pm. Percussion Ensemble's **first meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 26 at 6:30 pm in L060**. For more information or question regarding Percussion Ensemble please contact Professor Kamps at jkamps@uic.edu.

Ensemble Placement Audition Information

Ensemble placement auditions for these UIC ensembles will take place from **Sunday, August 24 to Tuesday, August 26** and are held in the lower level of the ETMSW building. These auditions do not exclude anybody from ensemble participation but help us hear your current performance level to place you in the most appropriate ensemble(s) and assign music. Please read the following information carefully so that you are prepared.

- **Music degree students:** All music degree students are expected to take an ensemble placement audition every semester on their primary instrument. These auditions determine your ensemble placement(s) for the ensemble requirement that is part the degree plan. These auditions are for consideration for wind and percussion positions in Wind Ensemble, Orchestra, Symphonic Band, and Chamber Music/Percussion Ensemble. You should **NOT** select "Symphonic Band Hearing".
- **Non-music degree students:** All non-music degree students who want to be considered for Wind Ensemble, Orchestra, and/or Chamber Music/Percussion Ensemble in addition to Symphonic Band should select an audition time. While we encourage all students to take the audition, those who want to be in **Symphonic Band only** may select "Symphonic Band Hearing" on the online audition form. These hearings will take place during Symphonic Band class time on the first day of classes.



Audition Procedures:

- All woodwind, brass, and percussion students should complete the [ONLINE AUDITION SIGN-UP FORM](#) by logging into Google using your UIC email. **Please complete this form by Friday, August 22.** If you are not able to attend during the specified times listed, please email Dr. Weren (sweren@uic.edu) as soon as possible to schedule an alternative time.
- **Audition Blocks**
 - Sunday, August 24

12:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Woodwind/Brass
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 - Monday, August 25

1:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Woodwind/Brass
6:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Symphonic Band Hearings
 - Tuesday, August 26

11:00 am – 2:30 pm	Woodwind/Brass
3:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Percussion
- **Audition Excerpts:**
 - Excerpts for students taking the audition for all ensembles are included in the following pages of this packet or on our [Ensembles Audition Webpage](#). Music for students taking the Symphonic Band Hearing will be emailed after completing the [Online Audition Form](#).
 - **Prepare these excerpts to the best of your ability!** These auditions do not exclude anybody from ensemble participation but help us hear your current performance level to place you in the most appropriate ensemble and assign music. For excerpts from band or orchestral literature, we recommend listening to quality recordings of the larger piece for examples of style and technique.
- **Practice Rooms:** Practice rooms are available on the lower level of the ETMSW building. Access to the practice room hallway requires your campus ID and we will submit your information for access after you complete the [Online Audition Form](#).
- **Instruments/Lockers:** If you need to borrow an instrument or request a locker, you will note that in the [Online Audition Form](#), and we will work on getting an instrument or locker signed out to you as soon as possible. More information will be provided after the request is made on the Online Audition Form.
- **Audition Results:** UIC ensemble placement audition results will be emailed to all students who auditioned on the morning of Thursday, August 28.
- **Registration:** Members of Wind Ensemble (MUS 151 Concert Band, CRN: 12641), Symphonic Band (MUS 151 Concert Band, CRN: 37432), Orchestra (MUS 157 University Orchestra, CRN: 28803), Chamber Music (MUS 152 Instrumental Ensembles, CRN: 39076, 48241, TBD), or Percussion Ensemble (MUS 152 Instrumental Ensembles, CRN: 39114) are required to enroll in the 1-credit hour section of the course.

Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns regarding the audition process.

Sincerely,

Serena Weren, Director of Bands, sweren@uic.edu
Nicholas Carlson, Assistant Director of Bands, carlsonn@uic.edu
Tim Fawkes, Orchestra Director, tfawkes@uic.edu
Adam Cordle, Chamber Music Coordinator, acordle@uic.edu
Jordan Kamps, Percussion Ensemble Director, jkamps@uic.edu



AUDITION EXCERPTS – Fall 2025

Bassoon

Excerpt 1

Symphony No. 8 by Antonin Dvorak: Movement IV: Allegro non troppo,
quarter note = 88:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJEBk3zCdSU&list=RDDJEBk3zCdSU&start_radio=1

(excerpt begins :35 seconds in)

IV.

Allegro non troppo.

The musical score is written for Bassoon in 2/4 time. It begins with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a tempo marking of "Allegro non troppo." The score is divided into four staves. The first staff starts with a measure rest of 16 measures, followed by a half note and a quarter note, with a "Timp." marking above. The second staff is marked "A" and "Cello" and contains a melodic line with dynamics *p*, *fz*, and *dim.*. The third staff continues the melodic line with dynamics *dim.* and *pp*, and includes a first ending bracket. The fourth staff is marked "B" and contains a melodic line with dynamics *ff* and *v*. The score concludes with a double bar line.

Excerpt 2

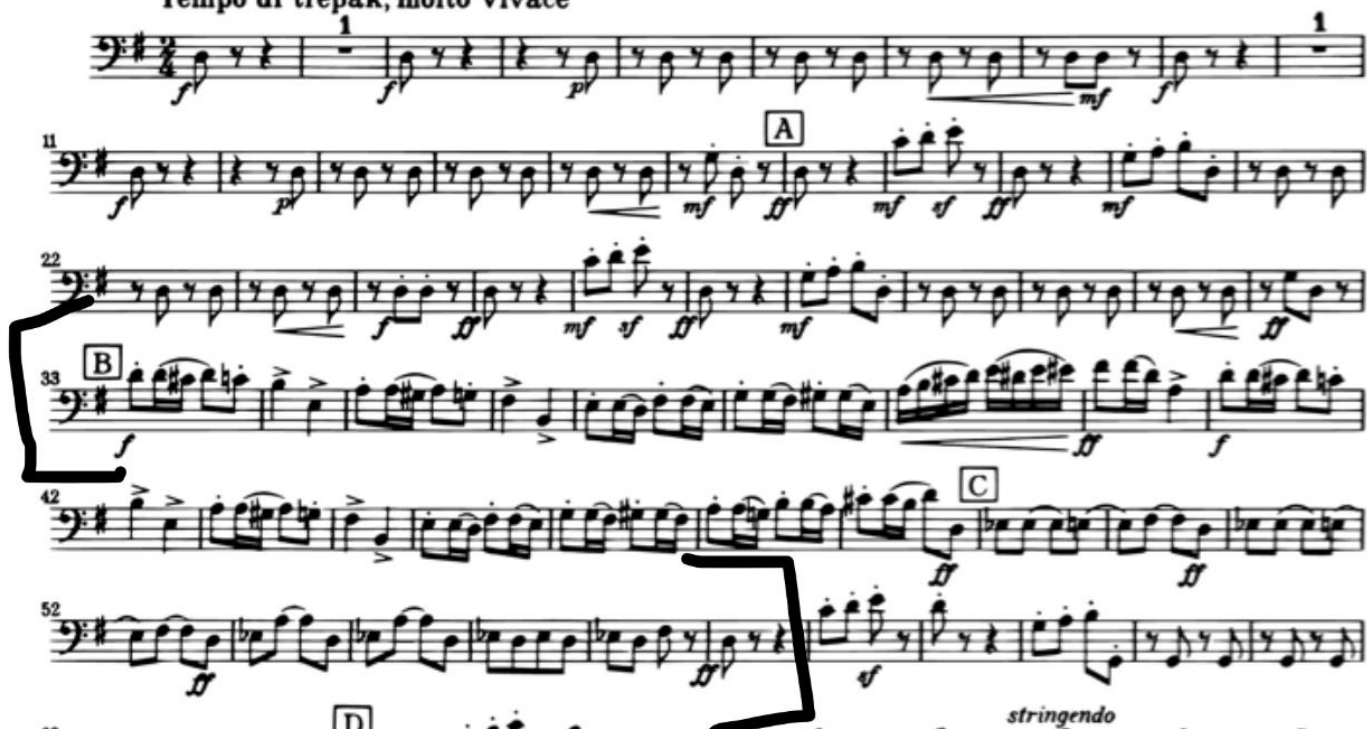
Danse Russe Trepak from Nutcracker Suite by Piotr Tchaikovsky: Tempo di Trepak, Molto Vivace, **quarter note = 144**:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmQjhwsPRDE&list=RDTmQjhwsPRDE&start_radio=1

(excerpt begins 29 seconds in)

c) Danse russe Trepak

Tempo di trepak, molto vivace



1

11

22

33

42

52

[A]

[B]

[C]

[D]

stringendo

Excerpt 3

The Planets by Gustav Holst: Mars the Bringer of War: Allegro, quarter note = 132:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXOanvv4plU&list=RDcXOanvv4plU&start_radio=1

(excerpt begins 3:07 seconds in)



⑥ in

p *cres.*

cres.

⑦

mf *cres.* *fff* 3 *ff* 3

Ten. Sax. *ff* *f*