



Dear UIC Instrumental Music Student,

Welcome to the Fall 2026 semester at the University of Illinois Chicago! The following information is important for all students playing **woodwind, brass, or percussion** instruments who intend 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 28 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 24 at 6:00 pm to complete the hearing in L060.** 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. More information to come soon.
- **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 Dr. 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 at the conclusion of percussion auditions on Tuesday, August 25 in L060.** For more information or questions 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 23 to Tuesday, August 25**, and are held in the lower level of the ETMSW building. These auditions do not exclude anyone from ensemble participation, but they help us assess 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 of 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/Hearing 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 21.** If you are unable to attend at the specified times, please email Professor Weren (sweren@uic.edu) as soon as possible to schedule an alternative time.
- **Audition Blocks**
 - Sunday, January 11

12:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Woodwind/Brass in L060
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 - Monday, January 12

2:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Woodwind/Brass in L060
6:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Symphonic Band Hearings in L060
 - Tuesday, January 13

11:00 am – 1:00 pm	Woodwind/Brass in L269
2:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Woodwind/Brass in L060
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Percussion in L060
- **Audition/Hearing 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 anyone from ensemble participation, but they help us assess 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 high-quality recordings of the larger work to better understand the style and technique of those excerpts.
- **Practice Rooms:** Practice rooms are available to students in ensembles 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](#).
- **Instrument/Locker Rentals:** If you need to borrow an instrument or request an instrument locker, please note it in the appropriate questions on the [Online Audition Form](#). We will work to get an instrument or instrument 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 27.
- **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), or Chamber Ensemble (MUS 152 Instrumental Ensemble, CRN: 39076, 48241, 48243, or 48245) Percussion Ensemble (MUS 152 Instrumental Ensembles, CRN: 39114) are required to enroll in the 1-credit hour section of the course.

Please reach out to Prof. Weren at sweren@uic.edu if you have any questions or concerns regarding the audition process.

Sincerely,

The UIC Instrumental Ensemble Faculty

AUDITION EXCERPTS – Fall 2026

Saxophone

Excerpt 1

Ticheli – *Amazing Grace*

Poco rubato



8 *pp* *mp* *rit.*

9 *Slower, senza rubato* *solo, dolce* *pp* *mp* *mf*

17 *mp* *mf* *p* 25

Excerpt 2

Grainger – *Molly on the Shore*

Fast, half note between 112-126



mp

27 *louden bit by bit* *3* *short* *3*

31 *3* *short* *f*

35 *3*

39 *3*



Excerpt 3
Shostakovich – *Festive Overture*

Presto

6

az

21

22

ff

tr

tr (e)

23