ORCHESTRAL CONDUCTING
AUDITION AND AUDITION REPERTOIRE INFORMATION

AUDITION
The audition process for admission into the orchestral conducting program consists of four stages:
1) interview, 2) conducting, 3) aural skills test, and 4) general music history/terminology exam. The order of the stages is not pre-determined and can be flexible.

INTERVIEW
Candidates will be asked questions about the scores on their repertoire list, background, career goals, etc. “Teach-ability” will be assessed during this time as well.

REPERTOIRE
All candidates must present a repertoire list at the time of audition, if not before, including works performed and works studied. Candidates should be prepared to answer questions about a listed work during the audition. Substitutions may be made. The list is to serve as an approximate guideline as to the level of your repertoire background prior to admission.

REPERTOIRE EXPECTATIONS
Master of Music
Normally, the majority of the repertoire list would be works studied, and should include the equivalent of the following list:

1. 1 symphony of Haydn, Mozart, Brahms, and Tchaikovsky
2. 2 Beethoven symphonies
3. 1 symphony of Schumann, Mendelssohn, or Schubert
4. 3 Classical/Romantic overtures or similar pieces
5. Minimum of 2 major orchestral works from the 20th century
6. 1 major concerto for the piano and 1 for violin, maximum 1 from Classical period or earlier

Doctor of Musical Arts
The list should include a much higher percentage of works performed:

1. 2 symphonies of Mozart, Haydn, Brahms, and Tchaikovsky
2. 3 Beethoven symphonies
3. 1 symphony of Schubert or Mahler; and Schumann or Mendelssohn
4. 1 major work of Stravinsky, and Shostakovich or Prokofiev
5. 1 major work from Bartok or Strauss
6. 1 major work from French repertoire; 2 from Baroque period
7. 2 opera arias; one from Mozart with accompagnno recitativo, the other from Puccini’s La Boheme (or equivalent)
8. 4-6 other works, preferably from the 20th century, overtures, program works, tone poems, etc.
9. 3 concerti, maximum 1 from Classical period
**AURAL SKILLS**
Exam will cover intervals, chord identification, harmonic progressions, and 4-part chorale dictation.

**CONDUCTING**
The conducting audition will either be with a pianist or with orchestra, dependent upon your background. Repertoire for audition is:

- **Beethoven:** Egmont Overture
- **Brahms:** Symphony #1, exposition of mvmts. I & IV

The audition will be approximately 20 minutes in length. Be prepared to demonstrate as effectively as possible:

1) knowledge of score; including hearing and correcting “big” mistakes (e.g., don’t change bowings, or if a musician makes an obvious mistake he/she most likely would not make again, skip it. If people are in the wrong place and don’t know it, fix it).
2) ability to communicate your desires to orchestra; successful interaction with orchestra
3) musicianship
4) technical facility

**AUDITION DATES**
Auditions are scheduled privately. Dates and times will be scheduled between Dr. Olson and the applicant.

Candidates will be notified of their status by April 1.

Conductor of Orchestras: Dr. Robert Olson
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