University of Illinois Orchestras
Donald Schleicher and Louis Bergonzi, directors

Placement Auditions for Students Whose Major is other than Music

1. Auditions are for placement only, not for acceptance. All strings players are admitted to an orchestra. All you have to do is play 3 minutes of your favorite piece of music.

If you are interested in playing in the Philharmonia, it is (only) recommended that you play 5 minutes of two contrasting examples. If you are a non-music major string player wanting to audition for the UI Philharmonia Orchestra or Illini Strings and have NEVER played in a UIUC Orchestra before, please sign up for an audition time with your name and instrument.

To sign-up for an audition time, please choose from one of the above options and sign up for an audition time on Monday, August 24 or Wednesday, August 26th. Please note the location of the audition site and warmup room indicated on the sign-up sheet.

Note: Orchestra placements are based on audition and not on your availability based on your class schedule. If you are placed in an orchestra that does not fit your fall schedule, we invite you to try to revise your schedule to include the orchestra in which you were placed. Otherwise, we are happy to hold a spot for you for spring semester in the orchestra for which you were placed based on your fall audition. There is no need to re-audition for spring placement.

2. If you are a non-music major string player wanting to audition for the U of I Symphony Orchestra, then you must sign up for a Music Major Audition by Instrument and play the required concerto movement or Bach unaccompanied piece and orchestral excerpts. Please see the Violin, Viola, Cello, or Bass Audition pages.

3. If you are a returning string player whose major is other than music wanting to return to the same orchestra that you have performed in before, you do not have to re-audition. However, please note that orchestra assignments are always made at the discretion of the directors. In the case of players wanting to return to UI Philharmonia, please understand that there is a chance you will be asked re-audition. If you were in Illini Strings and would like to audition for a different orchestra, please prepare the audition requirements in Option 1, above.