

Premier Audition Application Requirements for Cello Performance/Classical

All applicants to Performers National Signing Day are required to record an audition video which includes the content outlined below.

- Each performance segment must be recorded in one take with no editing (though you may and should select the best of several takes).
- All videos must be recorded within the six months prior to the application deadline.
- Professional equipment and/or studio space is not necessary for a successful application to Performers National Signing Day. With attention to a few details, your music making can be conveyed using readily available consumer electronics; even iPhone or other smartphone recordings are acceptable.
- Please refer to [Audition Tech Tips](#) for additional information and suggestions for effectively recording your audition.

Required Video Segments for Cello Performance/Classical

Video 1

Introduction: Before you record your first musical selection, please include a spoken introduction in which you state your name, instrument, hometown, and state.

Required Musical Selections: You are asked to record only one video. From the list detailed below, auditionees must perform two contrasting selections PLUS any two of the orchestral excerpts:

- A movement of a Concerto (with applicable cadenza)
- Two contrasting movements of a Bach suite
- A Sonata movement
- A complete work from the 20th or 21st century
- An etude or technical study (e.g., Popper or Duport)
- Any two of the following orchestral excerpts:
 - Brahms, *Symphony #2*, 2nd Movement, beginning-[A] and [C] – downbeat of measure 55
 - Mendelssohn, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Scherzo, [N]-[P]
 - Beethoven, *Symphony #5*, 2nd Movement, mm 1-10, 49-59, and 98-106
 - Verdi, *Requiem*, Offertorio, mm 1-62
 - Schubert, *Symphony #9*, 3rd Movement, mm 1-56
 - Mahler, *Symphony #2*, 1st Movement, Beginning – [2]

- Tchaikovsky, *Swan Lake Suite*, #4 Scene (Cello Solo)
- One piece of the auditionee's choice

Optional: Memorization is not required but highly suggested on at least one of the selections.

- Announce the title of the piece and composer and/or arranger before you begin each required selection.
- If you wish to demonstrate proficiency on a doubling or secondary instrument, you must include one or two additional examples.
- Applicants may perform unaccompanied, accompanied, or with prerecorded accompaniment tracks.

Video 2

Video Essay: Please record a 2 to 3-minute answer to **one** of the following questions:

- What is a non-musical interest or activity about which you are passionate and why?
- What cello performer (of any time) most inspires you and why (or how)?
- What do you anticipate your professional life to look like in 5 years, 10 years, and 20 years?

Print Music Resources

Lead sheets for the required titles can be purchased online:

- SheetMusicPlus.com
- Amazon.com

Also, here are two sources for finding public domain sheet music:

- Educational Music Service (www.emsmusic.com)
- Kalmus (www.efkalmus.com)