

PVA Middle School Brass and Woodwinds Audition Guide

5th and 6th Grade



General Information

- All students interested in PVA must complete an **online application** at aacps.org/magnet
- All students interested in PVA must complete an **audition** to be considered for the program. You will be assigned an audition appointment once you have passed the academic screening.
- You will be required to complete four tasks as part of the audition:
 - Scale performance:
 - A one octave major scale starting on concert Bb. (Flute and clarinet students may perform two octaves if they feel comfortable, but not required)
 - Scale must be memorized.
 - The **prepared selection** as posted on the PVA website (www.aacps.org/pva)
 - Melodic sight-reading
 - Rhythmic sight-reading
- An interview of three questions is required and scored along with the performance portion of the audition.
- A warm-up area will be provided and you should arrive early enough to warm-up so that you will be ready for your performance.
- **Students must come prepared with their instrument, mouthpiece, reeds, etc.**
- All students expressing an interest in the PVA Magnet Program are highly encouraged to audition, regardless of whether or not they have had formal or informal training.

Possible Ways to Prepare for the Audition

- Attend a PVA Information Night to hear more about the program and audition process and see the PVA schools.
- Attend a PVA Audition Workshop where you can get feedback on your audition preparation from PVA staff, ask questions about the prompts, and hear more about the audition process.
- Speak to a music teacher at your school about your prepared piece, scales and sight-reading preparation.

- See your School Counselor for assistance with the application process or getting more information about the program.
- Contact Mr. Dembowski, PVA Music Chair at pdembowski@aacps.org with any specific questions you may have.

Scoring Criteria

You will be scored on the following criteria for each task:

- **Prepared selection (as published at www.aacps.org/pva):**
 - Melodic and rhythmic accuracy
 - Tempo
 - Intonation
 - Tone (beauty, blend, control)
 - Technique (articulation, embouchure, facility)
 - Interpretation (expression, phrasing, style)
- **Scale:**
 - Memorization
 - Accuracy
 - Tone
 - Tempo/pulse
- **Melodic sight-reading:**
 - Note accuracy
 - Intonation
 - Rhythmic accuracy
 - Tempo/pulse
 - Tone (beauty, blend, control)
- **Rhythmic sight-reading (may clap hands or tap on lap):**
 - Rhythmic accuracy
 - Tempo/pulse

Brass and woodwind applicants must score at least an average score of 6 on their audition (including on-site audition and interview) to be eligible for this program.

**Want to sign up for an Audition Prep Night? Want more information on PVA?
Visit our website at: aacps.org/PVA**

Questions?

PVA@aacps.org