

PVA High School Music Auditions

Piano



General Information

- All students interested in PVA must complete an online application at aacps.org/magnet
- All students interested in PVA must sign up for an audition appointment. This can be done within the online application.
- You will be required to complete four tasks as part of the audition:
 - Scale performance:
 - A one octave chromatic scale.
 - A one octave major scale chosen from the keys of C Major, G Major, or D Major.
 - Scales must be memorized.
 - The prepared selection as posted on the PVA website (www.aacps.org/pva) **-or-** a student selected work of less than 3 minutes. **Written music must be provided for the audition judge.
 - Melodic sight-reading
 - Rhythmic sight-reading
- An interview of three questions is required and scored along with the performance portion of the audition.
- 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 Prep Night 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 Guidance 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
 - Tone (beauty, blend, control)
 - Balance (harmonic parts, melodic line)
 - Technique (articulation, facility)
 - Interpretation (expression, phrasing, style)
- **Scales:**
 - Memorization
 - Accuracy
 - Tone
 - Tempo/pulse
- **Melodic sight-reading:**
 - Note accuracy
 - Rhythmic accuracy
 - Tempo/pulse
 - Tone (beauty, blend, control)
- **Rhythmic sight-reading (may clap hands or tap on lap):**
 - Rhythmic accuracy
 - Tempo/pulse

Want to sign up for an Audition Prep Night? Want more information on PVA?

Visit our website at: aacps.org/PVA

Piano applicants must score at least an average score of 7 on their audition (including on-site audition and interview) to be eligible for this program.

Questions?

Contact:

Jennifer Jerrell, PVA Teacher Specialist at jjerrell@aacps.org or 443-534-5875

Paul Dembowski, PVA Music Department Chair at pdembowski@aacps.org or 410-757-1300 x356