

Bishop O'Connell High School Instrumental Scholarship

At Bishop O'Connell High School our students have the opportunity to participate in a rich experience of visual and performing arts. Students seeking admission to Bishop O'Connell who display an exceptional level of talent, professionalism, and passion for the arts may be offered a scholarship in recognition of their gifts. The Instrumental Scholarship is given to students who exhibit these abilities through performance on their musical instrument.

Audition Pre-requisites:

- Students must apply for admission to Bishop O'Connell High School.
- If granted the scholarship, students must enroll and participate in at least one instrumental ensemble during their freshman year.

Audition Procedures:

Students should report to the upper gym lobby fifteen minutes before their audition time. The instrumental auditions will be held in the band room. Students will be evaluated on their playing abilities in relation to musical tone, intonation, rhythmic accuracy, and interpretation.

Students will prepare all major scales for their instrument, out to three sharps and three flats, for two octaves. This includes the Eb, Bb, F, C, G, D and A Major scales. Students will also be asked to perform a one-octave chromatic scale. The student may select the starting pitch.

Students will next prepare and perform one published musical selection of their choice, appropriate for their instrument. The musical piece must be three to five minutes in length. Students are encouraged to consult an instrument instructor for repertoire selections that are appropriate for their musical abilities. The student will play their piece "solo", without accompaniment. Piano accompaniment will not be expected, nor will it be provided.

Lastly, a sight reading excerpt, four- to eight measures in length, will be administered. The audition proctor will provide the exercise, and the student will have approximately thirty seconds to rehearse the excerpt. When the rehearsal time is completed, the student will have one opportunity to perform the excerpt.

Dress Expectations:

Professionalism is an important component of the educational experience at Bishop O'Connell High School particularly within the Arts curriculum. Students should dress in a way that is appropriate for a musical performance. Although appearance is not a category for evaluation, all auditioning students should seek to present themselves and their music in the best manner possible.

If you have any questions regarding the audition process or orchestra program at Bishop O'Connell High School please do not hesitate to contact us.

Ronald Isaacson
Director of Bands
Bishop O'Connell High School
risaacson@bishopoconnell.org
(703/237-1400)

Timothy Lacrosse
Strings Director
Bishop O'Connell High School
tlacrosse@bishopoconnell.org
(703/237-1400)