WHEATON COLLEGE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AUDITIONS
Fall 2023

Viola

The following audition packet contains four orchestral excerpts:

- Please prepare all four excerpts (Mendelssohn, Strauss, Beethoven, Brahms) for your WCSO audition.
- Be prepared to also play a 1-to-2-minute excerpt from a solo of your choice.

Questions? Email WCSO conductor Dr. Benjamin Klemme: benjamin.klemme@wheaton.edu
Mendelssohn, Symphony No. 2, #7

- barring patterns should be consistent throughout the piece.
  I wrote out a few if you can apply the rest.

\[ J. = 86o \]

Mendelssohn — Hymn of Praise

\[ \text{VIOLA.} \]

N° 7. Allegro maestoso e molto vivace.

Helpful hints:
- **start** from string after rests
- lower-half
- though a nice ff should be heard, there is a joyful, jumpy quality to this excerpt
2. Strauss, "Ein Heldenleben"

- roman numerals denote which string the fingering should use
  I - A, II - D, etc...

\[ J = 118 \]

Mässig langsam.

Helpful hints:
- needs absolute precision in rhythm
- chromaticism needs to be heard, no sliding between notes.
- sforzandi should be quite harsh
Helpful hints:

- Notice printed slurs, and group phrases w/ printed slurs, even if I've separated a printed slur.
- Should have a sense of ease.
- Dynamics a MUST w/ Beethoven - plan your cresc & dim well!
Helpful hints:
- luxurious sound
- thick, wide, slow vibrato
- slides are welcomed just not everywhere (my fingerings would lend themselves to warm slides)
- clear left mike pick up (articulation...)