



# Alfred Music Submission Guidelines

## For Orchestra

At Alfred Music, we believe that everyone should have the opportunity and necessary information to submit music to be considered for publication. We encourage composers of all backgrounds and levels of experience to create and submit music for review.

In addition to full-time composers, teachers are very often some of the best writers of educationally focused music—finding the balance between art and education is a challenge, but one that we encourage you to try. The framework that follows is designed to aid in the creation of music that fosters the education and growth of instrumental music students from all over the world. Please view these as guidelines rather than rules, as musical context is also very important in defining grade levels. Music that is submitted must be in the public domain or an original work. The instrumentation must align with our offered series, and works must be intended for the educational market.

Our catalogs are not without limits—with that in mind, please do not be discouraged if your submission is not accepted for publication. Publication decisions are multifaceted; if a piece does not move forward for publication that is not always an indication of the quality of the writing. Also, with the number of submissions we receive, it is impossible to provide specific feedback about why a piece may not have been accepted. We sincerely appreciate your understanding and want you to know that every submitted piece will be reviewed and responded to. Thank you for considering Alfred Music as a home for your music!

*Please begin the submission process by reviewing our most recent releases to ensure that your creative work is targeted to our audience and in alignment with our guidelines. View Alfred's most recent orchestra releases [here](#).*

*For more information, enjoy [this](#) article from the Alfred Music Blog.*

**SOUND INNOVATIONS**

Grades 1–2

Stimulating arrangements that reinforce newly learned notes, bowings, key signatures, rhythmic patterns, and musical terms and symbols. Each selection includes an optional piano accompaniment, Violin III, and a reproducible educational pack.

**STRING EXPLORER**

Grades 1–2

Correlated with the *String Explorer* method, the pieces in this series fortifies the skills learned by first- and second-year string players. Each selection includes a Violin III part as well as optional piano accompaniment.

**STRING ORCHESTRA**

Grades 1–4

The grand tradition of Highland/Etling continues in this exciting series of original compositions and arrangements. Written by many of the leading composers of school orchestra music, each selection is carefully graded and edited. Each work is chosen for its musicality, uniqueness, and artistic and educational quality.

**FIRST PHILHARMONIC**

Grades 1–2

Especially designed with young musicians in mind, this series has everything needed to ensure your students' first full-orchestra experience is both enjoyable and successful. Clear, easy-to-read parts are well bowed, and fingered with all measures numbered.

**FULL ORCHESTRA**

Grades 2–4

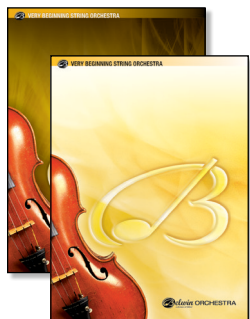
This series provides challenging yet very playable arrangements for the full orchestra. A variety of styles is represented, with the emphasis on giving the students the opportunity to experience first-hand the wonders of the symphony orchestra and its literature.

**Grade ½ String Orchestra****Key Signatures:** G, D, plus relative minors**Time Signatures:**  $\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{4}{4}$ **String Instrumentation:** Violin I, Violin II/Viola, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano**Ranges:** Violin, Viola, Cello—no extensions; String Bass—1<sup>st</sup> position**Rhythms:**  $\circ$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$  (in  $\frac{3}{4}$ )**Special Considerations:** Limited slurring, fingerings are suggested where appropriate**Grade 1–1½ String Orchestra/Full Orchestra****Key Signatures:** C, G, D, plus relative minors**Time Signatures:**  $\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{4}{4}$ **String Instrumentation:** Violin I, Violin II, Viola/Violin III, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano**Ranges:** Violin, Viola, Cello—no extensions (except Violin Lo 1 on the E string); String Bass—1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> positions (F $\sharp$  on E String)**Wind and Percussion Instrumentation:** Flute; Oboe; Clarinet 1, 2; Opt. B $\flat$  Bass Clarinet; Bassoon; Opt. E $\flat$  Alto Saxophone; F Horn; Trumpet 1, 2; Trombone; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani; Percussion 1, 2; Opt. Piano; Supplemental Parts for B $\flat$  Tenor Saxophone and E $\flat$  Baritone Saxophone**Rhythms:**  $\circ$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$ **Special Considerations:** Slurs and ties are included, fingerings and shifting (bass) are suggested where appropriate**Grade 2–2½ String Orchestra/Full Orchestra****Key Signatures:** C, G, D, A, F, B $\flat$ , plus relative minors**Time Signatures:**  $\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{4}{4}$   $\frac{6}{8}$   $\phi$ **String Instrumentation:** Violin I, Violin II, Viola/Violin III, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano**Ranges:** Violin, Viola, Cello—1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> positions with all extensions; String Bass—1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> positions with all extensions**Wind and Percussion Instrumentation:** Flute; Oboe; Clarinet 1, 2; Opt. B $\flat$  Bass Clarinet; Bassoon; Opt. E $\flat$  Alto Saxophone; F Horn; Trumpet 1, 2; Trombone; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani; Percussion 1, 2; Opt. Piano; Supplemental Parts for B $\flat$  Tenor Saxophone and E $\flat$  Baritone Saxophone**Rhythms:**  $\circ$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$ **Special Considerations:** Slurred and hooked bowings, double stops, syncopation, fingerings and shifting are suggested where appropriate; optional divisi for extended range**Grade 3–3½ String Orchestra/Full Orchestra****Key Signatures:** C, G, D, A, E, F, B $\flat$ , E $\flat$ , A $\flat$ , plus relative minors**Time Signatures:**  $\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{4}{4}$   $\frac{5}{8}$   $\frac{6}{8}$   $\frac{7}{8}$   $\frac{9}{8}$   $\frac{12}{8}$   $\phi$ **String Instrumentation:** Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano**Ranges:** All strings—1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> positions**Wind and Percussion Instrumentation:** Flute 1, 2; Oboe; Clarinet 1, 2; B $\flat$  Bass Clarinet; Bassoon; F Horn 1, 2; Trumpet 1, 2; Trombone 1, 2; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani; Percussion 1, 2; Opt. Piano; Supplemental Parts for E $\flat$  Alto Saxophone 1, 2; B $\flat$  Tenor Saxophone; E $\flat$  Baritone Saxophone**Rhythms:** All rhythms**Special Considerations:** Fingerings and shifting are suggested where appropriate, optional divisi for extended range**Grade 4+ String Orchestra/Full Orchestra****Key Signatures:** As needed for content**Time Signatures:** As needed for content**String Instrumentation:** As need for content**Ranges:** As needed for content**Wind Instrumentation:** As need for content**Rhythms:** As needed for content

\*Grade level guidelines are subject to interpretation and based upon the musical context.



# ORCHESTRA SERIES GUIDELINES



## Very Beginning String Orchestra

### Grade ½

**Key Signatures:** G, D, plus relative minors

**Time Signatures:** 2/4 3/4 4/4

**String Instrumentation:** Violin I, Violin II/Viola, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano

**Ranges:** Violin, Viola, Cello—no extensions; String Bass—1<sup>st</sup> position

**Rhythms:** ♩ ♪ ♫ ♮ (in 3/4)

**Special Considerations:** Limited slurring, fingerings are suggested where appropriate

## Beginning String Orchestra

### Beginning Full Orchestra

#### Grade 1–1½

**Key Signatures:** C, G, D, plus relative minors

**Time Signatures:** 2/4 3/4 4/4

**String Instrumentation:** Violin I, Violin II, Viola/Violin III, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano

**Ranges:** Violin, Viola, Cello—no extensions (except Violin Lo 1 on the E string); String Bass—1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> positions (F $\sharp$  on E String)

**Wind and Percussion Instrumentation:** Flute; Oboe; Clarinet 1, 2; Opt. B $\flat$  Bass Clarinet; Bassoon;

Opt. E $\flat$  Alto Saxophone; F Horn; Trumpet 1, 2; Trombone; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani; Percussion 1, 2;

Opt. Piano; Supplemental Parts for B $\flat$  Tenor Saxophone and E $\flat$  Baritone Saxophone

**Rhythms:** ♩ ♪ ♫ ♮ ♩

**Special Considerations:** Slurs and ties are included, fingerings and shifting (bass) are suggested where appropriate

## Intermediate String Orchestra

### Intermediate String/Full Orchestra

#### Grade 2–2½

**Key Signatures:** C, G, D, A, F, B $\flat$ , plus relative minors

**Time Signatures:** 2/4 3/4 4/4 6/8 9/8

**String Instrumentation:** Violin I, Violin II, Viola/Violin III, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano

**Ranges:** Violin, Viola, Cello—1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> positions with all extensions; String Bass—1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> positions with all extensions

**Wind and Percussion Instrumentation:** Flute; Oboe; Clarinet 1, 2; Opt. B $\flat$  Bass Clarinet; Bassoon;

Opt. E $\flat$  Alto Saxophone; F Horn; Trumpet 1, 2; Trombone; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani; Percussion 1, 2;

Opt. Piano; Supplemental Parts for B $\flat$  Tenor Saxophone and E $\flat$  Baritone Saxophone

**Rhythms:** ♩ ♪ ♫ ♮ ♩ ♩ ♩ ♩ ♩

**Special Considerations:** Slurred and hooked bowings, double stops, syncopation, fingerings and shifting are suggested where appropriate; optional divisi for extended range



## Concert String Orchestra

### Concert Full Orchestra

#### Grade 3–3½

**Key Signatures:** C, G, D, A, E, F, B $\flat$ , E $\flat$ , A $\flat$ , plus relative minors

**Time Signatures:** 2/4 3/4 4/4 5/4 6/4 7/4 8/4 9/4 12/4

**String Instrumentation:** Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano

**Ranges:** All strings—1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> positions

**Wind and Percussion Instrumentation:** Flute 1, 2; Oboe; Clarinet 1, 2; B $\flat$  Bass Clarinet; Bassoon;

F Horn 1, 2; Trumpet 1, 2; Trombone 1, 2; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani; Percussion 1, 2; Opt. Piano;

Supplemental Parts for E $\flat$  Alto Saxophone 1, 2; B $\flat$  Tenor Saxophone; E $\flat$  Baritone Saxophone

**Rhythms:** All rhythms

**Special Considerations:** Fingerings and shifting are suggested where appropriate, optional divisi for extended range



## Symphonic String Orchestra

### Symphonic Full Orchestra

#### Grade 4+

**Key Signatures:** As needed for content

**Time Signatures:** As needed for content

**String Instrumentation:** As need for content

**Ranges:** As needed for content

**Wind Instrumentation:** As need for content

**Rhythms:** As needed for content

\*Grade level guidelines are subject to interpretation and based upon the musical context.