

# AYS ONLINE VIDEO AUDITION INSTRUCTIONS

## Camera:

- Face the camera straight on.
- Be clearly lit.
- Have your stand to the side so it doesn't block view of you or your instrument.
- Your whole instrument must be in frame.
  - o Bows should also be in frame at all times, if applicable.

## Submission:

- First time applicants:
  - o Auditions will be submitted as 5 separate videos.
    - The first video will be of your three scales.
      - ◇ All scales must be in a *single* video file.
      - ◇ All scales must be from the same take. No splicing.
    - The second video will be of the given arpeggios.
      - ◇ All arpeggios must be in a *single* video file.
      - ◇ All arpeggios must be from the same take. No splicing.
    - The third and fourth videos will be the excerpts.
      - ◇ Both excerpts must be in *separate* video files.
      - ◇ Upload one excerpt each to the tiles labeled "Excerpt 1" and "Excerpt 2"
    - The fifth video will be a short bio about yourself.
      - ◇ List your name, instrument, school, and grade you'll be next fall.
      - ◇ Tell us something other than music you do for fun. (a sport, fishing, painting, etc...)
      - ◇ Tell us something unusual about yourself.
- For applicants with 1 or more years of experience as Principal or Second Harpist of the Anchorage Youth Symphony
  - o Auditions will be submitted as 2 separate videos
    - The first video will be one of the given cadenzas
    - The second video will be a short bio about yourself.
      - ◇ List your name, instrument, school, and grade you'll be next fall.
      - ◇ Tell us something other than music you do for fun. (a sport, fishing, painting, etc...)
      - ◇ Tell us something unusual about yourself.

# Alaska Youth Orchestras HARP AUDITION

## 1. SCALES:

Select one of the groups below, to play extended scales in three consecutive major keys.

*Group 1* C, G, D Major

*Group 2* E flat, B flat, C Major

*Group 3* F, C, G Major

Scales should be performed by memory, hands together, ascending and descending, like in the example "C Major" pattern below:



Tips: submit one video that includes all 3 scales/keys, changing levers/pedals quickly in between. Scales can be adapted for string capacity of smaller lever harps but should include at least 2 octaves and be played hands together.

## 2. ARPEGGIOS:

Tips: divide arpeggios up between two-hands in a "hand cross-over technique".  
Arpeggios can be adapted for string capacity of smaller lever harps.

The image displays four systems of musical notation for harp arpeggios, each consisting of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The notation includes fingerings and articulation marks.

- System 1:** Treble clef has a slur over a sequence of notes with a '4' above the first note. Bass clef has a sequence of notes with fingerings '4 2 1' below the first three notes. A '2' with a slur is above the first note of the second measure in the treble.
- System 2:** Treble clef has a slur over a sequence of notes with a '4' above the last note. Bass clef has a sequence of notes with fingerings '4 2 1' below the first three notes. A '2' with a slur is above the first note of the second measure in the treble. A '1' is below the last note of the second measure in the bass.
- System 3:** Treble clef has a slur over a sequence of notes with fingerings '3 2 1 2 3' above the notes. Bass clef has a sequence of notes with fingerings '1 2' below the last two notes.
- System 4:** Treble clef has a slur over a sequence of notes with fingerings '4 3 2 1 2 3 4' above the notes. Bass clef has a sequence of notes with fingerings '1 2' below the last two notes.

~ 'Extended Arpeggios' (Harp for Today by Susann McDonald and Linda Wood Rollo).

Perform the following two orchestral excerpts:

3. Excerpt 1: *Scheherazade, Movement II* – Rimsky-Korsakov

Movement II Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov  
Bullen Edition

The score consists of three systems of piano accompaniment. The first system is marked 'Recit. Lento.' and includes 'Solo', 'fast roll' (*f*), 'medium roll' (*mf*), 'slow roll' (*p*), a 'violin cadenza' section, and 'Andantino' (*f*) with a 'rit. assai' marking. The second system is marked 'a tempo' and includes 'mf' and 'simile' markings. The third system includes 'colla parte', 'tenuto', and 'Tempo giusto' markings. Chord diagrams are provided for the final section, showing (A#-A G#) and (C#-C) in both hands.

A *a tempo*

*mf* *simile* *f* *f*

*colla parte* *tenuto* B *Tempo giusto*

(A#-A G#) (C#-C) CUT

~ Principal Harp Book 2 by Sarah Bullen, Vanderbilt Music Co.

(Non-pedal harps should omit the A#, G#, and C natural accidentals from the chords at the end of this excerpt.)

4. Excerpt 2: *Symphony V, Movement III* - Shostakovich

START: 1 measure before 96



The image shows a handwritten musical score for harp. The top system consists of two staves. The first measure is circled and labeled '(95)'. It contains a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a 3/4 time signature. The notes are represented by six vertical lines, indicating a scale. The second measure is also circled and labeled '(96)'. It is marked 'Solo' and contains a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps, and a 3/4 time signature. The score continues with several measures of music in both staves.

Additional Information and Tips:

- On Tempos – Scales and Arpeggios should be played evenly and with equal strength of the fingers. Tempos should be regulated in accordance with players technical ability.
- It is advisable to listen to recordings of orchestral works/excerpts in preparation.
- WHAT IF I DON'T OWN A PEDAL HARP? - AYO harp audition material can be played on both pedal and non-pedal harps. Upon selection into the orchestra, AYO harp parts will be adapted for your instrument. AYO also owns pedal harp/s available for student use, on a limited basis, for practice, rehearsals, and performances.

# Alaska Youth Orchestras 2<sup>nd</sup> Year HARP AUDITION

## Harp Cadenzas –

For Auditioning Harpists with 1-year or more experience as *Principal* or *Second Harp* with the *Anchorage Youth Symphony*, please **select and prepare one** of the following **Tchaikovsky Harp Cadenzas**:

- 1) *Nutcracker Suite, Op. 71a – III. Waltz of the Flowers*
- 2) *Sleeping Beauty Suite – No. 2. Adagio. Pas d'action*

### Additional Information and Tips:

**Peter Tchaikovsky** (1840-1893) showcased the harp in these two very famous harp cadenzas taken from his ballets. Tchaikovsky's cadenzas are an important part of harp literature, included in both the *Ballet* and orchestral *Suites*, and should be in every harpist's repertoire. Both these cadenzas can be played on pedal or non-pedal (lever) harp with an E-flat Major tuning.

***ad libitum*** = ***Freely, at will, improvised***. Tempos should be regulated in accordance with the player's technical ability. Adapting the cadenzas to your harp's string capacity is acceptable. It is advisable to listen to recordings, or view a variety of videos, for different harpist interpretations of these cadenzas.

**Tchaikovsky's harp cadenzas are written like this:**

\*) Cadenza ad libitum



**But most harpist's play them like this:**



Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
Nutcracker Suite, Op. 71a

**Arpa**

I. Ouverture miniature *tacet*

II. Danses Caractéristiques

- a) Marche – b) Danse de la Fée-Dragée – c) Danse russe Trepak  
d) Danse Arabe – e) Danse Chinoise – f) Danse des Mirlitons *tacet*

III. Valse des Fleurs

Tempo di Valse

Ob. I, II

1

7

Ob. I

4

16

*ff*

*Cadenza ad libitum*

20

24

28

*riten.*

The musical score is written for harp (Arpa) and includes parts for Oboe I and II. It begins with a tempo marking of 'Tempo di Valse'. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 1, 7, 16, 20, 24, and 28 indicated. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The score includes a section marked 'Cadenza ad libitum' starting at measure 16. The piece concludes with a 'riten.' (ritardando) marking at measure 28.



# "SLEEPING BEAUTY"

Suite

P. Tschaikowsky, Op. 66a

## № 2. Adagio. Pas d'action.

Arpa.

Andante.

5 *ff*

7

9

11 *fff ad libitum.*

Detailed description: This is a musical score for Harp, titled "Sleeping Beauty" Suite No. 2, Adagio. Pas d'action. The score is in 6/8 time and B-flat major. It begins with a tempo marking of "Andante." and a dynamic marking of "ff". The piece is divided into four systems of music. The first system (measures 5-10) features a melodic line in the right hand and a rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. The second system (measures 7-12) continues the melodic and rhythmic patterns. The third system (measures 9-14) shows the melodic line rising and the accompaniment becoming more active. The fourth system (measures 11-14) is marked "fff ad libitum." and features a dense, rapid texture with many sixteenth notes in both hands.



13

Musical score for measures 13-14, bass clef, 2/4 time signature. The music consists of two staves. The upper staff features a continuous eighth-note pattern with slurs, while the lower staff provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and rests.

15

Musical score for measures 13-14, treble and bass clefs, 2/4 time signature. The upper staff contains a melodic line with slurs and fingerings 13 and 14. The lower staff provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and rests.

17

Musical score for measures 17-18, treble and bass clefs, 2/4 time signature. The upper staff features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings 13 and 14. The lower staff provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and rests.