

## All West Tips

### All-West Audition Requirements

1. Prepared Piece – This piece is given to the students when it becomes available in mid-August. Percussionist must audition on Snare Drum, Mallets, and Timpani.
2. 12 Major Scales – The students will be asked to play two of the twelve major scales from memory. The students need to memorize all major scales in order to maximize success. The more octaves they can play a scale in, the better.
3. Chromatic Scale – The students will be asked to play chromatic scale from memory. The more octaves they can play a scale in, the better.
4. Sight Reading – Students will be asked to sight read a passage. They will have thirty seconds to study the passage before they are instructed to play.

### Other Notes About All-West

- If you do not know the prepared piece, there is virtually no chance of making All-West. Do not procrastinate. Begin learning the music the day you get it and practice it every day.
- Learn the music with proper articulation and dynamics as you are learning it. This will save a lot of time.
- Practice the parts that you have problems with, not just what you know.
- Scales can make or break you. Memorize ALL twelve and play them everyday. If you play them everyday even past the audition, you only have to learn them once. This helps you keep scales in tact for All-West year to year.
- If you know all your scales, begin working on them in multiple octaves.
- Take five minutes everyday to sight-read. Use a method book or ask Mr. Mayo for materials.
- Many students who make All-West take private lessons. It is very possible to make All-West without private lessons, but you must practice efficiently everyday.

### Sight Reading Tips in Order

- Look at the Key Signature
- Look at the Time Signature
- Look at the Tempo – This is not an extremely crucial element. In the WTSBOA bylaws, it states that it is better to play slower and more accurate than rushed and full of mistakes.
- Look for complicated Rhythms
- Look for accidentals – Flats, Sharps, and naturals written in the music
- Look for Patterns – Rhythmic Patterns, scale like parts, etc.
- Look for large skips in the melody – Are there spots where the pitch jumps a large interval
- Finger, slide, or air play through the passage
- Record yourself sight reading so that you can analyze your accuracy afterwards