

## **Algoma University Music Department Audition Requirements: Cello**

### **In-Person Audition**

Once Algoma University receives applications, a Music Department representative will contact all applicants to arrange an audition/interview.

### **Repertoire**

Candidates are expected to perform two contrasting selections demonstrating the full range of musical and technical ability. If desired, one of the two selections can be a study. Minimum level: intermediate (Royal Conservatory grade 4 through 7). ***\*Please note:*** for candidates studying at a level below grade 4, an audition is still recommended and encouraged, as often, the Music Department is in the position to recommend admittance to the Music Program based on exceptional potential, artistry and commitment. In addition, in view of the fact that students may not have received training in the classical tradition, all musical genres are welcome in auditions, as Algoma Music Faculty can determine playing level regardless of genre performed.

### **Technique**

Candidates are expected to demonstrate technical facility and rhythmic fluency through execution of the following technical items:

- One major scale (key of candidate's choice), one minor scale (harmonic and melodic form, key of candidate's choice), two octaves ascending and descending, bowed in groups of one quarter and six eighth notes, played at metronome speed quarter note = 60.
- One major and one minor arpeggio (keys of candidate's choice), one octave, ascending and descending, bowed in groups of three slurred quarter notes, played at metronome speed quarter note = 90.
- G major double stops (broken thirds), one octave, ascending and descending, bowed in a half / two quarter note groupings, played at metronome speed quarter note = 60

### **Sight Reading**

Candidates will be asked to sight read a simple eight to twelve measure piece in 2/4, 3/4 or 4/4 time, written in the key of C, F, G, or D major, played in first position. Approximately difficulty: grade 2 (RCM). Rhythmic continuity will be expected in addition to observance of details and musical elements such as key signature, accidentals, tempo markings, dynamics, articulations, ritardandos and phrase markings.

## **Interview**

Faculty will inquire regarding the candidate's musical experiences and goals. Candidates are encouraged to ask questions regarding Algoma's programs, financial aid packages, course offerings, Music Faculty credentials, transfer options, campus structure and life, student accomplishments, residences and other living options in the beautiful city of Sault Ste. Marie.

Possible questions asked by faculty include but are not limited to:

- For how long have you been playing the cello?
- For how many years (not including breaks) have you received private instruction?
- Do you play any other instruments?
- With which ensembles have you worked and performed (if any)?
- How and where did you acquire your background in music theory?
- Have you taken any practical or theory examinations through an organization such as the Royal Conservatory of Music, Western Conservatory, Conservatory Canada or ABSRM?
- If yes, what were the results of those examination(s)?
- What are your musical interests and goals?

## **Scores and Collaborative Pianist Arrangements**

Candidates are asked to bring all music scores to the audition. Works written for cello and piano must be performed with a collaborative pianist. A list of approved Algoma University collaborative pianists are available from Dr. Edward Turgeon (705-989-6879; [edward.turgeon@algomau.ca](mailto:edward.turgeon@algomau.ca)). Collaborative pianist reservations must be made at least two weeks prior to any audition date. The fee for the services of an Algoma University collaborative pianist is \$75, which includes a one hour rehearsal plus the audition. Candidates are welcome to bring their own collaborative pianist if desired.

## **Video Auditions**

While in-person auditions are preferred and recommended, if a live audition is impractical, Algoma Music Department will accept DVD's or auditions performed via SKYPE. Audition DVD's and copies of music scores (if using the services of an on-site, Algoma University collaborative pianist) should be sent to Dr. Edward Turgeon, Director of Music, Algoma University, 1520 Queen Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, P6A 2G4.

## **Scholarship Assistance**

In addition to generous Algoma University scholarship possibilities (bronze, silver, gold and platinum renewable scholarships as well as other awards and bursaries), the Music Department is often able to offer additional assistance based on audition merit.