

WSMA High School State Honors Music Project 2026 Jazz Bass Trombone Audition Requirements

The WSMA State Honors Music Project is a nationally-recognized program of excellence for talented Wisconsin students. Students apply in November, audition in February, are selected in March, attend a summer camp in June, and perform in October during the Wisconsin State Music Conference in Madison. By providing talented youth with the opportunity to rehearse and perform with nationally-known conductors in a professional setting, students bring back their new skills to share in their school music programs. Honors students also form lifetime friendships with others who share their level of commitment to music.

ELIGIBILITY

Students in grades 9, 10 and 11 from WSMA-member schools are eligible to audition for the High School State Honors Music Project. WSMA recommends that students participate in a regularly scheduled music class. Student eligibility is determined at the school level by the principal (or designated staff). All selected students must attend the summer camp and fall performance.

SIGHT-READING

Each student will sight-read one excerpt in 4/4 time during their audition.

REQUIRED ETUDE

Play "It's From Heaven" (pgs. 14 & 15) from Effective Etudes for Jazz, by Jeff Jarvis and Mike Carubia, Kendor. Perform with the audio backing track.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

1. Ballad: Prepare either "The Very Thought of You" from Jamey Aebersold's Vol. 41 Body & Soul using the included back-up track OR "When Sunny Gets Blue" from Jamey Aebersold's Vol. 49 Sugar using the backup track provided on the audition webpage. For either, play the head one time through (no improvisation).
2. Uptempo: From Jamey Aebersold's Vol. 6 Charlie Parker - All Bird, prepare either "Now's the Time" or "Billie's Bounce" using the backup track provided on the audition webpage. For either, play through the head once and improvise two full choruses.

SCALES (perform from memory)

Play a slurred chromatic scale evenly as fast as possible to demonstrate your full range. Then play the following ii-V-I scale progression in Bb and F Concert, swing eighth notes. (see below)

ii-V-I in Bb Concert
Medium Swing

5

9

ii-V-I in F Concert

Medium Swing

13



18



22

