2012-2013 Audition Information
Violin

minnesota youth symphonies
you'll be amazed.

1. Solo piece. Prepare a polished, recital-ready, unaccompanied solo piece. You may play any work of your choice, but the level of difficulty should be an accurate representation of your technical and artistic ability. Remember, it is not what you play that matters most, but how well you play. Your solo piece need not be memorized, but the entire piece should be performance-ready. You may be asked to stop playing before you reach the end of your prepared piece, or asked to play only a particular section. If this happens, please understand that it is only in the interest of time, not a reflection of your playing.

2. Excerpts. Prepare one excerpt included in this packet, closest to your ability level. If you are unfamiliar with the excerpts, consult with your private teacher or a coach who is familiar with them. It is recommended that you also listen to a recording or live performance of the piece in order to give yourself proper tempo and musical context. As with your solo piece, the performance of your excerpt should be an accurate representation of your technical and artistic ability.

With your solo and/or your prepared excerpt, you may be asked to play it again in a different manner (slower, faster, more lyrically, etc.). Please regard this as evidence of your musical flexibility, which will weigh heavily on the success of your audition.

3. Scales & technique. All required scales must be memorized. Automatically play the corresponding arpeggios to a scale, if required.

STRING ORCHESTRA Scales: G, A, Bb, C, D major scales in 2 octaves; F major in 1 octave; G, A & D minor scales in 1 octave, any form. **1st Violin Technique:** Must demonstrate solid knowledge of 1st and 3rd position, be working on vibrato and be able to demonstrate the following bowings on demand: staccato, detaché, legato & spiccato. **2nd Violin Technique:** Must demonstrate solid knowledge of 1st position and understand the concept of shifting as demonstrated in the required scales. The solo may be played entirely in 1st position. Please have your entire solo performance-ready, as you may be asked to play any given section.

PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Scales: B, C, D, E, Eb, F major scales in 2 octaves; G, Ab, A, Bb major in 3 octaves; B, C, D minor in 2 octaves and G, Ab, A, Bb minor in 3 octaves (melodic or harmonic). Scales must be prepared with the following bowings: staccato, detaché, legato & spiccato. **Technique:** Must be able to produce a continuous vibrato and must be able to produce a full, clear tone. Must have a solid understanding of 1st through 5th position, which must be demonstrated in your solo piece.

REPERTORY ORCHESTRA Scales: ALL major and minor (harmonic & melodic) scales and arpeggios in 3 octaves. **Technique:** Must have a solid understanding of 1st through 7th positions, play with a continuous vibrato and produce a clear, full tone. Must know the following bowing techniques: detaché, ricochet, spiccato, martelé & chords.

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Scales: ALL major and minor (harmonic & melodic) scales and arpeggios in 3 octaves. **Technique:** Must be able to play with a continuous vibrato and produce a full, clear tone. Must know the following bowing techniques: ponticello, detaché, ricochet, martelé, spiccato, chords and hooked bowings.

4. Sight-reading. Sight-reading for all orchestras will include complex rhythms relative to the level of orchestra.

5. Orchestra placement. Student placement is competitive and is ranked in order of artistic quality. Those qualities include superiority of tone, intonation, vibrato (as appropriate), dynamic range, musicality and general accuracy. Although a student may be able to perform all the requirements for a particular orchestra, he or she may still not qualify based on the level of competition in a given year.

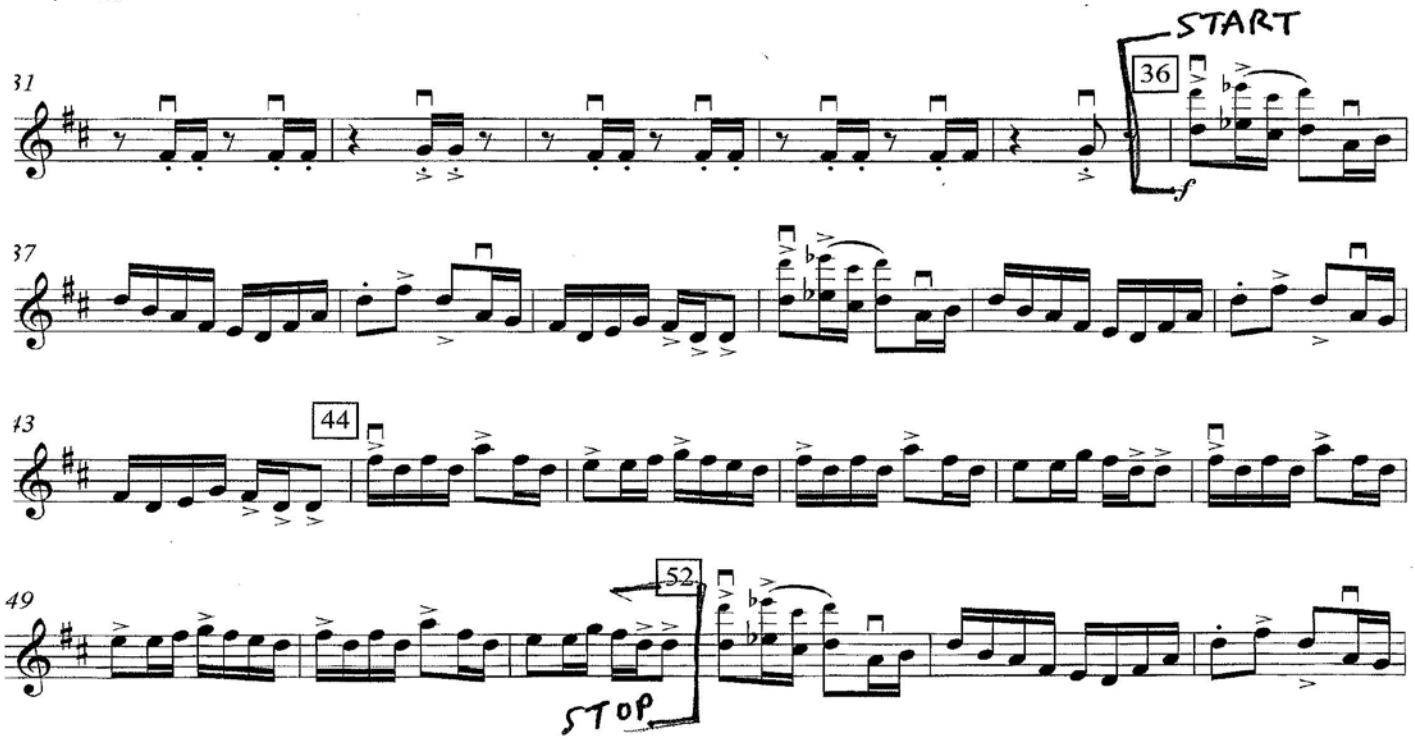
6. Auditions are closed to the public, including parents and families.

7. Prior participation in the Minnesota Youth Symphonies is no guarantee of placement.

FOR ADDITIONAL AUDITION TIPS, REFER TO THE AUDITIONS PAGE AT WWW.MNYOUTHSYMPHONIES.ORG.
Questions? Call (651) 699-5811 or e-mail mys@mnyouthsymphonies.org.

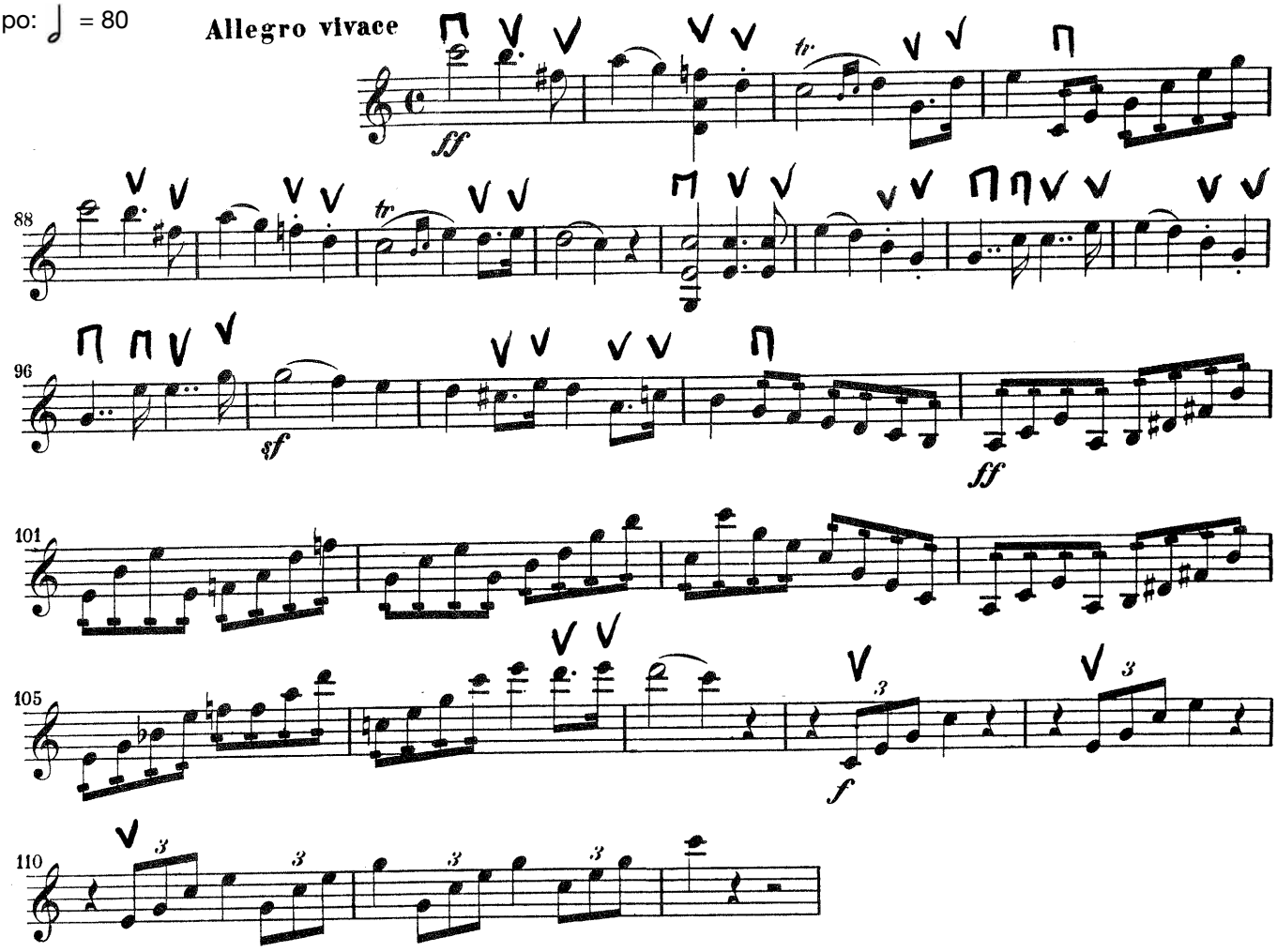
STRING ORCHESTRA EXCERPT

Hoe Down from Rodeo by Aaron Copland, arr Stephen Bulla
Note: Small notes are optional (you may choose to play either the upper or lower notes)
Tempo: ♩ = c. 104



PHILHARMONIC EXCERPT:

A Midsummer Night's Dream, Op. 61: Wedding March by Mendelssohn
Tempo: 𝅗𝅥 = 80

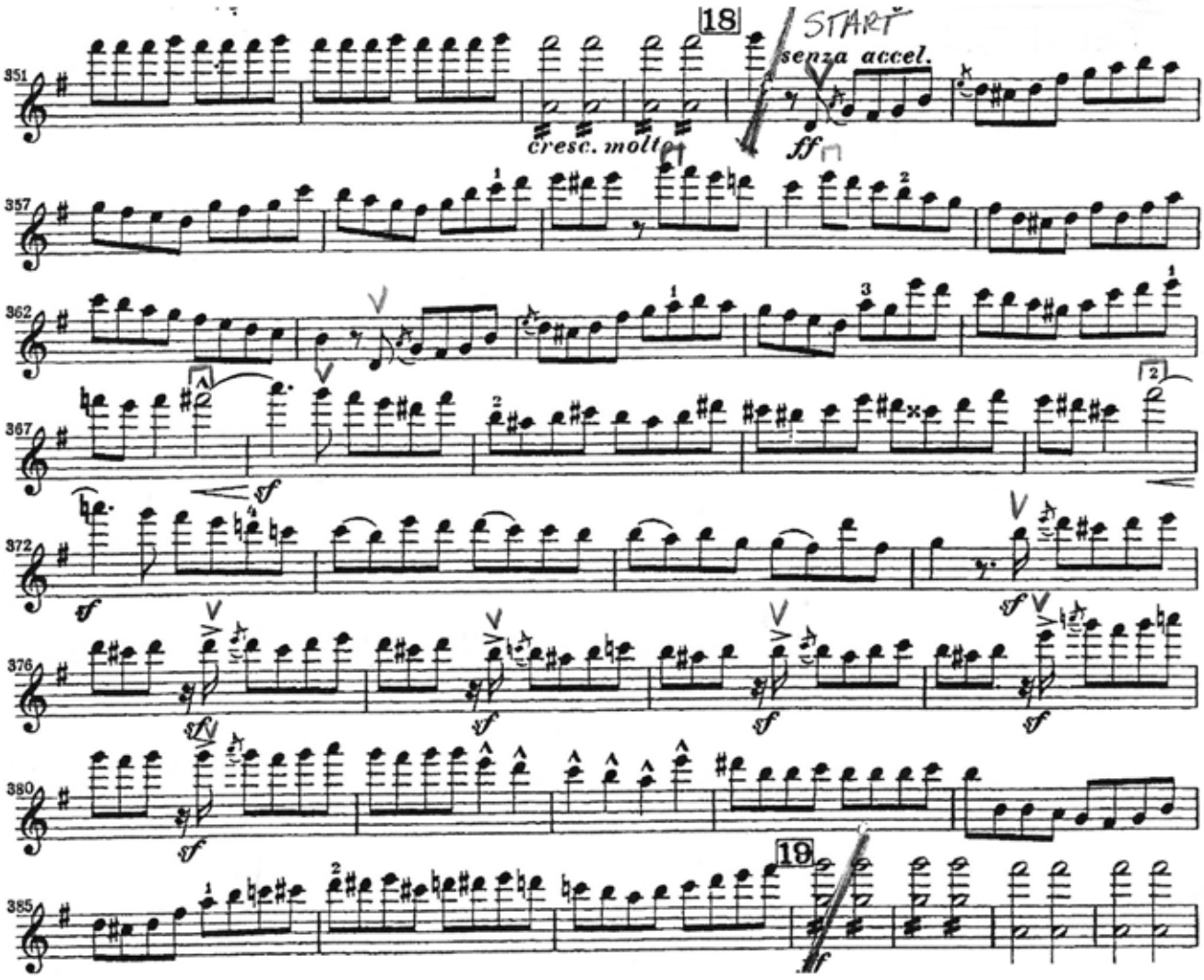


REPERTORY/SYMPHONY EXCERPT #1

(Note: there are two excerpts for Repertory and Symphony, please prepare both)

Overture to Benvenuto Cellini by Berlioz

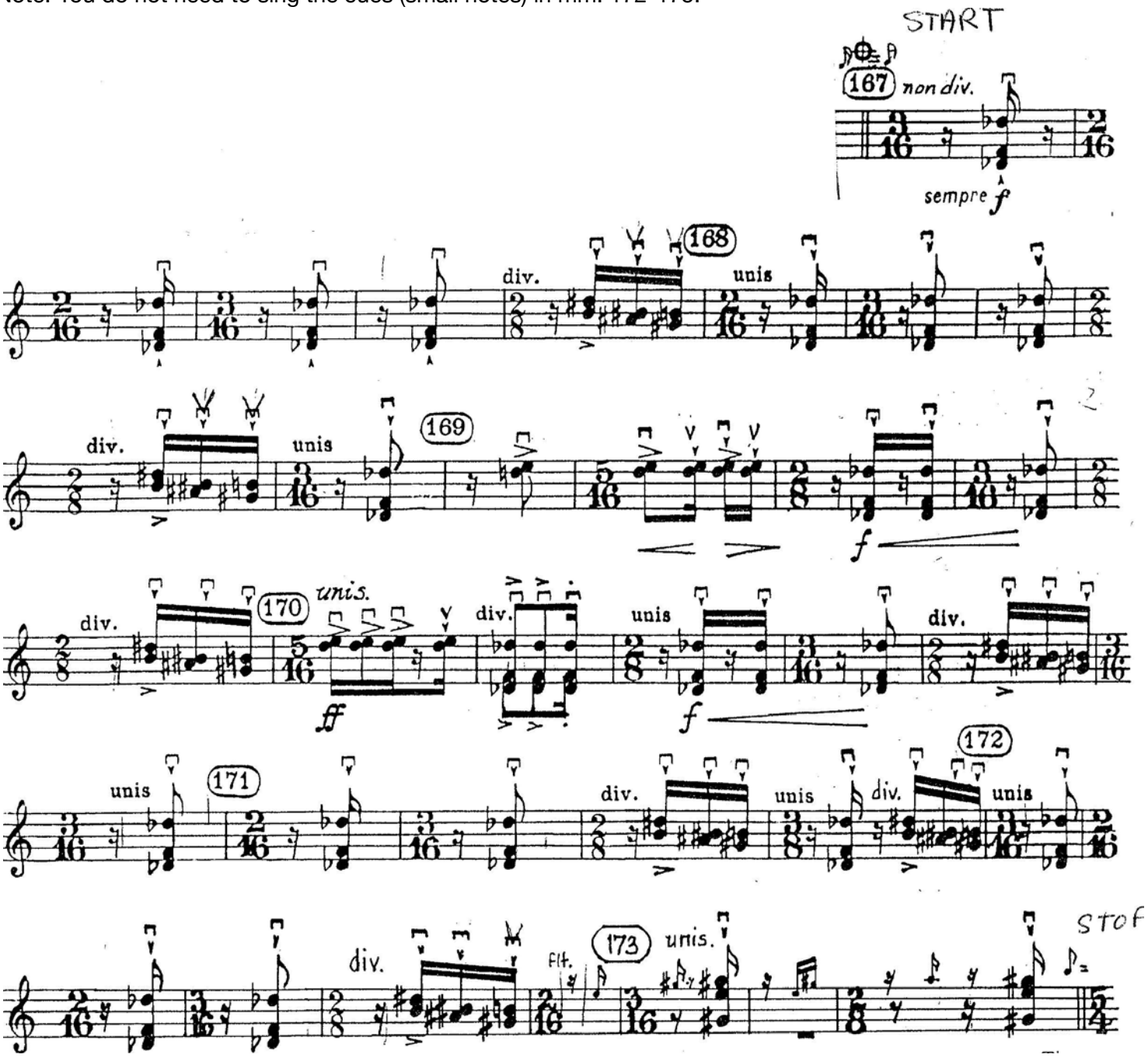
Tempo: ♩ = 120-132



REPERTORY/SYMPHONY EXCERPT #2 (Rhythm Excerpt)
(Note: there are two excerpts for Repertory and Symphony, please prepare both.)

Rite of Spring by Stravinsky

Tempo: ♪ = 160-200

Instructions: At your audition you will be asked to **sing** the rhythm of this excerpt (pitch does not matter, only the rhythm; for example, you may sing on the syllable "ta"). You may choose a tempo within the following range: a sixteenth note equals 160-200. You may be asked to sing along with the metronome at the audition (a metronome will be provided). You will NOT be asked to play this excerpt on your instrument. We are looking for accuracy, not speed. The best way to learn this rhythm is to start slow and increase your speed over time.

Note: You do not need to sing the cues (small notes) in mm. 172-175.