

2026-27 Ensemble Audition Excerpts

Drum Set

All drummers should prepare the following:

- Fill out the Qualtrics form sent to you via email to book your ensemble audition time slot no later than August 21, 2026.
- Excerpts as listed below.

If you are auditioning for **Jazz Orchestra**, **Funk Ensemble**, **ICE*** and/or **Vox****, please prepare the following excerpts:

1. Mellow Tone
2. St. Thomas

*If you are auditioning for **ICE**, please prepare the above two excerpts (Mellow Tone, St. Thomas), in addition to:

3. 40 second performance in any style/genre. Could be an existing work or an improvisation.

If you are auditioning for **Vox, please prepare the above two excerpts (Mellow Tone, St. Thomas), in addition to:

- Prepare to sing a popular song of any genre. Accompaniment is required. Please see Vox ensemble instructions for more details.

All excerpts and relevant instructions are included below.

Mellow Tone

With metronome set to quarter note = 132, play the excerpt with a *swing* feel.



The musical score for "Mellow Tone" is presented in five systems of music. The first system begins at measure 89 and includes the instruction "Cresc. Poco A Poco". The second system starts at measure 95. The third system starts at measure 97. The fourth system starts at measure 101 and includes the instruction "1." and the word "SAXES". The fifth system starts at measure 105 and includes the instruction "2. STRONGER" and the word "SOLO". The score is written for a drum set, with various rhythmic patterns and dynamics indicated.

St. Thomas

With backing track ([link](#)), play time twice through the form, play the melody on the drum kit once, then solo once through the form of the piece.