

College Audition Preparation

By Jim Walker

For flutists:

LEARN TO LOVE THE MOZART G MAJOR FLUTE CONCERTO !!

Practice more than you want – if your fellow musicians are practicing more than you, then you have to know that your chances of success aren't strong.

1. Research the college/university/conservatory landscape in depth. (consult your Band/Orch Director, Private Teacher, Internet, NFA and Flute Talk).
 - a. Teachers (try to find students from these studios to get the lowdown).
 - b. Ensemble opportunities (ask direct questions to the teacher or admissions).
 - i. Auditions (blind or open – who decides seating assignments).
 - c. Cost – scholarship and loan potential.
 - d. Location (weather can be a factor.....).
 - e. Name value of the school.
2. In Sophomore and/or Junior summer, go to 2-3 camps or masterclasses with teachers you might want to study with. (Prepare diligently to take advantage of the opportunity).
3. Be a solid academic student: GPA SAT ACT
 - a. Don't limit your choices to non-academic schools (i.e. conservatories).
 - b. Your personal statement is very important for universities.
 - c. Use tutors or consultants if necessary.
4. Have all of the information for your school choices before your Junior summer.
 - a. Make a spreadsheet of all important info:
 - i. Dates of application/prescreen deadlines.
 - ii. Repertoire of various schools (accompaniment requirements).
5. Recording planning (both audio and video).
 - a. If you are planning to self record, start practicing for that as a Junior (the most challenging year for high school students – no time for anything).
 - b. Find a studio that won't break the bank.
 - c. Select an engineer whom you are comfortable with.
6. Practice mock auditions for your teacher and colleagues.
 - a. Pick an order of rep that shows your strengths immediately.
 - b. Be prepared to move around within your selections.
 - c. Practice speaking clearly and with confidence.
 - i. If ESL, work very hard to master English

**Maintain the JOY factor! If you aren't enjoying the ride,
you won't be able to express your passion.**

**Understand that learning to "deal with rejection" is a
powerful KEY to your survival and success.**