**HHSOM Instrumental Large-Ensemble Auditions for 2015-2016**

Beginning with the 2015-16 academic year, the Hugh Hodgson School of Music will adhere to the following instrumental large-ensemble audition policy. The implementation and management of this policy rests with the chair of the HHSOM Performance Committee.

1. Instrumental large-ensemble auditions will be held each semester for all instruments—strings, winds, brass, and percussion. All music majors required to participate in ensembles must audition—no exceptions. If students fail to appear, they still must audition when they arrive on campus, but will forfeit any placement and seating priority by being absent.
2. Auditions will occur at a time and place to be determined by each studio, within the Thursday – Sunday window before classes start in the fall and in the spring (for spring, studios may choose to hold auditions in December, before students leave). Where possible, auditions in the fall should occur in the morning (to avoid Redcoat rehearsals in the afternoon), and should be *late* in that block of days, with Sunday preferred and Thursday the last resort. On Sunday, auditions must end and the results reported to the office by 6:00 p.m., so that audition results can be posted online and on bulletin boards by 9:00 p.m. (allowing students time to register for classes).
3. The HHSOM will inform incoming and continuing students in early June that they must be on campus by Thursday, but it will be the responsibility of each studio to inform its own students of the *specific time and place* for its own auditions.
4. All auditions will be live (not recorded), except under extenuating circumstances, and will be blind, behind a screen.
5. Auditions will be held for each instrument separately. Adjudicating will be at least two faculty members, to include the principal studio professor and one other member of the UGA faculty (not graduate assistants), with the choice of the second judge to lie with the studio teacher. Large studios (clarinet, trumpet, etc.) may use pre-screening, but all auditions must be under the direct oversight of the studio teacher. Ensemble leaders may sit in on auditions as they choose, though prior notice is helpful.
6. Ensemble placement decisions will ignore student seniority, TAs, scholarships, or other such factors—the results will stand based on student performance alone, rather than on expectations, degree program, etc.
7. In addition to ensemble assignments, studio auditions will also assign seating.
8. For fall 2015, individual studios may allow student choice of ensemble (band and/or orchestra); after the fall, this choice goes away (because of the rotation system in the top ensemble slot).
9. Note the following deadlines:
	1. By **June 1**, the **HHSOM office** will distribute to the faculty the meeting schedule for the week prior to classes starting in the fall.
	2. By **June 1 (for fall) or October 1 (for spring)**, **ensemble conductors** will inform the HHSOM office (Martha Thomas) of the principal large-ensemble repertory for the coming academic year. This list will be circulated to studio teachers so that appropriate excerpts can be chosen for the auditions.
	3. By **June 15 (for fall) or October 15 (for spring), studio teachers** will (a) inform the HHSOM office (Martha Thomas) of the day, time, and place for their auditions in August, and (b) will provide pdfs or photocopies of the audition excerpts they have selected.
	4. By **July 1 (for fall) or November 1 (for spring) the HHSOM office** will post online (a) the dates and times of fall ensemble auditions and (b) audition excerpts for all studios.