

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Keys and Scales

How to Use this Document

The list of key centers found in each of our concert pieces will be easier to navigate if you spend some practice time each day on the scales associated with them. Most of these scales will be familiar to you, so focus on increasing your familiarity with the ones most new to you.

Get Creative and Have Fun!

Bored with practicing scales? Try coming up with some *new* ways of playing them! Here are a few basic ideas:

Reverse Direction - play top-to-bottom-to-top.

Use Intervals - play in thirds (c-e-d-f-e-g, etc.) or fourths (c-f-d-g-e-a, etc.) both up and down.

Look for rhythmic patterns in your music and turn them into a scale exercise.

Don't forget to practice the chromatic scale, as well. Begin the chromatic scale on every key center listed here, and be sure to use the correct chromatic fingerings!

Key Centers

Here are the concert key centers for each piece:

- *Wildcat Valley Fanfare* - F / Eb / F
- *Undertow* - f minor
- *At Morning's First Light* - Bb / C / Ab / C
- *España Cañi* - Bb / C / Bb
- *Forge Ahead!* - Bb / Eb / d minor / F / Bb
- *Bonds of Unity* - Eb / Ab

Scale Chart

Here is a chart of the seven scales associated with the key centers above, transposed for each instrument. Please work on these scales so your fingers and ears are comfortable in each one. Play them through the FULL range of your instrument:

Concert Key (Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Percussion)	Bb Instruments (Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Tenor Sax, Trumpet, Baritone TC)	Eb Instruments (Alto Clarinet, Alto Sax, Bari Sax)	F Instruments (French Horn)
Ab	Bb	F	Db
f minor	g minor	d minor	Bb minor
Bb	C	G	Eb
C	D	A	F
Eb	F	C	Ab
F	G	D	Bb
d minor	e minor	b minor	g minor

Scale Sheets

Scale sheets are provided that are specific to our concert repertoire. Feel free to use your own scale sheets if they are more familiar to you.

Scale Sheet

CJMEA Intermediate Wind Ensemble

Concert Key - TC

Flute / Oboe

The musical score consists of seven staves of music, each representing a different scale. Each staff begins with a key signature box and a measure number. The scales are: 1. A-flat Major (measures 1-4), 2. f minor (measures 5-8), 3. B-flat Major (measures 9-12), 4. C Major (measures 13-16), 5. E-flat Major (measures 17-20), 6. F Major (measures 21-24), and 7. d minor (measures 25-28). The music is written in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. The scales are presented as ascending and descending eighth-note patterns.

Scale Sheet

CJMEA Intermediate Wind Ensemble

Concert Key - BC

Trombone / Euphonium / Tuba

Ab Major

5 f minor

9 Bb Major

13 C Major

17 Eb Major

21 F Major

25 d minor

Detailed description: This page contains a scale sheet for Trombone, Euphonium, and Tuba. It features seven lines of musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). Each line represents a scale starting on a specific note. The scales are: 1. Ab Major (measures 1-4), 2. f minor (measures 5-8), 3. Bb Major (measures 9-12), 4. C Major (measures 13-16), 5. Eb Major (measures 17-20), 6. F Major (measures 21-24), and 7. d minor (measures 25-28). Each scale is written as a sequence of eighth notes, with a double bar line at the end of each line. The key signature is indicated by two flat symbols (B-flat and E-flat) at the beginning of the first line.

Scale Sheet

CJMEA Intermediate Wind Ensemble

Bb Part Clarinet & Bass Clarinet / Tenor Sax / Trumpet / Baritone TC

The image displays a musical score for a Bb instrument part, consisting of seven lines of music. Each line represents a different scale, with the scale name indicated in a box above the staff. The scales are: Bb Major (measures 1-4), G minor (measures 5-8), C Major (measures 9-12), D Major (measures 13-16), F Major (measures 17-20), G Major (measures 21-24), and e minor (measures 25-28). The music is written in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. The key signature for the first scale is two flats (Bb and Eb). The second scale, G minor, is in the same key signature. The third scale, C Major, has a key signature of one flat (Bb). The fourth scale, D Major, has a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The fifth scale, F Major, has a key signature of one flat (Bb). The sixth scale, G Major, has a key signature of one sharp (F#). The seventh scale, e minor, has a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notation includes quarter notes, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes, with stems and beams indicating the rhythm. The scales are presented in a stepwise fashion, moving up and then down the scale.

Scale Sheet

CJMEA Intermediate Wind Ensemble

E♭ Part

Alto Clarinet / Alto Sax / Bari Sax

F Major

5 d minor

9 G Major

13 A Major

17 C Major

21 D Major

25 B minor

Detailed description: This page contains seven musical staves for scale practice. Each staff begins with a measure number in a box and a key signature label in a box. The scales are: 1. F Major (measures 1-4), 2. d minor (measures 5-8), 3. G Major (measures 9-12), 4. A Major (measures 13-16), 5. C Major (measures 17-20), 6. D Major (measures 21-24), and 7. B minor (measures 25-28). Each scale is written in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. The notes are written in a stepwise fashion, with stems pointing up for ascending and down for descending. The key signatures are: F Major (one flat), d minor (two flats), G Major (one sharp), A Major (two sharps), C Major (no sharps or flats), D Major (two sharps), and B minor (two sharps).

Scale Sheet

CJMEA Intermediate Wind Ensemble

F Part

French Horn

1 D \flat Major



5 B \flat minor



9 E \flat Major



13 F Major



17 A \flat Major



21 B \flat Major



25 G minor



Detailed description: This page contains eight staves of musical notation for a French Horn part. Each staff begins with a measure number and a key signature label in a box. The scales are: 1. D \flat Major (measures 1-4), 2. B \flat minor (measures 5-8), 3. E \flat Major (measures 9-12), 4. F Major (measures 13-16), 5. A \flat Major (measures 17-20), 6. B \flat Major (measures 21-24), and 7. G minor (measures 25-28). The notation is in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. Each scale is written as a sequence of eighth notes, with a double bar line at the end of each staff.