Repertoire Levels for the 2024 UTRGV Cello Festival

Six **minimum required skill levels** are assigned to all parts.

Level 1 is the easiest, Level 6 is the highest required skill level. You and your teacher can use this "Repertoire Level List" to help you choose the right parts for you.

A good rule of thumb: if you can almost sight read it, you can learn it quickly and play well in the performance. Choose something harder only if you can put in the time to come well prepared!

Teachers: If you are registering many students, help us balance the ensemble by assigning a balanced variety of parts from top to bottom to your students.

To ensure that we will have an even cello ensemble, with enough strong cellists for every voice, some students might be asked to be switched to another voice at the first rehearsal.

Difficulty Level 1: Beginner: Player should be competent in **closed 1st position**, can learn a

simple part fast and fit their part to the other parts, play it with recording

easily, and should be able to follow a leader.

Difficulty Level 2: Advanced beginner: Players should be comfortable with some extensions,

with some shifting, with slurs, and reading comfortable enough to watch and follow a leader or conductor while playing a learned part. The advanced beginner can learn new rhythmic patterns with help, can learn to read new accidentals with help, playing on a level ready for easy **UIL Grade 3 solos**.

Difficulty Level 3: Intermediate: Players should be comfortable with extensions, shifting

in neck positions, and have several years of orchestra experience. The intermediate player can learn challenging new rhythmic patterns with help, is comfortable reading changing accidentals, and is playing on a level ready

for **UIL Grade 2/3 solos** like Breval Sonata in C or Webster Scherzo.

Difficulty Level 4: High Intermediate: Players should be comfortable reading in many

positions, including easy thumb position in tenor clef. The high intermediate player can learn challenging rhythmic patterns quickly, has many years of orchestra experience, and has performed UIL Grade 2 solos like The Swan,

Goltermann Concertos No. 4 or 5, or Popper Gavotte.

Difficulty Level 5: High Difficulty: Players should be comfortable with challenging rhythmic

patterns, playing in thumb position in treble-clef and tenor-clef, and **have performed UIL Grade 1 solos** like Sammartini Sonata in G Major, Elegie by

Faure, or Haydn C Major.

Difficulty Level 6: Highest Difficulty: For **professional** players, college students, and teachers.

Novice Ensemble

For students grade 6-7 (or 1-2 years playing experience)

All parts are level 1 or 2. Choose the same part for all pieces.

We need strong leaders for all three parts!

Title	Cello	Cello	Cello
	1	2	3
Knights of the Round	Level 1	Level 1	
Purcell, Rigadoon	Level 1	Level 1-2	
Mungia, The Happy Cellist	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1

Junior Ensemble

For students grade 7-9 (or 2-4 years of playing experience)

All parts are level 1, 2 or 3. Choose a part for all pieces.

We need strong leaders for all four parts!

Title	Cello 1	Cello 2	Cello 3
Haydn (Pejtsik), Minuet and Finale	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3
Burswold, The Chimpanzee	Level 2	Level 2	Level 2

Senior Ensemble

For students grade 9-12 (or at least 4 years) and all adults

All parts are level 2, 3, 4, or 5. Choose the same part for all pieces.

We need strong leaders for all four parts!

Title	Cello	Cello	Cello	Cello
	1	2	3	4
Ronson, Uptown Funk	level 5	level 5	level 2	level 3

Pro Ensemble

We need strong leaders for all four parts!

Title	Cello	Cello	Cello	Cello	Cello
	1	2	3	4	5
Warlock, Capriol Suite (I, II, VI only)	level 3				