

Symphoria Young Artists Orchestra (SYAO)

The Symphoria Young Artists Orchestra offers an orchestral experience with the most challenging repertoire, somewhat longer rehearsals, and three performance experiences. In addition, student musicians will join their professional counterparts to perform on a Symphoria masterworks performance. Sectional coaching will be offered by Symphoria musicians for each concert cycle, as well as masterclass opportunities throughout the year. The Symphoria Young Artists Orchestra is open to students up to age 22.

Violin:

- Should be comfortable with 3 octave scales in any major or minor key up to 5 sharps or flats.
- Should be comfortable with vibrato, playing in the higher positions, and playing in all parts of the bow with varied articulations/bow strokes including, brush, spiccato, and sautille.
- Playing repertoire at NYSSMA level 6 or the more challenging pieces of level 5 (such as De Beriot or Rode Concertos).
- Pieces need not be from the NYSSMA list.

Viola:

- SYAO violists should be comfortable with 3 octave scales.
- Musicians should be comfortable in higher positions, have the use of vibrato and varied articulations, have good sight-reading skills in alto and treble clefs, and experience in advanced key signatures.

Cello:

- Students should be comfortable with 3 octave scales.
- Cellists should be able to play in bass, tenor and treble clefs, be comfortable with vibrato, have good sight-reading skills, and experience in advanced key signatures.

Bass:

- Students should prepare a two or three octave scale for the audition.
- Bassists should be comfortable with half through sixth positions and be familiar with thumb position.

Flute:

- Prepare a two or three octave scale for the audition.
- Musicians should be comfortable in advanced key signatures, have good sight-reading skills, and have advancing use of vibrato.
- Musicians should be skilled in all major and minor keys, be able to play with continuous vibrato, and have the ability to double tongue.

Oboe:

- Prepare a two-octave scale for the audition.
- Choose a piece that highlights both your expressive and technical abilities.

- Musicians should be skilled in all major and minor keys, be comfortable in advanced key signatures, have good sight-reading skills, and advanced use of vibrato.

Clarinet:

- Prepare a three-octave scale for the audition. Choose a piece that highlights both your expressive and technical abilities (including both finger technique and varied articulation).
- Musicians should be skilled in all major and minor keys, be comfortable in advanced key signatures, have good sight-reading skills.
- Owning an A-Clarinet is not required, but some pieces may include parts for A or C clarinet, and students should have a private teacher or music educator willing to help them with the transposition process.
- Students should be comfortable playing NYSSMA Level 5 or 6 literature.

Bassoon:

- Musicians should have playing experience through three sharps and flats.
- Musicians should be comfortable playing music in advanced key signatures such as f minor, d minor, A-flat major, E major, & A major.
- Musicians should be comfortable in time signatures such as 6/8, 9/8, 12/8, 2/4, 3/4, 4/4 & cut time.
- Musicians should be comfortable playing in a three octave range (low B-flat 1 to high B 4), with dotted rhythms, arpeggios, grace notes, octave leaps, and syncopation.
- Musicians should have good sight-reading skills and have intermediate or advanced use of vibrato.
- Musicians should be skilled in all major and minor scales and be comfortable reading tenor clef.

Horn:

- Students should play a one octave scale for the audition.
- Musicians should be comfortable in advanced key signatures and have good sight-reading skills, be able to double tongue, be able to read some bass clef and have knowledge of typical transpositions.
- Students must have a private teacher or music educator willing to help them with the transposition process.
- Students should be comfortable playing NYSSMA Level 6 literature.

Trumpet:

- Students should play a one octave scale for the audition.
- Musicians should be comfortable in advanced key signatures and have good sight-reading skills, be able to double and triple tongue, and have knowledge of typical transpositions.
- Students must have a private teacher or music educator willing to help them with the transposition process.

Trombone:

- Students should play a two octave scale for the audition.
- Musicians should be comfortable in all key signatures and have good sight-reading skills, be able to double and triple tongue, have sufficient knowledge of tenor clef, and be familiar with alto clef.

Tuba:

- Musicians should be comfortable in advanced key signatures and have good sight-reading skills, be able to double and triple tongue, and have knowledge of typical transpositions.
- It is highly recommended for students to have a private teacher.

Percussion:

- Students should prepare a snare drum solo, a xylophone or marimba solo or etude, and a two octave major scale and arpeggio.

Symphoria Youth Repertory Orchestra (SYRO)

The Symphoria Youth Repertory Orchestra offers a full orchestra experience with three performances, including a side by side performance with Symphoria. Symphoria musicians will offer sectional coaching for each concert cycle, and SYRO musicians are encouraged to participate in masterclass opportunities throughout the year. The Symphoria Youth Repertory Orchestra is open to students up to age 18.

Violin:

- Students should be comfortable with 3 octave scales in G, A, B-flat, C, and 2 octave scales in all keys up to 5 sharps or flats.
- Should have (or be developing) ease with their vibrato and be comfortable playing in all parts of the bow.
- Audition repertoire need not be from the NYSSMA list but should be similar in range and technique to level 5 (or higher).

Viola:

- SYRO violists should know all two octave Major scales.
- Music includes first through fifth positions and keys through three sharps and flats.
- Violists should be familiar with treble clef and have the use of vibrato.
- Music will include syncopation and changing meters.

Cello:

- Students should be comfortable with scales in three octaves.
- Cellists should have good sight-reading skills, familiarity with most major and minor keys, the use of vibrato, and should be comfortable with bass and tenor clefs and familiar with treble clef.

Bass:

- Students should prepare a two octave scale for the audition.
- Music includes half through sixth positions.

Flute:

- Please prepare a two octave scale for the audition.
- Musicians should have playing experience through three sharps and flats and beginning use of vibrato.

Oboe:

- Prepare a two-octave scale for the audition.
- Choose a piece that highlights both your expressive and technical abilities.
- Musicians should have playing experience through three sharps and flats, have good sight-reading skills, and beginning use of vibrato.

Clarinet:

- Prepare a two-octave scale for the audition.
- Choose a piece that highlights both your expressive and technical abilities (including finger technique and varied articulation).
- Musicians should have playing experience through three sharps and flats, have good sight-reading skills.
- Owning an A-Clarinet is not required, but some pieces may include parts for A or C clarinet, and students should have a private teacher or music educator willing to help them with the transposition process.
- Students should be comfortable playing NYSSMA Level 4-5 literature.

Bassoon:

- Musicians should have playing experience through three sharps and flats.
- Musicians should be comfortable playing music in key signatures such as D Major, A major, E Major, F major, B-flat major & G-flat major.
- Musicians should be comfortable in time signatures such as 2/4, 4/4 & cut time.
- Musicians should be comfortable playing in a three octave range (low B-flat 1 to high B 4).
- Musicians should have good sight-reading skills and have beginning use of vibrato.
- Musicians should be skilled in all major and minor scales and be comfortable reading tenor clef.

Horn:

- Students should play a one octave scale for the audition.
- Musicians should have playing experience through three sharps and flats.
- Students must have a private teacher or music educator willing to help them with the transposition process.
- Students should be comfortable playing NYSSMA Level 5 or 6 literature.

Trumpet:

- Students should play a one octave scale for the audition.
- Musicians should have playing experience through three sharps and flats.

Trombone:

- Students should play a one octave scale for the audition and be able to play in all keys.

Tuba:

- Students should play a one octave scale for the audition.
- Musicians should be comfortable playing in key signatures with 3 sharps or flats.
- It is highly recommended for students to have a private teacher.

Percussion:

- Students should prepare a snare drum solo, a xylophone or marimba solo or etude, and a two octave major scale and arpeggio.

Symphoria Youth String Orchestra (SYSO)

The Symphoria Youth String Orchestra brings together the most talented young string musicians in Central New York to practice and perform a wide variety of string repertoire. This orchestra is targeted for middle school students performing at NYSSMA level 3, 4, and 5.

Violin: Beginning SYO string students generally play a NYSSMA level 3 or higher solo, play two octave scales, are comfortable in 1st and 3rd positions, and know detaché and staccato bow strokes.

Viola: Repertoire is primarily in first position, and students should know detaché and staccato bow strokes.

Cello: Repertoire is primarily in first position, and students should know detaché and staccato bow strokes.

Bass: Students should prepare a one octave scale and be comfortable with half, first, second, and third positions.

Symphoria Youth Chamber Program

The Symphoria Chamber Music program introduces students of all ages who wish to participate in an immersive musical program that explores standard chamber music literature. During the 2021-22 season, enrollment in this program is limited to 2 string quartets, 1 woodwind quintet, and 1 brass quintet.

Please indicate on your registration form if you would like your audition to be considered for the chamber music program.