



Dear Young Musician,

Thank you for your interest in participating in one of the Community Youth Orchestra of Southern California's ensemble programs for 2021-2022.

The following guide is intended to help you prepare for your placement audition. Please note that CYOSC has for many years offered a stepping-stone sequence of programs that serve nearly every age and ability level, and we strive to place every single student that auditions for our organization in an appropriate-level ensemble.

**Academy (Pre K - 4th Grade)**

The Academy Program is intended for string instrument players in Preschool through grade 4. As this is usually a first audition for many young musicians, the experience is framed mainly as an interview, with the student presenting any material that they are currently working on that best demonstrates their current ability level. Parents/guardians of the student should join them in the interview to provide comfort and support.

**String Orchestra (4th - 9th Grade)**

This ensemble for players of violin, viola, cello, and double bass is the original one from which CYOSC began its music education program over thirty years ago. Intended for students in grades 4 through 9, this ensemble explores a wide range of repertoire for string orchestra and focuses on skill development to empower young musicians to pursue a vast range of ensemble opportunities as they advance through their middle years in school. If there is high enrollment, this ensemble may be split into two groups

**Symphony Orchestra (6th - 12th Grade and College)**

This ensemble for players of orchestral strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion instruments offers a symphonic experience for students in grades 6 through 12. It is our largest ensemble, and explores major works of the past three centuries, including new works commissioned by the organization. The Symphony collaborates each season with artistic organizations of choir, dance, and drama, as well as performing for community outreach and service.

**FOR THE STRING ORCHESTRA AND SYMPHONY AUDITIONS:** students will play for a small panel of the orchestra conductors and music staff, independently, without other family members, teachers, or friends in the audition room. They will be asked to present the following:

- Any scale of the student's choice that demonstrates current range.
- A 2 minute excerpt (or less) from a solo piece that best demonstrates the student's current ability level.
- A short passage of sight-reading, which will be provided by the audition panel.

*As we consider this new season a relaunch of the organization's programs, there are no excerpts required for any auditions this year.*

If you have questions about the audition process, please contact us at: **staff@cyosc.org**