

South Carolina Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Program

String Audition Requirements for the 2020-2021 Season

Prelude Orchestra Audition Requirements

Scale Requirement: any scale of choice, one quarter note per scale degree, quarter note = 80

Solo Requirement: prepare a solo piece of choice that will showcase your technique, musicality, and overall playing ability. *Please bring an extra copy to the audition for the judges*

Required Orchestral Excerpts: none

Required Sightreading: none

Students auditioning for Prelude will also be asked to identify note names in music, their corresponding finger numbers, and their location on the fingerboard during their audition

Concert Orchestra Audition Requirements

Scale Requirement: required two octave scales, one quarter note per scale degree, quarter note = 80

Violin: D major two octave scale AND A melodic minor two octave scale

Viola/Cello: G major two octave scale AND D melodic minor two octave scale

Bass: G major two octave scale AND D melodic minor one octave scale

Solo Requirement: prepare a solo piece of choice that will showcase your technique, musicality, and overall playing ability. *Please bring an extra copy to the audition for the judges*

Required Orchestral Excerpts: required excerpts found at sphilharmonic.com/youth

Required Sightreading: none

Symphonic Orchestra Audition Requirements

Scale Requirement: required two octave scales, one quarter note per scale degree, quarter note = 80

Violin: F major two octave scale AND D melodic minor two octave scale

Viola/Cello: Bb major two octave scale AND G melodic minor two octave scale

Bass: C major two octave scale AND E melodic minor one octave scale

Solo Requirement: prepare a solo piece of choice that will showcase your technique, musicality, and overall playing ability. *Please bring an extra copy to the audition for the judges*

Required Orchestral Excerpts: required excerpts found at sphilharmonic.com/youth

Required Sightreading: none

Youth Philharmonic Audition Requirements

Scale Requirement: required three octave scales, one quarter note per scale degree, quarter note=80

All instruments: C major three octave, C melodic minor three octave

G major three octave, G melodic minor three octave

D major three octave, D melodic minor three octave

Solo Requirement: prepare a solo piece of choice that will showcase your technique, musicality, and overall playing ability. *Please bring an extra copy to the audition for the judges*

Required Orchestral Excerpts: required excerpts found at sphilharmonic.com/youth

Required Sightreading: all students will be required to sightread a brief passage at their audition

Audition Information

Which Group Should I Audition For?

Group	Average Experience	Fingerboard Knowledge	Music Reading	Other Considerations
Prelude	1-2 years	Know all four finger patterns on all four strings in 1st position	Can read music for all strings in 1st position	Maturity level also taken into consideration
Concert	3-4 years	Shift to lower positions, such as ½, II, III, and IV	Can read music for all strings in multiple positions	Increasing technical demands and practice dedication
Symphonic	5-6 years	Shift to upper positions, such as V, VI, and VII	Violins: numerous ledger lines above staff Violas: treble clef Cello/Bass: tenor clef	<i>Private lessons recommended to help with difficult technique needed for repertoire</i>
Philharmonic	6+ years	Shift to highest positions (past VII for violins/violas and thumb position for cello/bass)	Violins: numerous ledger lines above staff Violas: treble clef Cello/Bass: tenor and treble clefs	<i>Private lessons highly recommended. Students not taking private lessons may greatly struggle with technical demands of repertoire</i>

Sign-Up To Audition

Audition registration and sign-ups are available on the website at sphilharmonic.com/youth. Registration is first-come, first-serve, and slots get reserved very quickly, so be sure to sign-up early.

Audition Location

Auditions will be held in the basement of the University of South Carolina School of Music (813 Assembly Street, Columbia SC 29201). You may park at a meter on the street or in a garage. Enter the basement from the College Street side of the building or through the loading dock at the back of the building along Park Street. If you enter the main entrance of the School of Music facing Assembly Street, take the elevator down to the basement. Sign-in and warm-up is in room 040. There will be signs posted to direct you to the room.

What to Bring to Your Audition

- Printed and completed Student Information Sheet (found on the website at sphilharmonic.com/youth)
- Instrument, bow, rosin; *cellists/bassists need to bring a rockstop*
- All music needed for your audition; copies of the excerpts will NOT be provided. Please also bring an extra copy (not an original) of your solo music to give to the judges

The Day of Your Audition

- *Arrive 15 to 30 minutes before your scheduled audition time to allow for tuning and warm-up*
- You will sign-in at room 040 and give the room monitor your completed Student Information Sheet
- You will warm-up in room 040. A runner will come and bring you to the audition room when it's your turn
- Because of the high volume of students auditioning and the variety of auditions during the day, the auditions might run behind. Thank you for your flexibility.

Which Group Will I Be Placed In?

The conductors take numerous factors into consideration, including technical ability, experience, maturity level, and instrumentation of the orchestras. Students will be placed where their talents and abilities will be nurtured and will best serve the Youth Orchestra Program.