



METROPOLITAN YOUTH
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS
OF ATLANTA

Audition Information Packet

2023-2024

Last updated March 30, 2023

Dear MYSO Auditionee,

Thank you for your interest in MYSO Atlanta's upcoming 2023-2024 season! Auditions will be completed through videos submitted online from May 15-22, 2023. A second audition window in August will be held specifically for vacant positions. Keep in mind that some sections will be filled after the Spring auditions and will not accept further auditions. Our website will be updated in early June 2023 with August audition registration information. You may sign up for your audition here: <https://mysoatlanta.org>

We are excited to announce our new rehearsal location and collaboration with Drew Charter Junior/Senior Academy at 300 Eva Davis Way, Atlanta, GA 30317.

This season MYSO welcomes our Guest Performers: Jazz Fusion Ensemble Misnomer and Bassoonist Dr. Cayla Bellamy from Colorado State University, as well as the newest member of our staff, Jeffrey Rowser, who will be conducting Philharmonia Winds.

This packet contains all the information that you will need to have a successful audition:

- MYSO Ensemble Descriptions
- How to Submit a Video Audition
- Results
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Audition Requirements
- Tentative 2023- 2024 Season Schedule

If, after you read through the entirety of this packet, you have any additional questions, please contact the MYSO Atlanta team at info@mysoatlanta.org. We look forward to hearing you play!
Time to practice!

Sincerely,

Barrie Herman
Operations Manager
MYSO Atlanta

Ensemble Descriptions

MYSO is dedicated to providing engaging opportunities for talented young musicians to develop the musical skills to perform advanced literature that will be rewarding and challenging.

MYSO Sinfonietta: *rehearses from 1:45pm – 2:45pm on Sundays*

The Sinfonietta is an orchestral ensemble comprised of only string players and designed for students with one year of experience on their instrument. This ensemble will play beginning string orchestra literature and will be conducted by Mr. Carl Rieke. The Sinfonietta is designed for string players aged 6-10, depending on ability.

Philharmonia Orchestra: *rehearses from 3:00pm – 5:15pm on Sundays*

MYSO's Philharmonia members will rehearse and perform music specifically selected by conductor Carl Rieke to advance individual performance skills and prepare students for future participation in our Symphony Orchestra. Philharmonia members are typically in late middle school or early high school.

Symphony Orchestra: *rehearses from 3:00pm – 5:30pm on Sundays*

Nurturing the development of collegiate level musicianship, the MYSO Symphony requires the highest level of skill and maturity of any MYSO ensemble. Under the baton of Artistic Director and Conductor, Dr. Cathie Hudnall, MYSO Symphony players can expect to perform unabridged repertoire such as Dvorak New World Symphony, Tchaikovsky Symphony 6, Beethoven Symphony 5, Overture to Slavonic Dances, and more. This ensemble typically attracts advanced high school aged performers.

MYSO Chamber Music Program: *rehearses from 1:45pm – 2:45pm on Sundays*

MYSO's Chamber Music Program provides the opportunity for students to perform in small ensembles where individual skills are honed and ensemble skills are developed with guidance from our professional coaches. This season we will create several chamber ensembles from among MYSO players in Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonia. Anyone interested in performing in a quartet or trio is invited to participate in the Chamber Music Program for the 2023-2024 season.

How to Submit An Audition Video

1. Record a separate video for each required part of the audition (scales, excerpts, and solo) on chosen recording device (phone, tablet, camera, etc.). On your solo video please give your full name and instrument and introduce the piece and composer of your chosen solo.
2. Sign in or create an account on YouTube.
3. In the top right corner next to your picture, click on the camera icon and then upload video.
4. Upload each video separately to YouTube. Set the video to “Unlisted”
 - a. Please title your videos as such “Musician Last Name, Musician First Name Instrument MYSO 2023 Audition Scales, Excerpts, or Solo”
 - b. Example: My three video names would be as such: 1. Herman, Barrie: Percussion MYSO 2023 Audition Scales 2. Herman, Barrie: Percussion MYSO 2023 Audition Excerpts. 3. Herman, Barrie: Percussion MYSO 2023 Audition Solo
5. Once your videos are uploaded to YouTube, please copy and paste the links into an email to info@mysoatlanta.org
 - a. The subject line of your email should read: “Musician’s Last Name, Musician’s First Name Instrument MYSO 2023 Audition
 - b. Example: Herman, Barrie Percussion MYSO 2023 Audition

Video Audition Tips

1. Submit unedited videos only!
2. Record in a good space and think about your background (don’t have a messy or busy background).
3. Make sure we can see you clearly from an angle that shows both you and your instrument well.
4. Be sure you are well lit. Make sure light is coming from the sides or in front of you. Do not have light behind you otherwise you will not be seen very well. Natural light is best (near/from a window)!
5. Think about outside noises (family in other rooms, TVs in other rooms, sirens outside, etc.). Listen to the full video for good sound quality and make sure there aren’t any extraneous noises.

ALL AUDITION VIDEOS MUST BE RECEIVED BY

11pm on Monday May 22nd

Audition Results

Ensemble Placement Results:

Results from the May auditions will be shared via email the first week of June. Some students will be assigned to a specific orchestra at this time while others will receive notification that they have been accepted into MYSO but their orchestra assignment will be made after the August final round of auditions. Student commitment forms and a deposit of \$200 will be due by June 18, 2022, to secure your spot in MYSO.

The August auditions will be used to fill spots that are still open after the May auditions. Results from the August auditions will be shared via email by August 16. At this time **all** students will receive their final orchestra placement.

A parent and student meeting is planned for Sunday, August 27th, at which time students can meet the MYSO staff, pick up their folders, season calendar and t-shirts.

Chair Placement Results:

Chair placement results will not be determined until after the August audition date once everyone has auditioned. Expect to receive your chair placement at the parent and student meeting on Sunday, August 27th.

Please note: chair placements are subject to change at any time during the season. Conductors may hold additional chair placement auditions throughout the season and make seating changes at their discretion. Chair placement decisions may also include leadership qualities, promptness, a positive attitude, and attendance.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to have my music memorized for the audition?

No! Auditionees do **not** need to have their music memorized.

I am in MYSO this year, do I need to audition for next season?

Yes! All potential MYSO members must audition for placement each season including returning members.

Where are the audition excerpts?

On the MYSO website Audition Materials page, click on the link for your instrument and you will see the excerpts. Be sure to select the excerpts for the orchestra you are interested in auditioning for. **FOR WINDS AND PERCUSSION - Philharmonia will play less excerpts. Please check the labeling. There are more excerpts to be played for Symphony.**

How do I know whether I should audition for Philharmonia or Symphony?

After reviewing the ensemble descriptions above, select the ensemble that you think would be the right fit for you. The purpose of auditions is to ensure that MYSO members are placed in the ensemble that most closely meets their playing ability and experience.

If I choose to audition only for Philharmonia and play just the Philharmonia audition requirements, will I still be eligible for placement in Symphony.

No. If you chose to play only the Philharmonia audition requirements you **will not** be considered for Symphony no matter how good your audition video. This is because the audition requirements for Symphony are at a higher level and it wouldn't be fair to accept someone into Symphony who has not demonstrated they could play at that level.

If I choose to audition for Symphony, might I be offered a place in Philharmonia instead?

Yes! It's possible that we may feel you are not ready for Symphony but would be a great fit for our Philharmonia, in which case we would offer you a spot in Philharmonia and you would have the option to accept or decline.

Can I audition for both ensembles?

Yes! Please select the "Either" option on your audition registration. This will let the judges know that you are auditioning for both ensembles. **Please prepare and submit only the Symphony audition requirements for your instrument.**

How do I sign up for the MYSO Chamber Music Program?

All students will be given the opportunity to sign up after auditions are completed. We will assign students to quartets and trios based on sign ups for the program. All are invited to participate!

Is there a cost for auditioning?

There is a non-refundable audition fee of \$30.00 for each registered auditionee. This fee is paid prior to the conclusion of the online audition registration process.

Where will I find the MYSO schedule for 2023-24?

At the end of this document is a **tentative** rehearsal and concert schedule for the 2023-2024 season. This is subject to change once dates are finalized. A finalized calendar will be handed out at the student and parent meeting on August 27, 2023.

Where does MYSO rehearse and perform?

For the 2023-2024 season, MYSO will rehearse at Drew Charter School in East Lake. Our performance locations are TBD, but will likely be the Ferst Center at Georgia Tech, and Gas South Arena in Duluth.

Is parking free?

Yes! We have free parking available in the school parking lot.

What is the tuition fee for MYSO?

Tuition cost for the 2023-2024 MYSO season will be \$650. There is an additional cost for participation in the Chamber Music Program. The cost for the Sinfonietta tuition is \$300.

Does MYSO offer tuition assistance?

Yes! MYSO offers two types of tuition assistance for accepted members, typically a maximum of 50% of the full tuition.

- Financial Aid based on financial needs of the student
- Instrumentation Scholarships based on the needs of the ensembles

Once accepted into the MYSO program, families may apply for either (or both) types of tuition assistance. Note: The specific instruments eligible for the Instrumentation Scholarships will be posted after the May auditions. Information about how to apply can be found on the MYSO website or by contacting MYSO at info@mysoatlanta.org.

When is tuition due?

- For students accepted in the May round of auditions, the tuition deposit of \$200 is **due no later than June 18, 2023, to secure your position in MYSO.**
- For students accepted in the August round of auditions, the tuition deposit of \$200 is **due no later than August 20, 2023 to secure your spot in MYSO.**
- The remaining season tuition for all students is **due in full no later than September 10, 2023** (first rehearsal).
- Any variation to this schedule must be approved in advance by the Executive Director.

How do I make payments to MYSO?

Tuition is typically paid through PayPal using our online CutTime program, but may be paid by check, if preferred. Tuition payment plans may be requested by emailing info@mysoatlanta.org.

Symphony Audition Requirements

String Audition Requirements for MYSO Symphony Orchestra

- **Scales and Arpeggios** should be played with separate bows, quarter note = 60, in 3 octaves (basses, 2 octaves) as follows:
 - Violin - G and A major; g and a melodic minor
 - Viola - C and D major; c and d melodic minor
 - Cello - C and D major; c and d melodic minor
 - Bass - F and G major; f and g melodic minor
- **Movement of a standard student concerto** or piece of equal difficulty, maximum 3 minutes
- **All Symphony Orchestral excerpts** for your instrument can be found on the Audition Materials page of the MYSO website

Woodwind, Brass, Harp & Piano Audition Requirements for BOTH Orchestras

- **Major Scales & Arpeggios** should be played in standard Allstate band format with arpeggios. Major scales are listed in concert pitch.
 - **Flute** - Full chromatic C to C (3 oct); 2 octave B flat major, 2 octave D major
 - **Oboe** - Full chromatic low Bb to high Eb (2+ octave); 2 octave C major, 2 octave D major
 - **Clarinet** - Full chromatic from E to G (3 octave), 2 octave G major, 3 octave D major
 - **Bassoon** - Full chromatic from Bb to Bb (3 octave), 2 octave G major, 2 octave D major
 - **Horn** - Full chromatic from F to A (2+ octave), 1 octave G major, 2 octave D major
 - **Trumpet** - Full chromatic from Gb to C (2+ octave), 2 octave G major, 1 octave D major
 - **Trombone** - Full chromatic from E to Bb (2+ octaves), 2 octave G major, 1 octave D major
 - **Tuba** - Full chromatic from E to Bb (2+ octaves), 2 octave G major, 1 octave D major
 - **Harp** - Choose 1 flat scale and 1 sharp scale, plus additional scale of your choice
 - **Piano** - Choose 1 flat scale and 1 sharp scale, plus additional scale of your choice
- **Standard solo piece** of your choice from the Baroque, Classic or Romantic periods, maximum 2 minutes
- **All Symphony Orchestra excerpts** for your instrument can be found on the Audition Materials page of the MYSO website (Note: no excerpts required for piano.)

Percussion Audition Requirements for BOTH Orchestras

- **MALLETS**
 - **Scales** - Full chromatic scale, 2 octave Ab Major with arpeggio, 2 octave D Major with arpeggio
 - **Solo piece** of your choice (2 or 4 mallets), maximum 3 minutes
- Excerpts for your instruments can be found on the Audition Materials page of the website.

Philharmonia Audition Requirements

String Audition Requirements for MYSO Philharmonia Orchestra

- **Major Scales & Arpeggios** should be played with separate bows, quarter note = 60, in 3 octaves (basses, 2 octaves) as follows:
 - Violin - G and A Major
 - Viola - C and D Major
 - Cello - C and D Major
 - Bass - F and G Major
- **Prepared solo** of your choice, maximum 3 minutes
- **All Philharmonia orchestral excerpts** for your instrument can be found on the Audition Materials page of the MYSO website

Woodwind, Brass, Harp & Piano Audition Requirements for BOTH Orchestras

- **Major Scales & Arpeggios** should be played in standard Allstate band format with arpeggios. Major scales are listed in concert pitch.
 - **Flute** - Full chromatic C to C (3 oct); 2 octave B flat major, 2 octave D major
 - **Oboe** - Full chromatic low Bb to high Eb (2+ octave); 2 octave C major, 2 octave D major
 - **Clarinet** - Full chromatic from E to G (3 octave), 2 octave G major, 3 octave D major
 - **Bassoon** - Full chromatic from Bb to Bb (3 octave), 2 octave G major, 2 octave D major
 - **Horn** - Full chromatic from F to A (2+ octave), 1 octave G major, 2 octave D major
 - **Trumpet** - Full chromatic from Gb to C (2+ octave), 2 octave G major, 1 octave D major
 - **Trombone** - Full chromatic from E to Bb (2+ octaves), 2 octave G major, 1 octave D major
 - **Tuba** - Full chromatic from E to Bb (2+ octaves), 2 octave G major, 1 octave D major
 - **Harp** - Choose 1 flat scale and 1 sharp scale, plus additional scale of your choice
 - **Piano** - Choose 1 flat scale and 1 sharp scale, plus additional scale of your choice
- **Standard solo piece** of your choice from the Baroque, Classic or Romantic periods, maximum 2 minutes
- **All Orchestra excerpts** for your instrument can be found on the Audition Materials page of the MYSO website (Note: no excerpts required for piano.)

Percussion Audition Requirements for BOTH Orchestras

- **MALLETS**
 - **Scales** - Full chromatic scale, 2 octave Ab Major with arpeggio, 2 octave D Major with arpeggio
 - **Solo piece** of your choice (2 or 4 mallets), maximum 3 minutes
- Excerpts for your instruments can be found on the Audition Materials page of the website.

Sinfonietta Audition Requirements

Please submit a video, no more than 2 minutes in length, that accurately represents your current playing level. You may choose short solos, exercises, scales, etc.

There are no excerpts required to audition for the Sinfonietta.



TENTATIVE 2023-2024 SCHEDULE **subject to change**

Concert Dates:

3:00 PM

Concert #1: November 5, 2023 Ferst Center for the Arts

Concert #2: February 25, 2024 Ferst Center for the Arts

Concert #3: May 5, 2023 TBA

Rehearsal Dates:

Drew Charter School

Sinfonietta: 1:45-2:45PM

Philharmonia: 3:00-5:15PM

Symphony: 3:00 - 5:30 PM

September 3: No Rehearsal – Labor Day

September 10: Rehearsal - Tuition Due!

September 17: Rehearsal

September 24: Rehearsal

October 1: Rehearsal

October 8: No Rehearsal – Fall Break

October 15: Rehearsal

October 22: Rehearsal

October 29: Rehearsal

November 5: **Concert #1 Misnomer Collaboration at Ferst Center for the Arts**

November 12: Rehearsal

November 19: No Rehearsal – Thanksgiving

November 26: No Rehearsal – Thanksgiving

December 3: Rehearsal

December 10: **Rehearsal and HOLIDAY PARTY I**

December 17: No Rehearsal – Winter Break

December 24: No Rehearsal – Winter Break

December 31: No Rehearsal- Winter Break

January 7: Rehearsal

January 14: No Rehearsal – MLK Holiday

January 21: Rehearsal

January 28: Rehearsal (Sectionals)

February 4: Rehearsal

February 11: Rehearsal

February 18: Rehearsal (Cayla Bellamy)

February 25: **CONCERT #2 Bassoon Soloist Cayla Bellamy at Ferst Center for the Arts**

March 3: **No rehearsal - All State Weekend**

March 10: Rehearsal

March 17: Rehearsal

March 24: Rehearsal (Sectionals)

March 31- No Rehearsal - Easter

April 7: Rehearsal

April 14: Rehearsal

April 21: Rehearsal

April 28: Rehearsal

May 5: **Concert #3 - Concerto Winner and Collaboration Concert (TBD)**

Other Important Dates:

June 18, 2023: Tuition deposit deadline for students accepted after the May auditions

August 20, 2023: Tuition deposit deadline for students accepted after the August auditions

August 27, 2023: Student & Parent Meeting

- **Philharmonia and Sinfonietta at 3pm**
- **Symphony at 4:15pm**

September 10, 2023: Tuition final payment deadline

2023-24 Scholarship & Concerto Competition Dates

February 6 : Concerto/Scholarship Competition Applications and video submission due

February 26: Scholarship winners announced, Concerto winner announced

May 5: Spring Concert and Concerto Competition Winner performs