



## Information for 2023-2024 Season Auditions

Visit [www.csysa.com/auditions](http://www.csysa.com/auditions) to learn more!

### AUDITION PREPARATIONS:

#### *String Audition Requirements:*

- 2 scales of the musician's choice from the lists below. More experienced musicians should choose 1 major and 1 minor.
- Two audition excerpts (one for Wolfgang)
- Rhythm sight reading (example attached)
- Note sight reading
- To be considered for Ovation or Youth Symphony, prepare a solo excerpt of your choice, two-minute maximum

*-See additional instructions on excerpts page*

#### **Strings scales selected from the following:**

Wolfgang: C, G, D Major - 1 octave

Amadeus: C, G, D, A, F Major - 1 octave

Allegro: C, G, D, A, F, B-flat Major and relative minors - 2 octaves

Vivace: C, G, D, A, F, B-flat Major and relative minors - 2 octaves plus G chromatic scale for violin, C chrom. scale for viola, cello, and E chrom. scale for string bass

Ovation: C, G, D, A, F, B-flat, E-flat Major and relative minors - 3 octaves when possible plus G chromatic scale for violin, C chrom. scale for viola, cello, and E chrom. scale for string bass

Youth Symphony: All majors and minors through 5 sharps and 5 flats - 3 octaves plus G chromatic scale for violin, C chrom. scale for viola, cello, and E chrom. scale for string bass

#### *Percussion Audition Requirements:*

- 2 scales of musician's choice- 1 major and 1 minor
- Three audition excerpts at a tempo appropriate for you
- Rhythm sight reading (example attached)
- Note sight reading
- See additional instructions on excerpts page*

#### *Piano & Harp Audition Requirements:*

- Positions for Youth Symphony only
- Solo piece of choice
- Full audition excerpt
- 2 scales and arpeggios of musician's choice
- See additional instructions on excerpts page*

#### *Woodwind & Brass Audition Requirements:*

- Chromatic scale ascending & descending from your lowest possible note to your highest possible note at your fastest controlled speed, slurred on the way up, tongued on the way down
- Two audition excerpts (one for Bravo)
- Rhythm sight reading (example attached)
- Note sight reading
- To be considered for the top three groups, (YS, OYO, PPW), prepare a solo excerpt of your choice, two-minute maximum
- See additional instructions on excerpts page*

*See next page for information about our groups.*

For your excerpt choices select excerpts that best display your performing skills. Quality is valued over difficulty.

### **Colorado Springs Youth Symphony Association | 3113 Primrose Drive**

**PO Box 7846 | Colorado Springs, CO 80933 | 719-633-3901 | [www.csysa.com](http://www.csysa.com)**

The Colorado Springs Youth Symphony Association, founded in 1980, is an internationally acclaimed non-profit organization that offers challenging and diverse musical experiences to develop young people as musicians and as leaders. Auditions are open to students who are prepared to make a commitment to the entire rehearsal and performance schedule, including tours and camps. Students are expected to participate in their school music program.

## AUDITION SCHEDULE:

### Current String Members Only (VIV, ALG, AMA, & WG):

May 9<sup>th</sup> – Allegro & Vivace Strings

May 10<sup>th</sup> – Wolfgang & Amadeus Strings

May 11<sup>th</sup> – Wolfgang, Amadeus, Allegro,  
& Vivace Strings

### Current Members (BW, PPW, OYO & YS) & New Auditioners:

May 12<sup>th</sup>- String Auditions, Flute, Double Reeds, Clarinet, Saxophone, & Brass

May 13<sup>th</sup> – String Auditions, Flute, Double Reeds, Clarinet, Saxophone, Brass, & Percussion

### Jazz auditions are video audition ONLY. Please see the website for further instruction!

There is a \$10 audition fee payable online through the application.

NOTE: Throughout the year, if additional instrumentation is needed, individual auditions are available. Mid-year auditions for open positions are held in September and December.

For string musicians who are not quite ready for our auditioned groups, we offer a beginning strings program for students with little to no experience. Information can be found on our website under the Mozart String Project. Enrollment for this program will begin in August.

*Note: Full orchestras consist of strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion. Bands consist of woodwinds, brass, and percussion. String orchestras are strings only. Please see our website for jazz ensemble instrumentation.*

## CSYSA GROUPS:

**Colorado Springs Youth Symphony**  
Collegiate Level Full Orchestra – Our flagship group travels regionally and internationally alternating years.

**Ovation Youth Orchestra**  
Advanced Full Orchestra  
Travels regionally

**Pikes Peak Wind Symphony**  
Advanced Band  
Travels regionally

**Ascent Big Band**  
Advanced Jazz Band  
Travels regionally

**Bravo! Winds**  
Intermediate Band  
Travels locally

**Pinnacle Jazz**  
Beginning Jazz Band  
Travels locally

**Vivace String Orchestra**  
Level 4 String Orchestra  
Travels locally

**Allegro String Orchestra**  
Level 3 String Orchestra  
Travels locally

**Amadeus String Orchestra**  
Level 2 String Orchestra  
Travels locally

**Wolfgang String Orchestra**  
Level 1 String Orchestra  
Does not travel

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL CURRENT MEMBERS OF WOLFGANG, AMADEUS, ALLEGRO, AND VIVACE STRINGS

## AUDITION GUIDELINES:

### Requirements:

- 2 scales of musician's choice from the list provided
- 2 audition excerpts (one for Wolfgang)
- Note sight reading
- Rhythm sight reading (example attached)

### Scales:

- Wolfgang – C G D major scales, 1 octave
- Amadeus – C G D A F major scales, 1 octave
- Allegro – C G D A F B-flat major and relative minors, 2 octaves
- Vivace – C G D A F B-flat major and relative minors, 2 octaves plus G chromatic scale for violin, C chrom. scale for viola, cello, and E chrom. scale for string bass

\* To be considered for either Ovation Youth Orchestra or Youth Symphony, musicians in the string orchestras must pass the Vivace String Orchestra audition requirements. If you think you will pass the Vivace String Orchestra audition requirements, it is highly recommended that you prepare for both Vivace Strings and the next level before your first scheduled audition.

\* Judges will immediately inform the musician who has passed the Vivace level audition. The musician will then schedule a second audition time online with the provided access code:

Saturday, May 13th between 2:00 and 4:00 pm.

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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL CURRENT STRING PLAYERS IN OVATION YOUTH ORCHESTRA AND YOUTH SYMPHONY

### Requirements:

- 2 scales of musician's choice from the list provided
- 2 audition excerpts
- A solo excerpt of your choice, two-minute maximum
- Note sight reading
- Rhythm sight reading (example attached)

### Scales:

- Ovation – C G D A F B-flat E-flat Major and relative minors, 3 octaves when possible
- Youth Symphony – all majors and minors through 5 sharps and 5 flats, 3 octaves, plus G chromatic scale for violin, C chrom. scale for viola, cello, and E chrom. scale for string bass

Questions? Please contact the office at (719) 633-3901 or email [office@csysa.com](mailto:office@csysa.com)!



