

## 2020-2021 Audition Requirements



### ALL MUSICIANS:

Thank you for your interest in the Northeast Massachusetts Youth Orchestras!

The safety of our members has always been the highest priority. Due to the current pandemic, NMYO will be accepting video auditions for the 2020-2021 season. The live auditions will no longer take place for any instrument.

Please read below carefully for information about the 2020-2021 NMYO audition process as much of the information has been revised.

The most important aspect of your NMYO audition is that you present your best playing and select works that you, in consultation with your private teacher, have prepared in advance. Audition pieces should be works the student knows well and that demonstrate his/her range of technical abilities and musicianship. Your private teacher can help determine and prepare appropriate pieces for the audition.

To be a member of NMYO, you must be actively studying your instrument with a private teacher. We realize, however, that many teachers are unable to give lessons at this time due to the pandemic. If you have questions about your audition repertoire and preparation, an NMYO conductor can be of assistance. Email [auditions@nmyo.org](mailto:auditions@nmyo.org) and we will put you in touch with the appropriate conductor who can advise you on your choice of scale(s) and repertoire.

Below are the scale and repertoire requirements for each of the NMYO ensembles. Note that placement in an ensemble is based on skill level and not on the age and/or grade of the musician. Although you will select the ensemble in which you would like to be placed, we will evaluate your audition and place you in the best ensemble for your level so that you can be a successful NMYO musician.

### **STRING MUSICIANS AUDITIONING FOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

Scales from Memory for Violins, Violas, Cellos

- One three-octave major scale; choose from scales up to four sharps and four flats.
- One three-octave melodic minor scale; choose from scales up to four sharps and four flats.

Scales from Memory for Bass

- One two-octave major scale; choose from scales up to four sharps and four flats.
- One two-octave melodic minor scale; choose from scales up to four sharps and four flats.

Scales from Memory for Harp

- One two-octave major scale; choose from scales up to four sharps and four flats.
- One harmonic minor scale, choose from scales up to four sharps and four flats.
- One arpeggio, either C, F or G Major.

Solo Piece (Sheet Music Acceptable)

- Play a piece equivalent to the Senior District or All-State level that demonstrates your best playing and your ability to play in several positions. Your submission should be 3 to 5 minutes in length and include contrasting sections. Harpists can also play a cadenza if they wish.

Skill Level

- Ability to play at a minimum level equivalent to the middle of Suzuki Book 5 or the Bach a minor Concerto.
- Violinists: Ability to shift and play in fifth position and beyond.

## 2020-2021 Audition Requirements

### **STRING MUSICIANS AUDITIONING FOR INTERMEZZO ORCHESTRA**

#### Scales from Memory

- Two two-octave scales that demonstrate shifting

#### Solo Piece (Sheet Music Acceptable)

- Violinists, Violists and Cellists: Play one piece that is equivalent to a Jr. District level piece, or a piece from the end of Suzuki Book 3 or Book 4 or above, which demonstrates your best playing. The piece should be between 2 to 4 minutes in length.
- Bassists: Play a piece equivalent to a Jr. District level piece, or a piece from the end of Suzuki Book 2 or Book 3, which demonstrates your best playing. The piece should be between 2 to 4 minutes in length.

#### Skill Level

- Ability to play at a minimum level equivalent to the end of Suzuki Book 3 (Violins, Violas, Cellos)
- Ability to play at a minimum level equivalent to the end of Suzuki Book 2 (Bass)
- Violinists: Ability to shift and play in third position

### **STRING MUSICIANS AUDITIONING FOR OVERTURE STRING ENSEMBLE**

#### Scales from Memory

- Violins: Two two-octave scales; choose from A, Bb, G, C Major
- Violas & Cellos: Two two-octave scales; choose from C, D, Eb, F Major
- Bass: Two one-octave scales; choose from C, D, G Major

#### Solo Piece (Sheet Music Acceptable)

- Violinists, Violists and Cellists: Play one piece from the end of Suzuki Book 2 through Book 3 or equivalent, which demonstrates your best playing. The piece should be from 2 to 4 minutes in length.
- Bassists: Play a piece from the beginning of Suzuki Book 2 or Book 3, which demonstrates your best playing. The piece should be from 2 to 4 minutes in length.

#### Skill Level

- Ability to play at a minimum level equivalent to the end of Suzuki Book 2 (Violins, Violas, Cellos)
- Ability to play at a minimum level equivalent to the beginning of Suzuki Book 2 (Bass)

### **STRING MUSICIANS AUDITIONING FOR PRELUDE STRING ENSEMBLE**

#### Scales from Memory

- Violins: Two-octave G Major scale; One-octave D Major scale
- Violas & Cellos: Two-octave C Major scale; One-octave D Major scale
- Bass: One-octave C Major scale

#### Solo Piece (Sheet Music Acceptable)

- Play one piece from the end of Suzuki Book 1 through Book 2 or equivalent, which demonstrates your best playing. The piece should be from 2 to 4 minutes in length.

#### Skill Level

- Ability to play at a minimum level equivalent to the end of Suzuki Book 1 through Book 2



## 2020-2021 Audition Requirements

### WINDS, BRASS & PERCUSSION MUSICIANS

All wind, brass and percussion musicians will be heard for placement in NMYO's Wind Ensemble. Depending upon the musician's level and seats available, the musician will also be considered for placement in Intermezzo Orchestra or Symphony Orchestra. Musicians placed in an Orchestra also play in the Wind Ensemble at no additional cost. Flute musicians can also choose to be considered for a spot in one of NMYO's Flute Choirs.

#### Scales from Memory

- One major scale up to 4 sharps and 4 flats
- Chromatic scale from your lowest range to your highest range

#### Harmonic Exercise (for Select Flute Choir consideration) (Sheet Music Acceptable)

- After playing the scales, flutists wishing to be considered for Select Flute Choir should play an exercise or excerpt demonstrating familiarity with harmonics

#### Solo Piece (Sheet Music Acceptable)

- Winds & Brass: Play a piece equivalent to the District level (Jr., Sr., All State) that demonstrates your best playing. Your submission should be 2 to 4 minutes in length and include contrasting sections. Flutists wishing to be considered for piccolo, should also play a short piccolo excerpt.
- Percussion: Play a piece equivalent to the District level (Jr., Sr., All State) that demonstrates your best playing on any percussion instrument including piano. Your submission should be 2 to 4 minutes in length and include contrasting sections. If you do not have access to percussion equipment at home, you can submit a snare solo with drum sticks and a practice pad or drum-substitute. Be creative!

#### Skill Level

- Symphony Orchestra: Scales at 92-104 bpm; percussionists must be able to play all two-octave major scales on mallets
- Intermezzo Orchestra: Scales at 84-96 bpm; percussionists must be able to understand and tune timpani
- Wind Ensemble: Scales at a minimum of 84 bpm
- Select Flute Choir: Major scales up to 6 sharps and 6 flats, 2 octaves (3 octaves for C Major); 3-octave chromatic scales
- Flute Choir: All Major two-octave scales up to 3 sharps and 3 flats