

New York Youth Symphony

Orchestra Auditions | 2025-2026

Dear Orchestra Applicant,

Thank you for applying to join the New York Youth Symphony for our 2025–2026 season! We have many exciting plans for the orchestra and are looking forward to meeting you and hearing you play.

Your audition will consist of both solo repertoire and orchestral excerpts, which are selected mostly from the upcoming season's repertoire; in a few cases, I have included other excerpts to help you showcase your playing in a variety of styles.

You can expect the following at your live audition:

- 1) Begin with an orchestral excerpt of your choice from the list.
- 2) We will then choose other excerpts we would like to hear. We may not get to hear all the excerpts, but you are expected to prepare all of them.
- 3) Solo Repertoire: Please prepare at least three minutes of your solo repertoire. You do not necessarily have to start at the beginning; pick a portion (or multiple portions) that represents you the best as a musician and also helps to demonstrate a variety of different styles.
- 4) If you are applying for a principal or assistant principal position, or auxiliary instruments with specific orchestral solo excerpts, you will play them in addition to the main excerpts. Please note not all instruments have principal excerpts.

For the orchestral excerpts, we are interested in witnessing your skills as an engaged member of an ensemble. In my opinion, the best excerpts playing is one that can demonstrate your awareness of the totality of the orchestral sound and not just your part. Therefore, I picked at least one excerpt that requires such awareness. I am also only providing tempo markings and not metronome markings (unless given by the composer).

So, please keep the following elements in mind as you prepare: appropriate style for each composer, awareness of what is going on in the rest of the orchestra and your role in it, and careful observation of all indications on the part. You should utilize scores and recordings (many, not just one) as your resources. Almost all scores and parts are available on [imslp.org](https://www.imslp.org) for free. The Barber score can be accessed at: https://issuu.com/scoresondemand/docs/first_symphony_26072

Thank you for all the hard work you will put into your preparation, and please let us know if you have any questions. We are immensely looking forward to hearing your music!

Andrew J. Kim

CONTRABASS

NYYS Orchestra Audition Repertoire 2025-2026

Excerpts

Dvorak	Symphony No. 7, Mov't I, m. 270 – 284 Mov't IV. m. 268 – 288
Rachmaninoff	Symphonic Dances, Mov't I, Reh. 1 - 2nd bar of Reh. 2 Mov't III, Reh. 96 - 2 before Reh. 100
Barber	Symphony No. 1, 7th bar of Reh. 25 – Reh. 27 2nd bar of Reh. 37 – 7 before Reh. 39

Principal Excerpt

***Note: This excerpt is **mandatory** for those who are interested in the principal/assistant principal positions.*

Mahler	Symphony No. 1, Mov't III opening solo
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Dvorak - Symphony No. 7
Mov't I, m. 270 – 284

Allegro maestoso

poco a poco accel.

265

fff *ff* *ff*

273

ffz

278

ff

284

p *pp* *P* *Tempo 1.* 1 2 3 4 5 6

Dvorak - Symphony No. 7
Mov't IV. m. 268 – 288

Presto

This system contains measures 266 through 285. Measure 266 begins with the tempo marking 'Presto'. The music features a series of sixteenth-note runs in the right hand, starting with a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic and marked *poco cresc.* (poco crescendo). Measure 277 includes the marking 'L' (Lento) above the staff. The left hand plays a series of eighth notes, with dynamics *f* (forte) and *ff* (fortissimo) indicated. Measure 285 ends with a large bracket and three numbered first endings (1, 2, 3) for the right hand.

Rachmaninoff - Symphonic Dances
Mov't I, Reh. 1 - 2nd bar of Reh. 2

Bass

Non allegro

I

9

1

ff

molto marcato

ff

2

dim.

Rachmaninoff - Symphonic Dances
Mov't III, 3 after Reh. 96 - 2 before Reh. 100

1

96 Poco meno mosso

1

ff

ff

pizz.

f

f

97

f

dim.

98 arco

ff molto sforz.

dim.

mf

99

f

cresc.

2

marcato

f

pizz.

f

100

arco

f

a tempo

ff

Detailed description: This is a musical score for the third movement of Rachmaninoff's Symphonic Dances. It covers measures 96 to 100. The music is written in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of 9/8. Measure 96 is marked 'Poco meno mosso' and features a first ending bracket. The score includes various dynamic markings such as fortissimo (ff), piano (p), mezzo-forte (mf), and fortissimo (ff) again. Performance instructions include 'pizz.' (pizzicato), 'arco' (arco), 'molto sforz.' (molto sforzando), 'cresc.' (crescendo), 'marcato' (marcato), and 'a tempo'. The score is divided into two systems by a large bracket on the left. The first system contains measures 96 through 99, and the second system contains measure 100. Measure 100 is marked 'arco' and 'a tempo'. The score ends with a double bar line.

The excerpts from Barber – Symphony No. 1 are under copyright and may not be shared publicly. We will release the Barber excerpts via email when we release results for the prescreened instruments in July.

Mahler - Symphony No. 1
Mov't III opening solo

Feierlich und gemessen, ohne zu schleppen

(quarter note = 76-80)

The musical score is written for a solo instrument, likely a cello or double bass, in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into two systems. The first system begins with a large bracket on the left, followed by a measure with a bass clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 4/4 time signature. The first measure is marked with a large '1' and the instruction '(Pauken)' above it, and 'pp' below it. The second measure is marked with a large 'p' and the instruction 'mit Dämpfer' below it. The first system contains five measures of music, each with a slur over a group of notes. The second system begins with a large bracket on the left, followed by a measure with a bass clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 4/4 time signature. The first measure is marked with a large '2' and the instruction 'pp' below it. The second measure is marked with a large '3' and the instruction 'Nur eine Hälfte.' above it, and 'pizz.' below it. The third measure is marked with a large '1' and the instruction '1' below it. The fourth measure is marked with a large '2' and the instruction '2' below it. The fifth measure is marked with a large '3' and the instruction '3' below it. The sixth measure is marked with a large '4' and the instruction '4' below it. The seventh measure is marked with a large '8' and the instruction 'Alle Dämpfer ab' below it. The eighth measure is marked with a large 'pp' and the instruction 'pp' below it. The score ends with a double bar line.