

New York Youth Symphony

Orchestra Auditions | 2026-2027

Dear Orchestra Applicant,

Thank you for applying to join the New York Youth Symphony for our 2026–2027 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.

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

HARP

NYYS Orchestra Audition Repertoire 2026-2027

Excerpts

Smetana	Ma Vlast: Vysehrad, Beginning to #1
Debussy	Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun, #2 to #4 #7 to #8
Copland	Clarinet Concerto, mm. 228 - 238

Bedrich Smetana
Má Vlast No. 1: Vyshehrad

Harpa.

Lento.
Harpa II. *SOLO.* Harpa I. *SOLO.* H. II. H. I.

f *Cadenza.* *veloce* *f* *mf*

H. II. H. I. H. II. H. I.

8 *dim.* *pp* *crese.* *ff* *tento.* H. I u. II.

Largo maestoso. *p dolce*

12

Debussy - Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun
#2 to #4

CL. **2** HARPE

pp

1 pp **2**

pp **1** **1** 2^d VIOL.

3 CL. HARPE 1^{re} HARPE

4 **5** Toujours en animant
En animant 1^{re} VIOL.

8 Mouv^t du début

HARPE

The first system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in the key of D major (two sharps) and common time (C). The music begins with a piano (*pp*) dynamic. The upper staff features a series of sixteenth-note chords, each with a slur and a '6' above it, indicating a sixteenth-note chord. The lower staff provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth and sixteenth notes. The system concludes with a double bar line.

The second system of the musical score continues the piece. It consists of two staves in the same key and time signature as the first system. The upper staff continues the sixteenth-note chordal pattern with slurs and '6' markings. The lower staff continues the accompaniment. The system ends with a large, bold closing bracket on the right side.

*The excerpt from **Copland - Clarinet Concerto** is under copyright and may not be shared publicly.*

The NYYS Librarian will distribute these excerpts to your email by July 1st.

Should you not receive the email by then, please reach out to librarian@nyys.org