

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

CONTRABASS

NYYS Orchestra Audition Repertoire 2026-2027

Excerpts

Zemlinsky	Die Seejungfrau, Mov't I, #3 - #5 Mov't I, mm. 190 - #20
Stravinsky	Rite of Spring, #34 - #37 #185 - #196
Brahms	Symphony No. 2, Mov't I, 4th bar of A - B
Smetana	Ma Vlast, Blanik: Piu vivo to 11 bars after Vivace

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, Solo Excerpt
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*The excerpts from **Zemlinsky - Die Seejungfrau (The Mermaid)** are under copyright and may not be shared publicly. It will be sent via email only to applicants invited to the live audition, once prescreening results are announced.*

Stravinsky - Rite of Spring
#34 - #37 (Top line)

Musical score for Stravinsky's Rite of Spring, measures 33-37. The score is in bass clef and includes dynamic markings such as *ff* and *sfz*. Measure 37 is marked **Presto** and **JEU DU RAPT**. The score is divided into four systems, each with two staves. Measure 33 includes a *div.* marking. Measure 34 includes a *ff* marking. Measures 35 and 36 include *sfz* markings. Measure 37 includes a *ff* marking and a **4** marking.

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The excerpts from **Stravinsky - Rite of Spring** are protected under copyright.

Stravinsky - Rite of Spring
#185 - #196

Musical score for Stravinsky's Rite of Spring, measures 185-196. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 2/4. The score consists of seven staves of music. Measure 185 is marked with a circled number. Measure 186 is marked with a circled number and a fermata. Measure 187 is marked with a circled number and a fermata. Measure 188 is marked with a circled number. Measure 189 is marked with a circled number. Measure 190 is marked with a circled number. Measure 191 is marked with a circled number and a fermata. Measure 192 is marked with a circled number. Measure 193 is marked with a circled number. Measure 194 is marked with a circled number. Measure 195 is marked with a circled number. Measure 196 is marked with a circled number. The score includes dynamic markings such as *sempre ff marcato*, *cresc.*, *ff*, *meno f*, and *mf*. There are also markings for *ff* and *ff* at the end of the piece. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 2/4. The score consists of seven staves of music. Measure 185 is marked with a circled number. Measure 186 is marked with a circled number and a fermata. Measure 187 is marked with a circled number and a fermata. Measure 188 is marked with a circled number. Measure 189 is marked with a circled number. Measure 190 is marked with a circled number. Measure 191 is marked with a circled number and a fermata. Measure 192 is marked with a circled number. Measure 193 is marked with a circled number. Measure 194 is marked with a circled number. Measure 195 is marked with a circled number. Measure 196 is marked with a circled number. The score includes dynamic markings such as *sempre ff marcato*, *cresc.*, *ff*, *meno f*, and *mf*. There are also markings for *ff* and *ff* at the end of the piece.

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Brahms - Symphony No. 2, Mov't I
4th bar of A - B

36 Pk. Vcl. u. Pos. Klar. pizz. 3 **A** 3 arco p

52 1 cresc. f

60 sf sf sf sf p **B** 11 Viol. I

Smetana - Ma Vlast: Blanik
Piu Vivo to 11 bars after Vivace

Più vivo.

sf

sf

sf

sf

Largamente, maestoso.

ritard.

sf

sf

sf

sf

sf

Grandioso, meno Allegro.

cresc.

fff

sf

sf

Vivace.

sf

sf

sf

sf

Mahler - Symphony No. 1, Mov't III
Solo Excerpt

III. Satz.

Feierlich und gemessen, ohne zu schleppen.

1 (Pauken) *pp* [*p* mit Dämpfer

2

8 3 Nur eine Hälfte. *pizz.* 1 2 3 4

Alle Dämpfer ab *pp*