



## Audition Requirements

- Auditions are open by appointment to all students ages 18 and under and take place at the beginning of each semester or at other times as arranged with the Youth Orchestra Director.
- To register for an audition, visit [pvsoc.org/youth-orchestra](http://pvsoc.org/youth-orchestra) or email [youth@pvso.org](mailto:youth@pvso.org).
- The audition fee for **students new to the PVSYO** is \$25 (cash, check, or online payment), which is deducted from the tuition cost when a student is accepted.

### **Strings (Violin, Viola, Cello & Double Bass)**

All string players should be able to demonstrate knowledge of shifting, legato, and ability to play off the string. String players should prepare:

- 1) One major & one minor scale – two octaves.
- 2) One major arpeggio – two octaves.
- 3) A solo, or excerpt from a solo, of your choice.

*Cello Players:* Should know, or be willing to learn, tenor clef.

*Viola Players:* Should know, or be willing to learn, treble clef.

### **Woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon)**

Woodwind players should prepare:

- 1) Three scales – 2 major, 1 minor.
- 2) A chromatic scale played within the range designated below, slurred in eighth-note triplets.  
*Flute C-C, 3 octaves; Oboe C-C, 2 octaves; Bassoon Bb-Bb, 2 octaves; Clarinet E-E, 3 octaves;*  
*Bass Clarinet E-E, 2 octaves*
- 3) A solo of your choice.

If you play an auxiliary instrument such as piccolo, bass clarinet, contrabassoon, or saxophone, please let us know in your registration form.

### **Brass (Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Tuba)**

Brass players should prepare:

- 1) Two scales – major or minor, two octaves.
- 2) A chromatic scale played within the range designated below, slurred in eighth-note triplets.  
*Trumpet C-C, 2 octaves; French Horn G-G, 2 octaves; Trombone/Tuba F-F, 2 octaves*
- 3) Solo of your choice.



### **Harp**

Harpists should have access to or own a full-range orchestral harp as required by repertoire. PVSYO will not be able to supply a harp. Harpists should prepare:

- 1) One solo work of your choice.
- 2) One standard orchestral excerpt (consult with your teacher).

### **Percussion**

The PVSYO auditions all standard percussion instruments: timpani, snare drum, cymbals, bass drum, and xylophone. We also occasionally use drum sets.

Percussionists may audition for one specific percussion instrument, but knowledge of multiple instruments is desirable. All percussion candidates should pick a solo piece of their choice on either a mallet instrument, snare drum, or timpani, showing their best abilities. Please consult with your teacher and/or ensemble director to select the best piece for your audition. If you have any questions regarding percussion auditions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [youth@pvso.org](mailto:youth@pvso.org).

Percussionists should also prepare the following:

*Snare Drum:* Rudimental roll, orchestral roll, flams and paradiddles.

*Cymbal:* Crashes, varying dynamics and tempos.

*Mallet Instrument:* 2-octave major, minor, and chromatic scales. Arpeggios are optional.

*Timpani:* Long Roll, ppp to fff; Interval tuning to 4ths, 5ths and 3rds.

### **Piano/Keyboard**

The PVSYO auditions orchestral pianists, but pianists should be aware that orchestral music only infrequently calls for piano (about 10% of the time). Consequently, the PVSYO most often uses pianists for auxiliary keyboard and percussion parts, such as xylophone, glockenspiel, cymbals, bass drum, etc. Pianists willing and interested in contributing in this way are encouraged to audition. *Two introductory percussion lessons will be provided.* NB: Depending on interest, the PVSYO also makes chamber music groups available to students. Chamber music can be chosen to feature more significant piano parts. For auditions, pianists should prepare:

- 1) Standard scales and arpeggios in all the major and minor keys.
- 2) Solo selection of your choice.

**To register for upcoming auditions,  
visit [pvsoc.org/youth-orchestra](http://pvsoc.org/youth-orchestra) or email [youth@pvso.org](mailto:youth@pvso.org)**