



VERMONT
YOUTH ORCHESTRA
ASSOCIATION
vyo.org

AUDITIONS

2018
2019



ABOUT THE VYOA

With a mission to **develop young people as artists, citizens, and leaders through the shared pursuit of musical excellence**, the Vermont Youth Orchestra Association provides music learning and performance opportunities for young Vermonters of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. Over 300 students in grades 1-12 from across Vermont and neighboring states participate in our orchestras, choruses, training programs, community engagement initiatives, and summer camps, making the VYOA our region's premier youth orchestra and chorus program.



VERMONT YOUTH ORCHESTRA (VYO)—Flagship and most advanced orchestra that rehearses Sunday afternoons from 12:30-3:30 pm at the Elley-Long Music Center at St. Michael's College. VYO tuition is \$1850.*

VERMONT YOUTH PHILHARMONIA (VYP)—Intermediate full symphony orchestra that rehearses Sunday afternoons from 3:45-6:15 pm at the Elley-Long Music Center at St. Michael's College. VYP tuition is \$1525.*

VERMONT YOUTH STRINGS (VYS)—Preparatory string orchestra that rehearses Sunday afternoons from 3:15-5:30 pm at the Elley-Long Music Center at St. Michael's College. VYS tuition is \$800.*

VERMONT YOUTH CHORUS—Mixed-voice chorus for high school students that rehearses Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Elley-Long Music Center at St. Michael's College. VYC tuition is \$850.*

Visit **vyo.org** for information about applying to participate in the VYOA's introductory and training ensembles. **No audition is required to participate in:**

PRELUDE!—Yearlong beginner string ensemble for students just starting a string instrument. Prelude tuition is \$600.*

PRESTO—Short session (6 weeks) training ensemble for string students, which is offered twice each season (October-November and February-March). Presto tuition is \$80 per session.*

VERMONT YOUTH CHORALE—Yearlong vocal training program for students between grades 5 and 8. Chorale tuition is \$550.*

Financial Aid

The VYOA believes strongly that no child should be discouraged from participating due to financial need. Need-based financial aid is available to all families who wish to apply. Please contact our office for information about financial aid options and how to apply.

**Indicated tuition amounts are for the 2017-2018 season. Any tuition changes for the 2018-2019 season will be announced in June 2018.*

"Being part of the creative process that happens every Sunday afternoon is an amazing experience, and I often find myself awestruck by the level of musicality our orchestra can achieve."

NATHAN, TRUMPETER



2018-2019 AUDITIONS

Auditions are held every May for students who wish to be considered for membership in the VYOA's year-round performance ensembles. All students are required to audition each season to determine placement in these ensembles. Auditions may be performed only once, and all placements are final.

Audition Eligibility

Instrumental placement auditions are open to students who will be between grades 3 and 12 during the 2018-2019 academic year. We find that most students need one to three years of experience on their instrument to develop the proficiency required to successfully place into one of our year-round orchestras. Vocal auditions for placement in Vermont Youth Chorus are open to students who will be between grades 9 and 12 during the 2018-2019 academic year.

We believe that combining VYOA membership with school music participation and private lessons offers students a comprehensive and well-rounded music education. Students in elementary and middle school are required to actively participate in their school music program (where offered) in order to maintain eligibility for VYOA membership. We strongly encourage our high school members to participate in their school music program, and all VYOA members to take private lessons, in order to receive the instruction needed to meet the high musical standards and demands set by the VYOA curriculum.

"I'm so grateful for all the friends I've made through the VYOA, who have acted both as peers and as mentors."

WELLER, VOCALIST



REGISTER FOR AN AUDITION

New students interested in performing an audition for the VYOA should complete the online audition registration form, which can be accessed at vvo.org—select the "Scheduling an Audition" option under the "Join Us! - Auditions" tab. Audition questions can be emailed to auditions@vvo.org.

Current students will be automatically scheduled an audition, and will receive instructions for completing their audition registration along with their assigned audition time.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Auditionees are encouraged to arrive at the Elley-Long Music Center at least 15 minutes before their assigned audition time. Upon arrival you will check in with VYOA staff, who will take your picture and answer any questions you have. There will be a communal warm-up space, where you will be able to unpack and sing/play your instrument. Parents/guardians are welcome in the warm-up space, but are not allowed to enter the audition room. Before your audition, you will wait outside the audition room until it is your turn to play/sing. After you have performed for the two adjudicators, you are free to go, and will be emailed in June with the results.



"The VYOA has changed my life in so many ways, and has connected me with amazing musicians from around the state. I've grown immensely as a violinist, and I've deepened my love of music."

JULIA, VIOLINIST

WHAT TO PREPARE

Instrumental auditions last approximately 10 minutes and consist of the following components; percussion auditions last approximately 20 minutes:

1. **Solo of your choice** (without accompaniment)*
2. **Scales & arpeggios***
3. **Sight reading**
4. Students who wish to be considered for placement in our most advanced orchestra—Vermont Youth Orchestra—must also perform the required **orchestral excerpt** for their instrument.* *Preparation of the required orchestral excerpt does not guarantee placement in VYO.*

***Visit vyo.org/auditions to access a detailed list of instrument-specific audition requirements,** and to download the required orchestral excerpt for VYO placement consideration.

Vocal auditions last approximately 10 minutes and consist of the following components:

1. **Solo of your choice** (without accompaniment)—Prepare a solo that demonstrates your vocal and musical capabilities. Students are encouraged to choose an art song, aria, or musical theater solo piece. Due to time constraints, the audition panel may not listen to your entire solo. Memorization of solo pieces is not required.
2. **Vocal exercises**—You will be asked to sing simple vocalises to assess your vocal development and determine your vocal range.
3. **Sight singing**—You will be given and asked to sing a brief sight singing exercise in order to determine your current level of music literacy.



Elley-Long Music Center
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auditions@vyo.org

@VYOAorg on Facebook,
Twitter, and Instagram

REGISTER FOR YOUR AUDITION AT:

vyo.org

