



Northern Kentucky University Youth Symphony Orchestra

2023-2024 Season Video Audition Information

The NKU Youth Symphony Orchestra is an exciting and fun-filled orchestra experience for high school students who excel in string, wind, brass, percussion and piano studies, exposing them to orchestral literature and ensemble playing in a challenging and nurturing environment. NKU YSO meets weekly on the campus of Northern Kentucky University in the School of the Arts building. NKU YSO is under the leadership and direction of Mr. Alex Moore, an expert orchestral conductor and music educator. NKU YSO is part of the award winning NKU Music Preparatory Program and is designed to prepare students for a future in music!

Auditions: Video auditions open April 4, 2023 until August 25, 2023 at 11:59pm

Rehearsals: Tuesdays, 6:30–8:00pm

Location: NKU School of the Arts - Fine Arts Room 126

Tuition: \$340 for the 2023–2024 academic year

Eligibility:

- School grades 7–12
- 4+ years playing experience
- String level of playing equivalent to Suzuki Book III or beyond
- Winds, brass, and percussion: at least 2 years playing in a daily band program
- Private lessons recommended

Auditions for the Northern Kentucky University Youth Symphony Orchestra:

Acceptance is by audition only. Auditions are submitted via video. See Video Audition Requirements. Memorization is NOT required. Auditions should be played without accompaniment. If you have extenuating circumstances that necessitate an in-person audition, please reach out to Mr. Moore at moorea89@nku.edu to make arrangements.

Video Audition Requirements:

Violin:

D Major, C Major, Eb Major, and a scale of your choice (2-3 octaves)

A solo or excerpt of your choice that demonstrates your ability (3 minutes max)

Viola/Cello:

D Major, C Major, F Major, and a scale of your choice (2-3 octaves)

A solo or excerpt of your choice that demonstrates your ability (3 minutes max)

Bass:

E Major, A Major, C Major, and a scale of your choice (2-3 octaves)

A solo or excerpt of your choice that demonstrates your ability (3 minutes max)

Winds:

Full range Chromatic scale and a scale of choice (2 octaves)

A solo or excerpt of your choice that demonstrates your ability (3 minutes max)

Percussion:

Snare drum solo/exercise of your choice that demonstrates your ability (3 minutes max)

Mallet excerpt of your choice that demonstrates your ability (3 minutes max)

Video Audition Standard and Instructions:

- See Video Audition Requirements before recording.
- If you do not have a solo/excerpts to prepare, email Mr. Moore for suggestions.
- Record a video of your audition. Include all parts of the audition (scales, etude, solo, etc) as required for your instrument in ONE VIDEO. You do not have to record your audition in one take. However, you WILL need to compile the clips into one video, as we will only be accepting one YouTube link per person. Audition should be played WITHOUT accompaniment. Upload your video to YouTube as an unlisted link and copy/paste the link into your application. Please email if you need help.
- Please adhere to the time limits on the Audition Requirements.
- Submit recording in application.

Suggested Video Guidelines:

- There is no specific dress code requirement though dressing nicely may help exude more confidence. Think about what you would wear for an in-person audition and plan accordingly (i.e. wearing pajamas is not appropriate for an audition).
- The student should state their name at the beginning of the video. They should also clearly state information such as the scale they are playing and the name of their prepared piece or excerpt.
- Stand close enough to the camera that we can see you but not so close that the sound quality distorts or part of your instrument is out of frame. We recommend making a test recording to make sure you are happy with the way it looks and sounds. While you will not be evaluated on the quality of the recording device, we want to be able to see and hear you in your best form. If you have multiple recording settings on your device, experiment with increasing the quality.
- Stay within the frame. It is okay to move your head, hands and body – be natural and not stiff. Your face, hands, instrument and bow stroke (if applicable) should be visible in the frame while you are playing.
- Don't leave your recording for the last minute. It may also be helpful to record a few practice videos in advance. If possible, ask your private lesson teacher and/or school band or orchestra director for help preparing for or even reviewing practice videos or your final video.
- Review your final video in its entirety before uploading it. Incomplete videos may not be viewed by adjudicators.
- Final audition applications must be submitted by August 25, 2023 at 11:59pm.

Submit recording in application here: <https://forms.gle/akMxPhUQiZYz5VNbA>