

# NJSO ACADEMY

Youth Orchestras



## OVERVIEW:

Currently there are four ensembles in the NJSO Youth Orchestras:

- Training Ensemble and String Ensemble are preparatory level groups for violin, viola, cello and bass. *There is a residency restriction for Training Ensemble – students must reside in the Greater Newark area.*
- Chamber Orchestra is for more advanced string players.
- Academy Orchestra is for more advanced string, winds, brass and percussion players.

## DIRECTIONS:

Applicants should review the audition requirements for each of the ensembles below and present the requirements that best fit their current level of study.

### STRING ENSEMBLE and TRAINING ENSEMBLE (violin, viola, cello, bass)

#### Pre-requisites:

- Must be able to read music without letter names.
- Must be enrolled in a school music program or have weekly private lessons.

#### Audition requirements:

##### **I. Scales**

- a. Two-octave G major scale
- b. Two-octave A major scale
- c. One-octave D major scale

##### **II. A solo work of the applicant's choice**

##### **III. Sight-reading upon request (provided in the audition room)**

*Note: there are no required excerpts for students auditioning for String Ensemble or Training Ensemble.*

## CHAMBER ORCHESTRA (violin, viola, cello, bass)

### Pre-requisites:

- Must be enrolled in a school music program or have weekly private lessons.
- Applicant should have studied *at least* Suzuki late book 3 or materials of comparable difficulty.

### Audition requirements:

#### **I. Scales**

***Play scales 100-120 = quarter note; play in separate bow quarter notes***

- a. VIOLIN:
  - i. One three-octave major scale of the applicant's choice
  - ii. One two-octave melodic minor scale of the applicant's choice
- b. VIOLA
  - i. One two-octave major scale of the applicant's choice
  - ii. One two-octave **melodic** minor scale of the applicant's choice
- c. CELLO
  - i. One two-octave major scale of the applicant's choice
  - ii. One two-octave **melodic** minor scale of the applicant's choice
- d. BASS
  - i. One two-octave G major scale
  - ii. One two-octave G **melodic** minor scale

#### **II. A solo work that includes playing in third position**

#### **III. Excerpts**

- a. VIOLIN
  - i. Britten, Simple Symphony, Violin II part, first movement, rehearsal #8 through 6 bars before rehearsal #9
  - ii. Britten, Simple Symphony, Violin II part, second movement, rehearsal #17 to the end
  - iii. Britten, Simple Symphony, Violin II part, fourth movement, 8 bars after rehearsal #10 to rehearsal #11

***To be considered for Violin 1, please also prepare:***

- iv. Bartok, Romanian Folk Dances, Violin I part, first movement, beginning to downbeat of bar 20

*Chamber Orchestra continued:*

- b. VIOLA
  - i. Bartok, Romanian Folk Dances, second movement, measures 3-18
  - ii. Britten, Simple Symphony, fourth mvt, beginning to reh. 1
  - iii. Britten, Simple Symphony, fourth mvt, pickup to reh. 2 to 5 measures before reh. 3
- c. CELLO
  - i. Britten, Simple Symphony, first movement, beginning to rehearsal #2 (skip the X-out measures of rest)
  - ii. Britten, Simple Symphony, fourth movement, pick up to rehearsal #2 to 5 bars before rehearsal #3
  - iii. Britten, Simple Symphony, fourth movement, 3 bars after rehearsal #12 to rehearsal #13
- d. BASS
  - i. Britten, Simple Symphony, first movement, 8 bars after rehearsal #1 to rehearsal #2
  - ii. Britten, Simple Symphony, fourth movement, pickup to rehearsal #2 to 8 measures after rehearsal #2

**IV. Sight-reading (provided in the audition room)**

**ACADEMY ORCHESTRA (strings, winds, brass, percussion)**

**Pre-requisites:**

- **Must be enrolled in a school music program or have weekly private lessons.**

**Academy Orchestra - STRING audition requirements:**

**I. Scales**

***Play scales 112-120 = quarter note; play in separate bow quarter notes***

- a. VIOLIN
  - i. One three-octave major scale of the applicant's choice
  - ii. One three-octave melodic minor scale of the applicant's choice
- b. VIOLA
  - i. One two- or three-octave major scale of the applicant's choice
  - ii. One two- or three-octave melodic minor scale of the applicant's choice
- c. CELLO
  - i. One two-octave major scale of the applicant's choice
  - ii. One two-octave melodic minor scale of the applicant's choice
- b. BASS
  - i. One two-octave G major scale (or any two-octave major scale)
  - ii. One two-octave G melodic minor scale (or any two-octave melodic minor scale)

*Academy Orchestra Strings continued:*

**II. A solo work that best demonstrates the applicant's level of playing**

**III. Orchestral excerpts**

a. VIOLIN

- i. Peaks, measure 29 through 39
- ii. Rimsky-Korsakov, Russian Easter Overture, violin 2 part, rehearsal H through 10 measures after rehearsal I
- iii. Rimsky-Korsakov, Russian Easter Overture, violin 2 part, "Maestoso alla breve" to rehearsal Z

***To be considered for Violin 1, please also prepare:***

- iv. De Falla, Spanish Dance, 3 measures before rehearsal 15 to the end

b. VIOLA

- i. Rimsky-Korsakov, Russian Easter Overture, 16 measures after rehearsal Y [Maestoso alla breve] through 4 measures before rehearsal Z
- ii. De Falla, Spanish Dance, rehearsal 11 to rehearsal 14
- iii. De Falla, Spanish Dance, 6 measures after rehearsal 15 [senza div] through 2 measures before the "Lento e sost." (6 measures before rehearsal 17)

c. CELLO

- i. Lalo, Cello Concerto, first 8 measures
- ii. Rimsky-Korsakov, Russian Easter Overture, 14 measures after rehearsal T until rehearsal U
- iii. De Falla, Spanish Dance, reh. 12 to 1 bar measure before reh. 13 (play the top (solo) line)

d. BASS

- i. Rimsky-Korsakov, 21 measures after rehearsal O to 3 measures after rehearsal Q
- ii. Lalo, first 8 bars
- iii. De Falla, rehearsal 7 to 18 measures after rehearsal 7

**IV. Sight-reading (provided in the audition room)**

### **Academy Orchestra - WOODWIND and BRASS audition requirements**

**I. Scales**

Scales should be played in eighth notes at quarter note = 80 with ascending notes tongued and descending notes slurred

- a. A chromatic scale starting from the lowest pitch within your range to the highest
- b. One major scale and one melodic minor scale played as many octaves as capable
- c. One major scale and one melodic minor scale in arpeggios played as many octaves as capable

**II. A solo piece that best demonstrates the applicant's level of playing**

**III. Orchestral Excerpts (see Excerpts link on website)**

**IV. Sight-reading (will be provided in the audition room)**

### **Academy Orchestra - PERCUSSION audition requirements**

**I. Scales: two scales of the applicant's choice on mallet**

**II. Two solo works that best demonstrate the applicant's level of playing**

- a. One piece on either snare drum or timpani
- b. One piece on mallet

**III. Orchestral Excerpts (see Excerpts link on website)**

**IV. Sight-reading (will be provided in audition room)**