

2023-2024 Etowah Youth Orchestras' Seating Audition Instructions

BEFORE A MEMBER MAY COMPLETE A SEATING AUDITION, THE FOLLOWING MUST BE DONE:

1. The student and at least one parent/guardian must attend the EYO Season Orientation Meeting on Monday, July 10th at 6 PM at the Mary G. Hardin Center for Cultural Arts, 501 Broad Street, Gadsden, AND
2. Annual membership fees of \$350 (\$280 per student for families with multiple students in the EYO program) must be paid, OR
3. A payment plan for membership fees must be established in writing with the Music Director and the first payment must be made, OR
4. A COMPLETE application for financial assistance through the Gadsden Cultural Arts Foundation's Funds for Access must be on file at the Mary G. Hardin Center for Cultural Arts (<http://www.culturalarts.com/financial-aid/>), AND
5. All three 2023-2024 membership forms (Member Information Form, Photo Release Form, Policy Acceptance Agreement) must be completed for the student (forms may be accessed on the EYO's Member/Parent page on the EYO website).

Seating Audition Dates

Monday, August 7th – Symphony & Philharmonic Strings, 9 AM-8 PM

Tuesday, August 8th – Symphony & Philharmonic Woodwinds & Brass, 9 AM-5 PM

Tuesday, August 8th – Sinfonia Strings, 1 PM-8 PM

Tuesday, August 8th – Symphony & Philharmonic Percussion, 6 PM-8 PM

Seating audition registration begins at 9 AM on Wednesday, July 5th. To sign up for a seating audition, please contact Mike VIA EMAIL ONLY (mikegagliardo@culturalarts.org). Seating audition registrations will NOT be taken by Messenger, phone, or text. When contacting us to request a seating audition time, please request your top THREE choices, by HOUR – for example, “4 PM, 7 PM, 6 PM.” Please note that your audition may occur at any time during the hour requested.

Who does NOT have to take a seating audition?

As of July 1st, the following instruments do not have to take a seating audition (please note that for some sections this could change following the July 10-11 auditions – the EYO staff recommends preparing as if you will be having a seating audition if music has been provided to you):

Symphony – double bass, clarinet, bass clarinet, trombone, tuba

Philharmonic – viola, cello, double bass, bass clarinet, bassoon, alto saxophone,

French horn, trumpet, tuba

Reminder – you are not REQUIRED to participate in seating auditions. You may opt to not take a seating audition and will be seated in alphabetical order at the back of your section.

IF YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO TAKE A SEATING AUDITION, OR IF YOU OPT TO NOT TAKE A SEATING AUDITION, MEMBERSHIP FEES AND FORMS ARE DUE BY THE FIRST REHEARSAL OF YOUR ENSEMBLE.

What should I prepare for my seating audition?

ALL MEMBERS – the seating audition music for your instrument and YOUR ENSEMBLE, which will be sent via Remind.com, and will also be available on the EYO's Member/Parent page on the EYO website by July 7th.

Percussion section members – please prepare a MINIMUM of TWO of the three excerpts for your ensemble – timpani, snare and/or mallets.

Information regarding scale and sight-reading requirements for seating auditions will be sent via Remind.com and can also be found on the EYO's Member/Parent page on the EYO website! Please refer to this information!

Leadership positions in the Symphony and Philharmonic –

Concertmaster – if you wish to audition for Concertmaster, you must have played in the violin section of the ensemble for which you are auditioning during the previous season, and you must be enrolled for both the fall and spring semesters with a private instructor, which will be verified. In addition to the standard seating audition requirements, please prepare a 3–5-minute solo excerpt and bring three judges' copies of the excerpt to your audition. There will also be a brief interview with questions relating to the Concertmaster leadership position.

Uncontested Principal Chairs, including all other string sections (including Second Violin), woodwinds and brass – In addition to the standard seating audition requirements, please prepare a 3–5-minute solo excerpt, and bring two judges' copies of the excerpt to your audition.

Uncontested Principal Percussion – Prepare ALL THREE percussion excerpts and play BOTH rudiments AND scales. In addition to these requirements, please prepare a 3–5-minute solo excerpt on either timpani, snare, xylophone, or bells, and bring one judge's copy of the excerpt to your audition.

MEMBERS WHO WISH TO AUDITION FOR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS MUST DECLARE THIS AT THE TIME OF AUDITION REGISTRATION SO THAT THE APPROPRIATE WINDOW OF TIME MAY BE ALLOTTED FOR THE AUDITION!

Questions? Please contact Mike at mikegagliardo@culturalarts.org.