



**BOSTON YOUTH
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRAS**

Federico Cortese, Music Director

**VIOLIN:
LIVE AUDITION – MAY 2023**

AUDITION REPERTOIRE AND REQUIREMENTS

BYSO auditions are open to students entering grades K-12. Please follow the audition standards that most closely match your current level of playing. Candidates audition for BYSO – not a specific ensemble – and selected candidates will be placed in an orchestra based on level. Please note that due to the competitive nature of auditions, placement is not guaranteed, and BYSO members must re-audition each year.

Scales (by memory)

You will be asked to play scales that demonstrate your full command of the instrument and are across its entire range. The exact scale will be determined by the judges; see below for the expected level of scale familiarity for students at a given orchestra-level.

For BYS/REP Level:

- All 3-octave major and minor scales by memory, 4 eighth notes per bow, with a tempo of Quarter Note = 60 bpm

For JRO Level:

- 3-octave major and minor scales through four sharps or flats by memory, 4 eighth notes per bow, with a tempo of quarter note = 60 bpm

For YPSO Level:

- 3-octave major scales (G, A, B-flat & C), by memory, 4 eighth notes per bow, with a tempo of quarter note = 60 bpm

For PE Level:

- 2-octave major scales G, A, & B-flat, by memory, 4 eighth notes per bow, with a tempo of quarter note = 60 bpm

Solo Selections

Prepare two contrasting selections from your solo repertoire that demonstrate both a lyrical/slow and a technical/fast style of playing. Your prepared music should be chosen, in consultation with your teacher, from the standard solo literature for your instrument. Pieces from popular songbooks and band parts are not acceptable audition selections. Selections for applicants to PE should be at a minimum level of Suzuki Book 2.

Excerpts

All violinists, except new applicants to Petit Ensemble, will be required to learn selected orchestral excerpts which will be released with the preliminary audition results in April.

Sight-Reading

All students may be asked to participate in sight-reading at the audition.



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COVID INFORMATION

Students who have symptoms of COVID-19 should test prior to their audition. The test must be a PCR taken within 72 hours or rapid antigen taken within 24 hours of the audition.

Students who **test positive or have been exposed within 10 days of their audition** should promptly notify the BYSO office by emailing byso@bu.edu and should not attend their audition until next steps are received.

Currently, BYSO requires all members to be vaccinated against COVID-19 and to have received one booster shot as eligible.