

The Academy

Audition Guide



WELCOME!

Thank you for your interest in The Columbus Symphony Academy program. We're looking forward to your audition! Please read all instructions carefully to ensure your application is complete. The Academy Application Form can be found at columbussymphony.com/academy. For complete audition requirements, refer to the Academy Audition Checklist on the next page. If you have any questions or need assistance, contact academy@columbussymphony.com.

APPLICATION TIMELINE - ROLLING ADMISSION

Once we have received your application materials, we will begin the review process. We will be in touch with one of two results:



WAITLIST

What this means: Either there are no available openings in the Academy, or we do not feel that you are a good fit for the program at this time. Your application will remain on file for the rest of the current academic year, and we will be in touch if circumstances change. You are encouraged to apply again next year.



ADVANCE TO IN-PERSON ROUND

What this means: We will schedule an in-person meeting at the CSO office downtown. During this time, the parent(s) will meet with CSO staff while the student takes a trial lesson with one of the Academy Teaching Artists.



PLACEMENT DECISION

You will be notified of your final placement decision following this round (usually within 2 weeks). This will either be your official acceptance to The Academy, or notification that you are being placed on the waitlist.

More information at columbussymphony.com/academy

Questions? Contact academy@columbussymphony.com

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The Academy

Audition Checklist



☐ **Application Form**

Complete the online Academy Application Form at columbussymphony.com/academy.

☐ **Teacher Recommendation**

Applicants must get the recommendation of your school band or orchestra teacher. If you do not participate in a school music class, this recommendation can come from another trusted teacher, counselor, or advisor who can attest to your music making.

- The teacher recommendation form is online at columbussymphony.com/academyrec
- Be sure to discuss The Academy program with this teacher and ask if they are willing to recommend you before sending them the recommendation form.

☐ **Audition Video**

Record a video of yourself playing scales and two contrasting pieces of your choice. If you are also auditioning for the Columbus Symphony Youth Orchestras, you are welcome to use that audition video to fulfill these requirements. Videos should be uploaded to your application form.

Scales (1-3)

- One to three major or minor scales (of your choice) in as many octaves as you are able

Contrasting Solo Selections (2)

- Technical selection: Should show off your precision and technical abilities
- Lyrical selection: Should show off your musicality, tone, and expression

Choosing your solo selections:

Solo selections can be anything that demonstrates the best of your playing ability, and should be no more than 8 minutes total combined time. Solo excerpts could be:

- Part of a standard solo piece
- An exercise from a method book
- Part of a band or orchestra piece you have learned in school
- CSYO audition excerpts (columbussymphony.com/csyo)

TIPS FOR RECORDING YOUR VIDEO:

- **Introduce yourself** at the beginning of your video by saying your full name and what you will be playing, including composer names.
- Videos do not need to be professionally recorded and may be recorded and uploaded using a mobile device
- Multiple videos may be submitted to accommodate file size, but please submit only one video per requirement (i.e. one video for scales, and one for each solo excerpt)
- DO NOT edit, crop, or audio enhance your videos with editing programs or software.