



# AUDITION GUIDELINES

application & audition information

join us  
in creating  
the extraordinary!

# THE SNYO PROGRAMME

The Singapore National Youth Orchestra demonstrates the extraordinary capability of our inspired youth.

We are recognised by the Ministry of Education as a National Project of Excellence and are part of the Singapore Symphony Group — the arts charity that also manages the Singapore Symphony Orchestra.

The SNYO comprises of two ensembles; each tailored to the skill levels of its members, giving them individual support and attention in order to develop their ensemble and orchestral playing skills in an enriching musical and social experience.

The **Singapore National Youth Orchestra** is for young musicians who are performance-ready, while the **Singapore National Youth Sinfonia** (members aged 10-16) is for young musicians who would benefit from developing the necessary ensemble skills to play symphonic works. The maximum age of Singapore National Youth Orchestra members is 21 years old. Candidates who are successful at the audition will be admitted to either orchestra as decided by the audition panel.

#SNYO



SNYO PERCUSSIONISTS  
PERFORMANCE AT BLANGAH RISE PRIMARY SCHOOL

# SNYO MEMBERSHIP

If you are successful at the audition, you will be offered SNYO membership. As a National Project of Excellence, SNYO members studying in local schools can have their participation in our orchestra recognised in lieu of a school-based Co-Curricular Activity (CCA).

Members of the SNYO are expected to attend all scheduled rehearsals and activities. Our rehearsal schedule is generally as follows:

**YS (Youth Sinfonia):** Saturday, 10.30 am – 1.00pm

**YO (Youth Orchestra):** Thursday, 7.00pm – 9.00pm  
Saturday, 2.30pm – 5.30pm

(Please note that rehearsal times are subject to change)

There will typically be more rehearsals scheduled on the week leading up to the concert. SNYO members are also expected to attend all other organised activities including assessments, overseas tours, workshops, open rehearsals and masterclasses.

# YOUR SNYO JOURNEY

At the SNYO, you will meet like-minded peers from more than 60 different schools across Singapore. Our rehearsals and sectional practices are led by our professional team of conductors and tutors, many of whom are established orchestral players themselves and dedicated musicians of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra.

During your major national examination year (e.g. GCE 'O' or 'A' levels, IB Diploma), you may apply for one term of examination leave, typically from August to December, if you require the time to focus on your studies.

Incoming members who have not previously taken private individual lessons or are learning a new instrument assigned by the Orchestra based on the Orchestra's needs may be eligible for limited lesson subsidies. These lesson subsidies are not a membership entitlement, and are offered at the discretion of the SNYO Management.

#SNYO



SNYO LOW BRASS PLAYERS  
VICTORIA CONCERT HALL BACKSTAGE

# SNYO AUDITION INFORMATION

## Who may apply?

Young musicians aged **10 to 18** who:

- Play an orchestral instrument\* ; or
- Play the piano and are keen to master an orchestral instrument\*\*

\* Applicants auditioning on **Violin** and **Cello** are expected to have attained a standard of playing beyond that of an ABRSM Grade 8

\*\* **Pianists** aged 10 to 13 with at least an ABRSM Grade 8 in Piano (or equivalent). Applicants on the piano should be Singapore Citizens / Singapore PR.

If you are aged 16 and above, you will be expected to play at an advanced level with relevant ensemble playing skills in order to gain admission into the Singapore National Youth Orchestra.

*Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis.*

# SNYO AUDITION

## AUDITION COMPONENTS (VIDEO)

### VIDEO SCREENING

As of 2024, ALL applicants, regardless of instrumentation will go through a round of video screening to be shortlisted for live auditions.

#### ❖ APPLICABLE FOR VIOLIN & CELLO APPLICANTS ONLY

- CHOICE PIECE AND EXCERPT(S)

One choice piece and excerpts listed on our *Audition Information* page

#### ❖ FOR ALL OTHER ORCHESTRAL INSTRUMENTS & PIANO APPLICANTS ONLY

- TWO CONTRASTING PIECES OF YOUR CHOICE

Two contrasting pieces from different musical eras.



# SNYO AUDITION

## AUDITION COMPONENTS (VIDEO)

### VIDEO SCREENING

#### CHOICE PIECE(S) *(no accompanist)*:

- Applicants are strongly encouraged to audition with pieces that are not part of the music exam syllabus. An example of a good audition piece is an etude or a movement from a sonata or concerto that best demonstrates their technical and musical abilities.
- The pieces are to be presented **without** an accompanist
- Percussionists are to perform 1 piece on unpitched percussion and 1 piece on pitched percussion. (e.g. Snare Drum & Xylophone)

# SNYO AUDITION

## AUDITION COMPONENTS (VIDEO)

### VIDEO GUIDELINES

- At the start of the video, introduce yourself with your name, age as of year of audition, your school and the title of the choice piece(s) you will be performing.
- *\*For Violin and Cello applicants only* Excerpts are to be recorded before the choice piece. Violinists, please state whether you are playing the upper divisi excerpts or lower divisi excerpt in your introduction.
- You and your instrument should be clearly seen in the video.
- The performance should be recorded in a single take (no editing) and cannot be professionally produced.
- The recording should be performed **without an accompanist**. Any long rests are to be truncated appropriately.
- The total length of the performance should not exceed a total duration of 15 mins. (not inclusive of introduction)

# SNYO AUDITION

## AUDITION COMPONENTS (VIDEO)

### VIDEO SCREENING *GUIDELINES*

#### HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR VIDEO

- 1) **UPLOAD** your video to Google Drive or Dropbox or upload it as an unlisted video on YouTube.
  - 2) **PRIVACY SETTINGS** Ensure that your file/video is accessible by “Anyone with the link”
  - 3) **SUBMIT** your link when prompted in the Audition Application Form on the SNYO website.
- Kindly ensure that you have met all audition requirements and before submitting your application.
  - **Only applicants who meet all pre-requisites** will have their applications considered.

(Please refer to page 7 for the pre-requisites)

# SNYO AUDITION

## AUDITION COMPONENTS (LIVE)

### LIVE AUDITIONS

(Only shortlisted applicants will be invited for a live audition)

#### 1a) APPLICABLE FOR VIOLIN & CELLO APPLICANTS ONLY

- **CHOICE PIECE AND EXCERPT(S)**

One choice piece and excerpts listed on our *Audition Information* page

#### 1b) FOR ALL OTHER ORCHESTRAL INSTRUMENTS & PIANO APPLICANTS ONLY

- **TWO CONTRASTING PIECES OF YOUR CHOICE**

Two contrasting pieces from different musical eras.

Choice Piece(s) (*no accompanist*):

- You are to perform the piece(s) submitted in the video round.
- The audition panel may stop the applicant at any time during the piece or request for specific sections of the music to be played.
- Percussionists should bring their own sticks and mallets (where applicable).

# SNYO AUDITION

## AUDITION COMPONENTS (LIVE)

### **2) SCALES AND ARPEGGIOS**

Violin, Cello and Piano:

- Required to be able to play all major and minor scales from memory.
- Violinists are expected to be able to play scales in spiccato and in groupings of 3, 4, or 7 notes to a bow and might be requested to play up to 3 octaves.

All Other Orchestral Instruments:

- Difficulty of the scales tested will depend on the candidate's technical level. You are recommended to be able to play major and minor scales (up to four sharps and flats) from memory.

### **3) MUSICIANSHIP TESTS**

Applicants may be given musicianship test(s) in the form of sight-reading and/or aural skills at the audition.

# SNYO AUDITION APPLY NOW!

Audition dates are listed on our website: [www.snyo.org.sg/audition](http://www.snyo.org.sg/audition)

Applications will be close one month before the audition date. Do ensure that you are available on the day of the audition before submitting your application.

Applicants will be notified if they are shortlisted for the live audition two weeks before the audition date.

The live audition outcome will be sent to you within one month after the audition via email.

## HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT THE SNYO?

Frequently Asked Questions: [www.snyo.org.sg/faq](http://www.snyo.org.sg/faq)

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W [www.snyo.org.sg](http://www.snyo.org.sg)

📷 @SNYO.sg



creating the extraordinary

SNYO IN CONCERT  
ESPLANADE CONCERT HALL