Audition & Entrance Guidelines
2023 - 2024

*A Note to Applicants: Musicians auditioning for SYSO’s 2023-24 Academic Year Orchestra season — you may re-submit your audition for any Conservatory courses which require an audition component.

CHAMBER MUSIC

All applicants should submit a video containing the following:

STRINGS

1. Scales (tempo of your choice)
   a. Major Scale
      i. A three octaves major scale. Sixteenth notes/8 slurred
   b. Minor Scale
      i. A three octaves minor scale. Sixteenth notes/ Detaché

2. A solo piece of your choice

WINDS/BRASS

1. Scales (tempo of your choice)
   a. Major Scale
      i. A two octaves major scale, sixteenth notes/8 slurred
   b. Minor Scale
      i. A two octave minor scale, sixteenth notes/detaché

2. A solo piece of your choice

PIANO

1. Scales (tempo of your choice)
   a. Major Scale
      i. A two octaves (or more) major scale
   b. Minor Scale
      i. A two octaves (or more) minor scale

2. A solo piece of your choice
HARP

1. Scale/Arpeggio (tempo of your choice)
   a. Major Scale
      i. A two octaves major scale
   b. Major Arpeggio
      i. Play two octaves of corresponding major arpeggio

2. A solo piece of your choice

PERCUSSION

Please follow the same guidelines listed below, under the Collegiate Prep Class

**COLLEGIATE PREP**

All applicants should submit a video containing two contrasting pieces, from two different time periods.

**Vocalists**

One Italian art song

One aria of your choice in a different language

**Composers**

Submit scores of two contrasting works

**Strings**

A movement from a concerto

A movement from Bach, or other solo piece that demonstrates the applicant’s level of playing

**Winds/Brass**

A concerto movement, or a movement from another large work

Another contrasting piece from a different time period

**Piano**

Two contrasting pieces from two different periods

**Harp**

Two contrasting pieces

**Percussion**
Snare Drum: 1 Intermediate/Advanced etude of your choice
Mallet: 1 Orchestral excerpt of your choice on either glockenspiel or xylophone
One piece on an percussion instrument of your choice (timpani, auxiliary, latin, mallets, multi-percussion set, etc)

If you have additional questions about what repertoire to prepare, please contact the Director of Academic studies Mark Salman at marksalman@marksalman.net

COMPOSITION

Required: One year of Musicianship is required in order to apply for the Composition class. Two years of musicianship are preferred.

If students have not yet taken any SCM Musicianship course, but have had equivalent musical theory instruction or have previous compositional experience, please contact program manager at gabriela.garza@syso.org

INTRO, INTERMEDIATE & ADVANCED MUSICIANSHIP

The Musicianship classes integrate theory, ear training and music history.

There is no entrance exam for the Intro Musicianship class.

The Intermediate and Advanced Musicianship classes build on concepts mastered in Intro Musicianship. We strongly recommend that students take Intro Musicianship first, even if a student feels they have an understanding of basic theory.

If a student has substantial theory and ear training background, they can apply for Intermediate Musicianship and acceptance will be pending passing a placement test on the first day of instruction.

If a student has an exceptionally strong theory and ear training background, they can apply for Advanced Musicianship and acceptance will be pending passing a placement test on the first day of instruction.