



AUDITION PACKET 2026 – 2027 Season STRINGS (ISO & ASO)

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AUDITION INSTRUCTIONS

All string musicians interested in auditioning for **Intermediate Symphony** or **Advanced Symphony** will complete three short audition components:

1. Prepared solo excerpt (up to 2 minutes)
2. Two major scales (student-selected key; faculty-selected key)
3. Sight-reading (faculty-selected excerpt, provided at the audition)

ARRIVAL INSTRUCTIONS

Arrive at least 10 minutes before your appointed audition time to tune and warm up beforehand. You will be escorted into the audition space when it is your turn. Bring ALL music with you.

AUDITION EVALUATION AND RESULTS

Your audition determines your ensemble placement. Auditions are evaluated using a common scoring rubric across five performance factors: Articulation/Tone, Intonation, Rhythm/Tempo, Interpretation/Musical Effect, and Vibrato. These factors are assessed across all three audition components to support consistent and transparent evaluation.

*Ensemble announcements will be determined by the Music Director and sent within two weeks of auditions.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT:**

Dr. Thomas Roggio

Music Director, Sinfonia Youth Orchestras
Coordinator of Education & Community Engagement
E: troggio@sinfoniagulfcoast.org

AUDITION MATERIALS

1. Prepared Solo Excerpt (max. 2 minutes)

Select a piece that best showcases your current playing. You have full autonomy over your repertoire choice— there is no required piece or method book. Choose something you can prepare well and are comfortable playing.

You may play:

- A piece from a Suzuki book
- A solo from a method book (Essential Elements, Measures of Success, etc.)
- The beginning (or a short section) of a sonata or concerto movement
- A piece assigned by your private teacher or school orchestra direction

2. Scales – Four Technical Levels

All students will play two major scale from the levels below. You choose the level that best reflects your current technical ability.

During the audition, you will announce which level you are auditioning with and choose one scale from the level of choice to play. Adjudicators will then choose one key additional key from the list for your selected level.

LEVEL 1

Typical experience: about 1 year of study, beginning string orchestra or ASBS

- Keys: G major, D major, A major,
- Range
 - Violin/viola/cello: 1 octave, first position only
 - Bass: 1 octave, half/first position, no extensions
- Bowing/tempo: Separate bows, quarter note = 60-72

Level 2

Typical experience: 1-3 years; comfortable in first position in several key areas

- Keys: G major, D major, A major, C major, F major
- Range
 - Violin/viola/cello: 1 octave; simple extensions allowed
 - Bass: 1 octave in half/first position; extensions optional
- Bowing/tempo: Separate bows, quarter = 72-84; optional 2-note slurs

Level 3

Typical experience: several years; starting or using shifting

- Keys: G major, D major, A major, C major, F major, B-flat Major, E-flat Major
- Range
 - Violin/viola/cello:
 - 2 octaves in C, G, D, A
 - 1-2 octaves in F, B-flat, E-flat
 - Bass
 - 2 octaves in G, D, A
 - 1-2 octaves in C, F, B-flat, E-flat, in comfortable positions (no extreme positions)
- Bowing/tempo: Quarter = 84-96; separate and slurred (2-4 notes per bow)

LEVEL 4

Typical experience: several years; consistent use of shifting and vibrato

- Keys: G, D, A, C, F, B-flat, E-flat, A-flat
- Range
 - Violin
 - 2 octaves in all listed keys
 - 3 octaves in C, G, D, A
 - Viola/cello
 - 2 octaves in all listed keys
 - 3 octaves in C
 - Bass
 - 2 octaves in C, G, D, A, F
 - 1-2 octaves in B-flat, E-flat, A-flat
- Bowing/tempo: 96-112; separate bows and 4-8 note slurs

3. Sight-Reading

Each student will sight-read a brief excerpt during the audition. You will not see the music beforehand. The faculty will select the sight-reading excerpt during the audition to match the student's current level. We assess reading accuracy, steady pulse, and adaptability in real time.

Accommodations

SYO is committed to providing an accessible and supportive audition experience for all students. If your child needs accommodations for the audition process, please contact us in advance so we can work together to ensure a positive experience.