

LA JEUNESSE YOUTH ORCHESTRA AUDITION POLICY

Each year the orchestra will be selected through an audition process. This is common practice in youth orchestras around the world. The auditions serve many purposes:

to permit all players the opportunity to advance in their section,

to allow directors the opportunity to assess individual talent and development each year,
(NOTE: it is expected that each player will show improvement in their own ability each year in order to hold a chair in the orchestra).

to open the orchestra each year to potential new members,

to provide incentive for each individual player to stay current on their instrument.

An unsuccessful audition can result in non-placement in the orchestra even if the player has been a previous member. Auditions apply only to the current season. Any player may re-audition the following season.

LJYO AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

(NOTE: Auditions will be held every year in June and September)

For your audition, you will need to prepare:

one prepared solo piece demonstrating technical ability (fast, allegro),

one prepared solo piece demonstrating lyrical musical ability (slow),

major and minor scales,

major and minor arpeggios,

chromatic scales,

sight reading. Sight-reading will be assigned during the audition by music directors. You can practice your sight-reading by doing it regularly with a metronome. The more you sight-read, the better you will get at it.

During your audition, you may be asked questions by the music directors to demonstrate your desire and commitment to the orchestra.

Possible reasons for unsuccessful auditions are varied but will generally be related to an overall lack of preparedness of your material and/or allowing yourself to become out of shape on your instrument over the summer period. Other reasons would include insufficient performance level on your instrument, excessive tuning problems, or inability to deal effectively with rhythm. Ultimately it may be a matter of numbers. There is limited seating in most sections of the orchestra, so you are essentially competing for a chair.

MIDTERM AUDITIONS

Midterm auditions may be held throughout the year to help facilitate the learning of all music. All music may be auditioned over the course of the year at the discretion of the music directors.