



Prelude Orchestra Audition Materials

We're excited that you're interested in joining the APYO Prelude Orchestra for the 2025-26 season! This document includes all the information you need to prepare for your upcoming audition. We look forward to hearing you play!

The Prelude Orchestra is designed for students with two or fewer years of experience on a string instrument. This ensemble offers a welcoming and enriching environment for younger students to grow musically. Led by APO and SONA violin performer and instructor Ben Weir, who brings over five years of experience as both a performer and teacher. Ben will guide students toward excellent playing and strong musicianship. Whether in middle or high school, participants will develop their instrumental technique and ensemble skills, both essential elements in becoming a well-rounded music student.

Preparing You for the Future with the Arkansas Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (APYO)

Take the next big step in your musical journey with the Arkansas Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, a dynamic, full symphonic ensemble tailored for intermediate-level students with at least one year of playing experience. APYO offers a unique opportunity to grow as a musician in a collaborative, supportive, and inspiring environment.

APYO students receive a blend of group and individual coaching designed to strengthen technical skills and enhance musical expression, under the direction of APO and SONA violinist and violin instructor Ben Weir. Through this guided experience in a full ensemble setting, students build the confidence and foundation needed to succeed in more advanced orchestras as they grow into accomplished musicians in the years to come.

Throughout the season, APYO presents two concerts per semester: a mid-term and a final performance, giving students the chance to showcase their progress and share their passion for music with family, friends, and the community.

Join us and be part of a meaningful experience where you don't just play music but become an essential member who contributes to our vibrant NWA musical community, a musician equipped for the next stage of musical growth.

Audition Requirements for the Prelude Orchestra

• Each musician should come prepared knowing *one of the following scales* provided below. The scale must be performed at a minimum tempo of quarter note = 70. Memorization of the scale is required for all string players.

- Choose to play one scale.
- Choose to play one or two octaves.

G Major

♩ = 70

Violin

Viola

Cello

The G Major scale is written for Violin, Viola, and Cello in 4/4 time. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 70. The Violin part starts on G4 and ends on G5. The Viola part starts on G3 and ends on G4. The Cello part starts on G2 and ends on G3. All parts follow the same melodic line, with the Viola and Cello parts having an additional octave of notes in the middle of the scale.

D Major

♩ = 70

Violin

Viola

Cello

The D Major scale is written for Violin, Viola, and Cello in 4/4 time. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 70. The Violin part starts on D4 and ends on D5. The Viola part starts on D3 and ends on D4. The Cello part starts on D2 and ends on D3. All parts follow the same melodic line, with the Viola and Cello parts having an additional octave of notes in the middle of the scale.

A Major

♩ = 70

Violin

Viola

Cello

The A Major scale is written for Violin, Viola, and Cello in 4/4 time. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 70. The Violin part starts on A4 and ends on A5. The Viola part starts on A3 and ends on A4. The Cello part starts on A2 and ends on A3. All parts follow the same melodic line, with the Viola and Cello parts having an additional octave of notes in the middle of the scale.

All students must prepare and perform the following music piece: *May Song*

- You do not need to memorize the music.
 - Please bring printed music or a tablet with your excerpt. (*We will not provide music at the audition.*)
- Auditions are short, typically lasting 4-5 minutes. Arrive early to warm up and be ready to play at your assigned audition time.

Prelude Orchestra Excerpts

Allegro Moderato – (4/4) – (A Major)

Violin

May Song

Allegro Moderato

Folk Song
Chanson populaire
Volkslied
Canción Folklórica

f *mf* *p*

Chanson de Mai *Mai Gesang* *Canción de Mayo*

2da volta poco rit.

Viola

May Song

Allegro moderato

Folk Song

f *mf* *p*

Download

2da volta poco rit.

7 May Song

Folk Song

Allegro moderato

1 *f*

5 *mf* *p*

9 *f* (2nd time) poco rit.