

# FREQUENTLY ASKED AUDITION QUESTIONS

## WHEN ARE AYSP AUDITIONS HELD?

All auditions are held on various dates beginning the end of April through the middle of May. Audition dates and audition excerpts/etudes are announced during the spring semester each year. Students may register for an audition through our website. Your audition date and time-slot will be e-mailed to you approximately one week after registering for an audition. Auditions always fill up so be sure to register early!

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## WHERE ARE THE AUDITIONS HELD?

Dale E. Kempter Center for Music Education  
4407 Menaul Blvd. NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87110

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## HOW MUCH DO AUDITIONS COST?

There is a **\$15.00** audition fee. Students who apply and qualify for financial assistance will have the \$15.00 audition fee credited toward their tuition upon being accepted into AYSP and registering for the upcoming season.

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## ARE THERE WARM-UP ROOMS AVAILABLE?

Yes. There is one large communal warm-up room for middle school students and individual practice rooms for high school students.

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## WHEN SHOULD I ARRIVE?

Plan to arrive at least 30 minutes before your audition time. It is very important to make sure you allow yourself extra travel time and look out for any possible traffic or weather delays.

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## SHOULD I MEMORIZE MY MUSIC?

Memorization is not required. If you would like to memorize your solo, you are welcome to do so; however, it does not affect your audition score.

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## WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT AT MY AUDITION?

Middle School: You will be playing in front of 2-5 judges. Judges are able to assist with tuning and answer questions. An audition lasts approximately 5 minutes. During your audition, you may be stopped by the panel and asked to go on to another section of music. You may also be given instruction regarding what you just played and asked to play a section again. These situations are common and not a reflection of your playing or the result of your audition.

High School: Auditions are blind. 2-5 Judges will sit behind a screen and you are not permitted to speak once you enter the audition room. An audition lasts approximately 5 minutes. Students will have a proctor in the room to assist them. Judges do not know the name or grade of the student who is auditioning. Placement is based entirely on the student's audition score.

## WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?

Middle school students should wear neat dress clothes that are comfortable to perform in. Remember that this is the first impression you will make on those who will evaluate you. It is also a good idea to practice in the clothes you are planning to wear at least once before your audition.

High school students should wear comfortable clothing to perform in. Since high school auditions are "blind," you do not need to dress up.

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### **WHEN WILL I FIND OUT THE RESULT OF MY AUDITION?**

All audition results will be announced mid-June. Results will be posted on our website at [www.aysmusic.org](http://www.aysmusic.org). **Be sure to enter your email address correctly during the online Audition Registration process and make sure that your email account will accept mail from AYSP (not blocked by your spam folder).** Email is AYSP's primary mode of communication with students and parents.

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### **WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN AYSP?**

To be a member of an AYSP ensemble, a student who plays a string instrument agrees to play in his or her school orchestra and a student who plays a wind, brass or percussion instrument agrees to play in his or her school band. If no school music ensemble is offered, this rule does not apply. A musician whose school does not have a music program for their instrument, or who is home schooled, however, is strongly encouraged to participate in additional musical ensembles.

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### **IS FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE?**

Yes. The Albuquerque Youth Symphony Program is committed to supporting any student in need of financial assistance for tuition. Each application is assessed using a sliding scale of 25-90% of tuition cost, based on HUD Low to Moderate Income (LMI) Guidelines. Financial aid is awarded for the season, and families must reapply annually. The Financial Aid application form can be found at [www.aysmusic.org](http://www.aysmusic.org).

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If you have other questions, please contact us at (505) 875-1319 or e-mail Assistant Director, Dr. Strong at [bea@aysmusic.org](mailto:bea@aysmusic.org)