



Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra | 2026-2027 Concerto Competition

The Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra Concerto Competition is open to Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra members. Members may audition on a secondary instrument. The winner(s) will perform as soloist with the Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra at the Green Music Center in March or May, 2027, and possibly additional performances, TBD.

Eligibility

Repertoire must be 5-15 minutes in length. Winners of the competition must wait at least one full season before reapplying. If eligible, we expect the winners to participate in SRSYO for the following season.

Application procedure:

To participate, please submit the following items by **Monday, October 5, 2026**:

- A completed application signed by the applicant, parent (if under 18), and private instructor.
- A brief bio* and a photo for publication.
- A \$125 non-refundable fee – **This covers the cost of the professional accompanist we will hire for all applicants and includes one rehearsal, the competition, and the showcase recital.**
- Please notify the Director of Education if you need financial assistance for the application fee.

*Your bio: Please write one paragraph of thoughtful, well-written, relevant information to introduce yourself to the audience; an important skill for any musician! This bio will represent you in the Showcase Recital program book. Check out this how-to article: <https://musiciandevelopment.com/2016/05/20/how-to-write-a-bio/>

Applications will be reviewed by the Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra conductor and Education Department staff, and qualified applicants will be invited to audition. If the audition selection is considered to be unsuitable for the competition and orchestra concert for reasons including the level of difficulty, orchestration or excessive costs, the conductor may propose an alternate selection.

Auditions— Saturday, January 23, 2027

Musicians invited to audition will be asked to **provide three copies of their music** for the judges. Those auditioning will be given a specific audition appointment. The auditions are open to the public.

Auditions are held before a panel of three professional musicians and/or music educators selected by Education staff and faculty based on their impartiality. Judges have the final say. Contestants may request written notes from the judges on their performance.

Notification: Winners will be notified by email during the week following the audition. The winner will be asked to submit a program note about the piece by Feb 1, 2027. An additional winner with appropriate repertoire may also be invited to perform with the Young People's Chamber Orchestra in March 2027.

Showcase Recital: All participants will perform at the Showcase Recital following the Concerto Competition. The recital is a benefit for the Education Department, and it is open to the public.

Important Dates to Remember:

Application deadline: Monday, October 5, 2026

Piano rehearsal: Friday, January 22, 2027

Auditions: Saturday, January 23, 2027

Showcase Recital: Friday, January 29, 2027

All dates are subject to change.

For more information, contact Elena Sloman at esloman@srsymphony.org



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Application Form

NAME: _____

NAME OF PARENT/ LEGAL GUARDIAN: (if under 18 years of age)

INSTRUMENT: _____

CURRENT PRIVATE INSTRUCTOR: _____

INSTRUCTOR'S CONTACT: _____

Title of work and movement with which you wish to audition (*e.g. Concerto for Violin, I. Allegro*):

Composer: _____

Duration of work or movement: _____ minutes.

*****Please email your bio as a separate document.***

Signature of applicant: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ **Date:** _____
(if under 18 years of age)

Signature of Private Instructor: _____ **Date:** _____
(By signing here, you indicate you have read the guidelines.)

All dates are subject to change.

Return this completed application and the \$125 non-refundable application fee (made payable to the *Santa Rosa Symphony*) to staff at rehearsals or by mail or email:

Santa Rosa Symphony Education Department
Youth Orchestra Concerto Competition – Attn: Elena Sloman
50 Santa Rosa Avenue, Ste. 410
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

esloman@srsymphony.org