



FAQs

How does the selection process work?

The WBYO managing team will organise the auditions for every further project phase and share it with all the respective WBYO accelerando project partners.

There may be two rounds of auditions in several countries where candidate numbers are high or for other administrative reasons.

Successful candidates will be invited to join the Summer/Autumn 2026 WBYO tour. You can find further information on the process on the Rules and Regulations page.

Online auditions:

The WBYO provides the panel for both rounds of auditions. WBYO's instrumental faculty will judge the submitted videos, and a specialist in your instrument will judge each video.

The application process includes these two steps:

1. Filling out the Application Form
2. Video recording (in SEVERAL TAKES, up to 10 minutes) with all requested Orchestral Extracts + one piece of own choice (with or without piano)

Since there is an online audition, you must include a YouTube link in your application (which you should upload to YouTube as an unlisted video – do not choose the “public” or “private” setting).

Successful candidates will be informed within 15 business days of the application deadline that they will be invited to join the orchestra for the summer/autumn tour 2026.

Please note that it may take up to 3 weeks for results to be sent due to the high number of candidates.

Our tried-and-tested audition process is designed to ensure fairness across instruments and countries. This is our highest priority. Your audition is only the first stage of our judging process; an extensive moderation process follows to ensure fairness.

How do I apply for an audition?

Just follow the simple instructions on this page (Auditions).

The application deadline is April 30, 2026.

Who can apply for WBYO auditions?



Applicants must be between 16 and 27 years of age on September 14, 2026
The WBYO Leader must be no older than 30 years of age as at 14 September 2026.
Which instrument can apply with?

For the summer 2026 orchestra, auditions are open for: Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Flute (+ Piccolo), Oboe (+ Cor Anglaise), Clarinet (+ Clarinet Bass), Bassoon, Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Percussion, Harp, Piano/Celesta.

I already play in a professional orchestra. Can I still apply?

Absolutely. Many of our members play with professional orchestras and ensembles.

I do not attend a music college or academy, nor do I study for a degree in music. Can I still audition?

Yes, we accept applications from all musicians, even if music is not your chosen academic path.

Can I audition on more than one instrument?

Yes, you can apply for multiple instruments. Just let us know in your application form.

After your (online) audition:

When will the results come out?

You will receive an email by May 17, 2026

Can I get feedback on my audition?

All candidates will be given online feedback via email.

I have been asked back for a final audition. What does this mean?

In some cases, auditions include preliminary and final rounds. You are one step closer to joining the WBYO if you are called for a final audition.

I've been accepted into the WBYO. Now what?

Congratulations! This means you are a WBYO member in 2026 for the Summer/Autumn Orchestra Project. Be embraced. (orchestra residencies and concert tours), as well as any chamber projects during the ongoing calendar year.

Are there any costs that I have to pay as a member?



There is no membership fee to join the WBYO.

Moreover, once accepted as a Member, the WBYO pays for the costs of train/bus or flight travel to and from WBYO projects, all WBYO music-teaching and tutoring costs, and accommodation and food costs incurred during our projects. Additional allowances will also be provided separately to each musician as part of the project.

You will still be responsible for insuring your instrument (unless we provide it) and for any incidental costs incurred separately.

I've been put on the 'reserve list'.

This means that if one of our members cannot make a specific tour, you may be asked to join the WBYO for that tour.

I was not accepted. What should I do?

Competition is very strong, with hundreds of applicants each year.

If you are not selected, don't be discouraged—keep practising and we encourage you to apply again next year.