NASHVILLE CIVIC ORCHESTRA

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

SECTION MEMBER (Various Instruments)

Nashville, Tennessee | Volunteer, unpaid
Audition Applications: via NCO Website
Video Audition & Application Submission Deadline: Rolling
Application Fee: $15 (to be paid online)
NOTE: *Applicants must be 18 years of age or older*

THE ORGANIZATION

The Nashville Civic Orchestra (NCO) is a newly established nonprofit performing arts organization launching its inaugural 2026-2027 concert season. The NCO's mission is to engage the Nashville community through high-quality performances, meaningful education, and programming that honors the great traditions of orchestral music while supporting living composers and emerging artists.

The vision of the NCO is to build a unique model for civic music-making in Nashville where emerging artists, seasoned professionals, living composers, and education programs come together to craft vibrant performances that reflect, engage, and serve the community. The organization is governed by a Board of Directors and led artistically by its Artistic Director.

THE POSITION

The NCO is looking to recruit Section Members for its inaugural season. Section Members are volunteer musician positions that participate in all major NCO performances and events. The NCO seeks musicians of high caliber who are passionate about their craft, education, and serving their community. Section Members are engaged for the full 2026-2027 inaugural season with renewal possibilities at the discretion of the Artistic Director upon yearly review.

2026/2027 SEASON	DETAILS	YEARLY TOTAL
Rehearsals	Generally weekly on Thursday evenings, 7:00-9:30pm. 5-6 rehearsals per concert.	21
Concerts	Four full concerts and one shortened matinee concert. Call time and concert logistics may vary per cycle. Inaugural Season concerts in October, December, March, and May.	5
Outreach Days	OPTIONAL: You may sign up to join our Section Leaders on school visits, sectionals with student ensembles, and community educational initiatives.	2-3

WHAT TO EXPECT

- A joyful and rewarding rehearsal environment where you will grow and be challenged, mentored, and inspired to grow
- Opportunities for mentorship under professional section leaders
- Opportunities to participate in NCO's education and community programming as the season unfolds
- Meaningful social events and jam sessions for the orchestra throughout the year!
- Parts distributed well in advance - members are expected to arrive prepared to the first rehearsal of each cycle.
- A chance to sharpen your skills while playing some of the greatest music ever written for orchestra
- An opportunity to be a founding member of a brand new civic orchestra project!

NOTE: The NCO holds its volunteer musicians to a high standard. We are not a drop-in ensemble. Individual preparation between rehearsals is expected of every member, and our section leaders are here to help you grow but not carry the section alone.

HOW TO AUDITION

Step 1 - Prepare Your Video Submission

- Record all required excerpts for your instrument in a single continuous video
    - Excerpts available on the NCO's Join the Orchestra page under "Section Member Auditions"
- Upload your video to YouTube and set the privacy to **Unlisted** (not Public or Private)
- Ensure the video is accessible without a password or sign-in
- Record in a quiet space with good lighting - the panel must be able to see and hear you clearly
- Use the best recording equipment available to you; a smartphone in a quiet room is acceptable
- **Do not edit or splice the video** - all excerpts must be recorded in a single take (just as you would perform a live audition)
- Announce each excerpt by name before playing it
- Paste your unlisted YouTube link directly into the application form on the NCO Website after Step 2

Step 2 - Audition Application Fee Payment

- Click the application fee payment link on the NCO's Join the Orchestra page
- Complete the $15 application fee payment online before submitting the application form

Step 3 - Application Form

- Complete the Audition Application Form on the NCO Website in the "Section Member Auditions" section
- Make sure to paste your **Unlisted** YouTube link directly into the application form

Step 3 - Audition Panel Video Review

- Our panel of judges will review all auditions on a rolling basis
- Candidates will be notified of decisions within two weeks of submission or prior to the next concert cycle
- Those not offered a position will be placed on a waitlist for consideration should openings arise.