

# North Valley Youth Strings (NVYS)

## Audition Instructions 2024-2025

It's time to audition!! Many of us have anxiety just hearing the word "audition." But, in the world of performing arts, it is a part of the fabric of what we do. You must learn to accomplish them with the least amount of stress possible. Remember, the more you audition, the easier they become.

The best way to avoid anxiety is to prepare well. Begin early and practice every day, even if only for a few minutes, leading up to recording your audition.

First - Download the audition materials provided on the NVSO website at:

<http://www.northvalleysymphony.org/youth-strings>

1. **Scale:** Prepare and video record the **2-Octave D or G Major scale appropriate for your instrument**. Record this scale with the following articulation and tempo: **Legato detache, 1/4 note = 60 BPM** (beats per minute). (Do Not record with a metronome).
2. **Excerpt:** Prepare and video record the **two excerpts - Dancla and Czerny**. Be careful of the 4 cesuras (railroad tracks) in the Czerny, and the difference between staccato ("down-up") and slurred staccato ("up-up").
3. **A Solo Piece:** Prepare and video record a **solo piece**. Choose a solo piece that is representative of your overall musical and technical ability. It can be an etude from a methods book that you are studying, or an excerpt of a major piece like a concerto. Solos should be no more than 2 minutes in length. Choose a piece that you are comfortable with, and which has both a technically challenging section, and a more lyric section that can demonstrate your expression.

Final notes....

- Test recording your video once or twice to ensure good lighting and sound, and to make sure your fingers and bow arm are visible. Using smart phone or iPad cameras placed on a stand about 45 degrees to your right side usually works just fine.
- After you record your video, upload it using the "Upload" link on the website.
- During the upload, you will be asked to sign into a Google account. If you do not have a Google account, and do not wish to or need assistance in creating one, contact NVSO at [youth@northvalleysymphony.org](mailto:youth@northvalleysymphony.org) to arrange for an alternate means to upload your video.
- Rehearsals for NVYS are on Monday evenings, and concerts are two times a year, plus two outreach events. Make sure you are willing to commit the time for rehearsals, concerts, home practice and lessons before deciding to join NVYS.

Best of Luck!!

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