



**EUCLID SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
TOM BAKER YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION  
INFORMATION AND RULES: 2025-2026**

**1. APPLICANTS**

The competition is open to musicians **aged 18 and under**, including instrumentalists and vocalists, performing concerto-level or equivalent virtuosic works. Previous winners are not eligible to compete.

**2. COMPETITION INFORMATION**

The competition will be held on **Saturday, November 1, 2025 from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM** at the **Shore Cultural Centre** at 291 E 222nd St, Euclid, OH 44123. Each applicant will be emailed their audition time within 2 days after the application period ends.

**3. FEE**

There is a non-refundable application fee of \$20 which may be paid online via the link below. **Your application will not be considered complete until your application fee has been received.**

**4. AUDITION INFORMATION**

The competition will take place on stage in the Auditorium of Shore. The length of the audition is twelve (12) minutes (one minute to enter the stage, ten minutes to perform, and one minute to exit the stage).

- a. Applicants may audition with contrasting movements or one whole movement of the work intended to be performed with the ESO. Memorization is strongly encouraged.
- b. No parents/guardians/etc. are permitted in the audition room and auditions will not be recorded.
- c. Cases, coats, and other personal belongings may be left in the rehearsal room across the hall prior to and during the audition. This space may also be used to warm up.

**5. ACCOMPANISTS**

Accompanists are required for the audition, regardless of instrument or voice. You must provide your own accompanist. A grand piano will be provided for students competing on piano and a second upright piano will be provided for those accompanying piano students. Applicants are strongly encouraged to book an accompanist as early as possible, once the decision to audition has been made.

**6. JUDGING**

A panel of three (3) judges consisting of the music director and two invited guests (with no affiliation to the Euclid Symphony Orchestra) will evaluate auditions based on several criteria including, but not limited to: tone, technique, intonation, rhythm, difficulty of the chosen repertoire, and ability to stay in the allotted time frame. The committee will not offer commentary to applicants.

- a. Selection of competition winner may take into account programming, instrumentation, and music rental costs. Participants are encouraged to work with their teacher to choose music that is suitable for performance with a community orchestra and matches their skill level.

**7. Winner**

One winner will be chosen. **All applicants will be notified by email of the judges' final decision**, within 10 days of the competition date. The winner will receive \$500 and will be invited to perform with the Euclid Symphony Orchestra.

- a. **If an applicant is not able to perform with the orchestra on Sunday, April \*\*\*, 2026, they will not be considered eligible for the competition.**
- b. **Must be available for 2 Wednesday rehearsals and Sunday AM prior to performance.**

**8. APPLICATION PERIOD**

Opens September 1, 2025 and **closes October 10, 2025**. Please follow the links below to complete the application and pay the competition fee. Paper applications available upon request.

[YAC Online Application](#)

[Pay Competition Fee Online](#)

Questions? Contact the board:  
[orchestra@euclidsymphonyorchestra.com](mailto:orchestra@euclidsymphonyorchestra.com)

More information about the Euclid Symphony Orchestra can be found at: [www.euclidsymphonyorchestra.com](http://www.euclidsymphonyorchestra.com)  
Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

Thank you for your interest in performing with the ESO!