



FIRST VIOLIN NUMBER 4 AUDITIONS PROCESS 2025

Stage 1: Application

Candidates have the option of applying one of two ways:

Application Option 1) Submit Online Portfolio for consideration

Applicants are asked to complete the online portfolio (the same information that you would include in a CV) for the panel's consideration. Please be very careful that the information you provide contains no reference to your name, age or gender. If you chose this option, the panel will consider your application based on the information in the online portfolio only.

Application Option 2) Submit a Preliminary AV Recording

Applicants who choose this option will be asked to record and upload three preliminary excerpts through musical chairs. Your recording will be anonymised for the panel who will only hear the audio file of your recording. If you choose this option the panel will not be able to view your online portfolio through musical chairs, the only way they will assess your application is through the AV Recording (audio only).

The three excerpts must be recorded in the same video, with no editing. Please see the document for recording instructions for further information on submitting a recording. The visual element of your recording will be removed for the panel to assess.

The audition excerpts for the preliminary round AV applications are:

- Brahms - Variations on a Theme by Joseph Haydn, Op.56: Theme, Variation 1 & 2
- Mozart - Così fan Tutte: Act 1 Finale
- Verdi - Falstaff: Act 1, Part 1

Candidates can download copies of the audition excerpts after they have created an application on Musical Chairs

Candidates can choose to apply in either way for the position, the deadline for both modes of application is the same, Thursday 11 December.

Continued overleaf

Stage 2: Live Second Round Audition (Unscreened)

Selected candidates will be invited to attend a live, unscreened second round audition in the Howard Opera Centre Leeds on the following dates in January

- Tuesday 20th Jan 2026 (Morning)
- Wednesday 28th Jan 2026
- Friday 30th January 2026

Audition Requirements

SET PIECE

- Exposition of a Mozart concerto (own choice)

A member of Opera North Music Staff will be your accompanist for the audition.

PREPARED EXCERPTS

Candidates will be able to access these excerpts via musical chairs after submitting their application

- Brahms - Symphony No.1 in C minor, Op.68: 2nd movement solo
- Britten - Peter Grimes Four Sea Interludes: Interlude I 'Dawn'
- Mozart - Don Giovanni: No.11 Aria 'Fin ch'han dal vino'
- Puccini - La bohème: Act 3, Fig 10-12
- Puccini - Tosca: Act 2, Fig 59
- R. Strauss – Also Sprach Zarathustra, Op.30
- Weber – Oberon Overture

Stage 3: Chamber Audition

PREPARED EXCERPTS

Candidates will be called back to a chamber audition on the same day of their second round audition. The audition excerpts for the chamber audition are listed below. Candidates will be able to access these excerpts via musical chairs after submitting their application

- Haydn Op.76 No.2 (fifths) 1st movement only.

Stage 4: Trial

Selected candidates will be invited to trial with the Orchestra of Opera North.