



Michelle Merrill, Music Director

## AUDITION ANNOUNCEMENT

### CONCERTMASTER

- \$252 - \$300 per service fee; to be negotiated based on experience
- Lodging provided based on need; Travel to be negotiated
- Approximately 75 services per season, plus additional education/community engagement opportunities throughout the year, including the opportunity to curate a “Concertmaster Series” of more intimate recitals both solo and with special guests.

### HOW TO APPLY

Please complete the online application at ([W-S Symphony audition info here](#)), which includes one unedited video submission (see audition repertoire below for details) by Wednesday, July 15, 2026

#### Audition Dates:

- **May 15<sup>th</sup> – July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026:** First Round Online Audition submission window
- **July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026:** Applicants notified of first round results
- **August 31<sup>st</sup>:** Live Audition in Winston Salem, NC
- **September 1<sup>st</sup>:** Chamber music round for selected candidates in Winston Salem, NC
- **Trial week during the 26/27 season:** Finalists from the audition will be asked to play a trial week with the Winston Salem Symphony, which will also feature a public chamber performance to be curated by the candidate

## **HOW TO APPLY (cont.)**

Applicants invited to the live audition will be asked to **email confirmation of their acceptance** and **send a \$50.00 deposit check** to confirm their participation. Both the email and deposit check must be received on or before **August 15th, 2026**. The check should be made payable to the **Winston Salem Symphony** and include 'Concertmaster Audition' along with your name in the check's memo.

Checks should be mailed to:

Winston Salem Symphony

Attn: Jeff Whitsett

PO Box 1545

Winston-Salem, NC 27102

Deposit checks will be returned to applicants at the audition. Checks will not be returned to applicants who withdraw after August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

## **First Round:**

Interested applicants should submit one unedited YouTube video (unlisted) with the following pieces to the online application form. Repertoire should be performed solo, without piano accompaniment. No editing or sound enhancements of any kind are permitted. The audition video must be shot in one continuous take without any speaking from the musician and include, in this order:

**\*\*NOTE: only audio will be reviewed from prelim videos\*\***

### **Solo Repertoire:**

- Mozart: Violin Concerto No. 4 (K.218) or No. 5 (K.219), Mvt. I (no cadenza)

### **Orchestral Excerpts:**

- Brahms: Symphony No. 1, Mvt. II, m. 90-128 (solo)
- Rimsky-Korsakov: Scheherazade, Mvt. I, m. 14-18
- Mendelssohn: A Midsummer Night's Dream, Scherzo, m. 17-99
- Don Juan: Mvt. 1, Beginning to 13 after [C])

## **Live Round:**

Applicants who advance into the Live Audition in Winston Salem will be asked to prepare the following:

### **Solo Repertoire:**

- Mozart: Violin Concerto No. 4 (K.218) or No. 5 (K.219), Mvt. I, with cadenza
- First Movement from a Romantic era concerto, with cadenza
- One Movement from an unaccompanied solo Sonata or Partita by Bach

### **Orchestral Solos**

- Bach: St. Matthew Passion, No. 47, Erbarme dich, m. 1-9
- Beethoven: Missa Solemnis, Sanctus, m. 110-184
- Brahms: Symphony No. 1, Mvt. II, m. 90-128 (solo)
- Rimsky-Korsakov: Scheherazade
  - Mvt. I: m. 14-18, [C] to [D], [G] to [H]
  - Mvt. II: Beginning to m. 5
  - Mvt. III: m. 8 of [K] to [N]
  - Mvt. IV m. 8-9, 29-30, 7 of [Z] to end
- Strauss: Ein Heldenleben, 1 m. after [22] to [32]

### **Orchestral Excerpts**

- Bartok: Concerto for Orchestra, Mvt. V, m. 21-86
- Beethoven: Symphony No. 9, Mvt. III, m. 99-114
- Brahms: Symphony No. 4, Mvt. IV, m. 33-80
- Mahler: Symphony No. 1, Mvt. IV, [16] to [19]
- Mendelssohn: A Midsummer Night's Dream, Scherzo, m. 17-99
- Mozart: Symphony No. 39, Mvt. II, m. 96-125 & Mvt. IV, Beginning to m. 104
- Prokofiev: Symphony No. 1, Mvt. I, Beginning to m. 61 & Mvt. II, Beginning to m. 20
- Schumann: Symphony No. 2, Scherzo, m. 1-54 (no repeats)
- Strauss: Don Juan, Mvt. 1, Beginning to 13 after [C]
- Tchaikovsky: The Nutcracker, Overture, [8] – End (last 50 bars)

## **Chamber Music Round:**

Applicants who advance from the Live Audition Round on August 31<sup>st</sup> will be asked to rehearse and play chamber music with members of the Winston Salem Symphony the following day on September 1<sup>st</sup>:

- Beethoven String Quartet No. 6 in B-flat Major, Op. 18 No. 6: mvt 1: Allegro con brio

A PDF of all audition packet repertoire is ([available for download here](#)).

Concert Cycle Schedule: A typical concert cycle includes 3 evening rehearsals (Wednesday-Friday, 7:30 – 10:00pm), 1 Saturday dress rehearsal (10:00am – 12:30pm), and 2 concerts (Saturday evening, 7:30pm; Sunday afternoon, 3:00pm)

The Winston Salem Symphony tune to A=440 Hz

Please note that in order to audition, a candidate must already possess all the documentation that allows him/her/them to work legally in the United States.

## **QUESTIONS?**

Technical questions regarding submission and can be directed to Brian French, at [bfrench@wssymphony.org](mailto:bfrench@wssymphony.org). All other questions can be directed to Jeff Whitsett, Personnel Manager, at [jwhitsett@wssymphony.org](mailto:jwhitsett@wssymphony.org).