

NYO Canada Frequently Asked Questions (COVID-19 impact)

Can I still apply to NYO 2021?

- All 2020 committed orchestra members have first right of refusal without having to re-audition for our 2021 orchestra. On top of filling vacancies from 2020 members who decline a spot in 2021, we will be accepting up to 40 new positions. Auditions for the additional spots will open on November 1st.

Can I apply for Michael Measures Prize in the 2021 orchestra?

- Yes, Michael Measures Prize auditions for 2021 will be open to all musicians including 2020 members.

Can I apply for an Award of Excellence?

- Returning 2020 Award of Excellence recipients will receive their award in 2021. We are working on securing funding for additional Awards of Excellence. Any awards that become available for 2021 will be announced when auditions open.

* 2020 members who did not win an award may audition specifically for a 2021 award with no impact on their position in NYO 2021

When will I know if there are vacancies for my instrument?

- We will open auditions on November 1st and will be accepting up to 40 new members along with any known vacancies.

Where is the 2021 tour?

- NYO cannot make any firm plans to have an in-person session and tour. We will be building upon our online program while reserving space for live instruction and performances following provincial and national health and safety guidelines.

If there are performances, how will the orchestra be chosen from the 140 online training institute participants?

- All musicians will be prepared to perform, and if opportunities do open up, we will design for the situation we find ourselves in, and ensure everyone is given as much opportunity as we can offer.

When do I get my schedule of activities? When will you know who the guest teachers and workshop leaders are?

- We are currently working on details now and will have more information by November 1st when auditions open.

It's hard to be inspired when the arts are shut down. Why should I commit all this time to something when I may not find a job for years?

- Now, more than ever, the world needs its artists, and you need your art. The 1918 flu pandemic was quickly followed by a manic flight into sociability and a golden age for professional orchestras. No one can say how long the acute phase of this pandemic will last though we do know that there will be enormous pent-up demand from audiences in the years following.

For any questions please contact Chris Lamont at clamont@nyoc.org or 416-532-4470 ext. 226