



Western Australian Youth Orchestras

2025

 Woodside
Energy
Principal Partner

OUR STORY



For over 50 years, WAYO has inspired young people to achieve excellence through a love of music, while also helping them develop skills of self-esteem, discipline, teamwork, leadership and performance.

As one of Australia's leading and most comprehensive youth orchestra programs, with over 400 members from around Perth, South West WA and beyond, WAYO is committed to the long-term investment of helping our young musicians realise their potential and their dreams.

OUR MISSION

to provide quality musical training and performance opportunities for young musicians to enrich their lives and the cultural development of the Western Australian community.

At WAYO, we try to give our members an experience that is representative of the community and culture they exist within; this includes giving them opportunities to discover the many disciplines of music including film, ballet, opera and beyond. With a focus on diverse repertoire and collaborative opportunities, our goal is to provide a well-rounded and versatile musical education that feeds the creative spirit and inspires our members with artistic possibilities.





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WELCOME



In 2024 WAYO celebrated 50 years and we couldn't be more proud of our growth, what we have achieved in that time, and what we have delivered for our many ensembles, including the many musical and social benefits that being a member of our ensembles provides.

We welcome all returning and future members to be part of our story in 2025. This Prospectus highlights the remarkable role we play for our members in giving them amazing musical experiences and performing to an annual live audience in the tens of thousands.

In 2025 we are celebrating 35 amazing years with our Principal Partner, Woodside Energy, with whom we share a commitment to contributing to Western Australia. We look forward to the continuation of many dynamic plans coming to fruition as a result of this award-winning partnership.

We would also like to acknowledge St John of God Health Care and Healthway, who, along with Woodside Energy, allow us to produce many events and activities outside the realm of traditional youth orchestra organisations. Our funding partner Culture and the Arts (WA), from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries through the Government of Western Australia and Lotterywest also facilitate our operations.

Finally, we thank our large family of annual donors for their generosity.

We invite you to join us in 2025 for a fantastic year.

With best wishes,

Ben Burgess
Executive Director

Peter Moore OAM
Music Director



Whether you want to build a career in music or simply enjoy the thrill of ensemble playing, WAYO offers memorable experiences to all members – on and off the stage.

How to APPLY

1

DO YOUR RESEARCH

This Prospectus contains all the information you need about the **audition process** and **expectations of being a WAYO member**. Even if you have been in one of our ensembles before, it is essential that you do your research and read all the 2025 information.

2

CHECK THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Read the **ensemble descriptions** or **attend a concert** to find out which ensemble you might like to join.

Check whether your instrument is on the eligible list for the ensemble, and whether your ability meets the **approximate minimum AMEB grade**.

3

CHECK YOUR DIARY

Are you free on the **November audition dates** or do you have to request a **December audition**?

Are you free at the times **when the ensemble rehearses** during school term?

4

APPLY ONLINE

Fill out your application form online.

The fee to apply is \$45, payable upon application.

5

PREPARE FOR YOUR AUDITION

Start preparing your **own choice piece** now.

Audition excerpts will be emailed to you two weeks before your scheduled audition, along with your audition time.

Ensembles

WAYO is a family of orchestras, ensembles, and initiatives, with the flagship WA Youth Orchestra at the helm.

Below is a summary of our ensembles' available instruments, rehearsals and approximate minimum entry level.



	WA Youth Orchestra	Philharmonic Orchestra	Camerata String Orchestra	Collegium String Orchestra	Sinfonietta String Orchestra	Flute Choir
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Instruments	Full orchestra	Full orchestra	Strings	Strings	Strings	Flute
Entry Level*	AMEB 8+	AMEB 7+	AMEB 6+	AMEB 5+	AMEB 3+	AMEB 5+
Rehearsals	Saturdays 9am -12pm & occasional other days as required	Saturdays 9am - 12pm	Saturdays 9am - 12pm	Saturdays 9am - 12pm	Saturdays 9am - 12pm	Saturdays 9am - 12pm

* NOTE: AMEB levels for each ensemble serve only as a rough minimum guide and are not a requirement or guarantee for entry. Minimum AMEB levels may also differ between instruments in the same ensemble, for example, violin minimum AMEB levels may be higher than other instruments in the same ensemble.

For more detailed information about each ensemble, scroll to the next pages.



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN Youth Orchestra

The Western Australian Youth Orchestra (WAYO) stands out as one of Australia's top youth orchestras. Led by the esteemed Peter Moore OAM alongside special guest conductors and tutors, 2025 promises to be a thrilling year with WAYO performing iconic, large-scale pieces in an inspiring setting.

WAYO is thrilled to announce we will have four performances in the stunning Heath Ledger Theatre in the State Theatre Centre of WA in 2025.

Last year, our packed concert schedule featured major performances with conductors Peter Moore OAM, Jen Winley, and international guest conductor Tze Law Chan.

In recent years, WAYO has been delighting audiences with special Children's Concerts, Christmas Concerts, and collaborations with Perth Festival, WASO, West Australian Opera, as well as renowned independent artists from around the world.

PLACES
100

INSTRUMENTS

violin, viola, cello,
double bass, flute,
oboe, clarinet,
bassoon, French horn,
trumpet, trombones,
tuba, harp, timpani &
percussion

APPROXIMATE MINIMUM STANDARD

AMEB grade 8+

REHEARSALS

Saturdays 9am –12pm
(and occasional other
days as required)
Callaway Auditorium,
UWA, Crawley



PHILHARMONIC Orchestra

The Philharmonic is a full symphony orchestra and serves as the perfect preparatory ensemble for young musicians aspiring to join the WA Youth Orchestra.

By delving into challenging and captivating symphonic music, the Philharmonic fosters a supportive atmosphere that nurtures the talents of tomorrow's young music virtuosos.

In 2024, the Philharmonic was under the skilled leadership of conductors Dale Pointon and Sara Duhig.

PLACES
90

INSTRUMENTS
violin, viola, cello,
double bass, flute,
oboe, clarinet,
bassoon, French horn,
trumpet, trombones,
tuba, harp, timpani &
percussion

APPROXIMATE
MINIMUM STANDARD
AMEB grade 7+

REHEARSALS
Saturdays 9am –12pm
WAAPA, ECU
Mount Lawley



CAMERATA

String Orchestra

Camerata is designed to foster ensemble skills in preparation for graduation to the Philharmonic orchestra and the WA Youth Orchestra.


With a focus on chamber orchestra repertoire and refining ensemble technique in an intimate learning environment, the Camerata, led by conductor Daemon Clark is the perfect practice ground for young, accomplished string players to begin their journey to the symphony orchestra.

PLACES
45

INSTRUMENTS
violin, viola, cello,
double bass

**APPROXIMATE
MINIMUM
STANDARD**
AMEB grade 6+

REHEARSALS
Saturdays
9am –12pm
WAAPA, ECU
Mount Lawley



COLLEGIUM

String Orchestra

A full-size string orchestra, the Collegium dives into specialized string repertoire, sharpening established string techniques and ensemble playing.

Rehearsals and performances, led by string specialist Grace Ah-quee, offer a solid foundation that helps many members advance to the Camerata Orchestra and further in their musical journeys.

PLACES
60

INSTRUMENTS
violin, viola, cello,
double bass

APPROXIMATE
MINIMUM
STANDARD
AMEB grade 5+

REHEARSALS
Saturdays
9am –12pm
WAAPA, ECU
Mount Lawley



SINFONIETTA

String Orchestra

The Sinfonietta string orchestra's rehearsals are dedicated to honing string techniques, practicing orchestral pieces, and improving ensemble performance skills. These are essential for younger, developing string musicians to help them seamlessly blend into any musical group.

Through collaborative learning in a supportive and artistic space, they gain a deeper appreciation for musical performances under the guidance of string expert Jeanette Teh.

We recommend that applicants have at least two years of experience with their instrument.

PLACES
50

INSTRUMENTS
violin, viola, cello,
double bass

**APPROXIMATE
MINIMUM
STANDARD**
AMEB grade 3+

REHEARSALS
Saturdays
9am –12pm
WAAPA, ECU
Mount Lawley



FLUTE Choir

Under the guidance of Christie Sullivan, the Flute Choir presents a perfect opportunity for enthusiastic musicians to delve into an exciting array of bespoke flute choir music and performances.

With everything from classic arrangements to jazz and fresh original pieces, this group is all about honing ensemble skills, camaraderie, and celebrating all things flute.

Members have access to a range of piccolos, alto flutes and bass flutes owned by WA Youth Orchestras.

PLACES
25+

INSTRUMENTS
flute
(piccolo, alto and
bass flutes are
available)

**APPROXIMATE
MINIMUM
STANDARD**
AMEB grade 5+

REHEARSALS
Saturdays
9am –12pm
WAAPA, ECU
Mount Lawley

MEMBERSHIP Requirements

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be amateur musicians aged 25 or younger at 1 January 2025 and preferably be studying with a professional music teacher. Applicants over 25 that meet other eligibility criteria, ensemble requirements and equity may apply, subject to written approval from WAYO's Executive Director.

COMMITMENT

With over 400 musicians applying and auditioning for places each year, it is a significant achievement to be offered a position in one of WAYO's ensembles.

Acceptance of an ensemble position requires a commitment for the entire year.

This ensures consistency in the development of the ensemble and the individual throughout the year. Before accepting their position, applicants must carefully consider their ability to comply with regular attendance at rehearsals, tutorials and concerts. WA Youth Orchestras activities must take priority over other commitments.

RECOMMENDED AMEB LEVELS

AMEB levels for each ensemble serve only as a rough guide and are not a requirement for entry. Performance at these levels does not guarantee entry into any ensemble. We ask this information as it can be helpful in ascertaining the general standard of an applicant. It also helps students to decide which ensemble might best fit their playing level. If you are unsure, ask your instrumental teacher for advice.

APPLICATION FORM & FEE

To apply, simply fill out an Application Form at wayo.com.au/apply. A \$45 non-refundable application fee is required to cover administration costs.

Should you wish to audition for multiple ensembles on the same instrument, you only need to complete one audition form. If you wish to audition on multiple instruments, even if it is for the same ensemble, then you will need to complete an application form and pay the \$45 fee for each instrument you wish to audition on.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

An annual membership fee is payable upon acceptance of a position in a WA Youth Orchestras ensemble by 31 January 2025.

Individual membership: \$650
Subsequent family members: \$600

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

WAYO offers interest free instalment payments for all membership fees upon request. WAYO may consider special assistance in the case of extreme financial hardship. The amount of financial assistance that can be provided is limited. WAYO also provides some instruments via scholarships for use by members. Please contact the WAYO office for further information.

Key DATES

18 OCTOBER 2024	Applications close
25 OCTOBER 2024	November audition times & excerpts emailed to applicants
9 & 10 NOVEMBER 2024	November auditions
25 NOVEMBER 2024	December audition times & excerpts emailed to applicants
8 DECEMBER 2024	December auditions
11 DECEMBER 2024	Audition results and first round offers emailed
23 DEC – 5 JAN 2025	WAYO office closed
13 JANUARY 2025	Final date for accepting a first round offer
17 JANUARY 2025	Second round offers emailed
31 JANUARY 2025	Membership fees due
FEBRUARY 2025	Rehearsals commence

Your AUDITION

WHO NEEDS TO AUDITION?

All positions in WAYO ensembles are declared vacant at the end of each year. All current and past members are required to re-audition each year along with new applicants.

WHERE ARE AUDITIONS HELD?

WA Academy of Performing Arts,
2 Bradford Street, Mount Lawley.

WHEN ARE AUDITIONS HELD?

Auditions are held over two weekends:

Saturday 9 & Sunday 10 November 2024,
with limited places available on
Sunday 8 December 2024.

Please check your diary now. If you cannot attend the November auditions, request a December audition in your online application and list a relevant reason, or contact the WAYO office as soon as possible. Applicants will be sent their exact audition date and time along with their excerpts by email two weeks prior to the audition.

WHAT WILL I NEED TO PREPARE?

Your audition will be no longer than 5 - 10 minutes. You will be required to play:

1. A piece of your own choice:

A short 1-2 minute section from a solo work for your instrument that shows off your best technical and musical capabilities. All auditions are performed unaccompanied therefore piano accompanists are not required or permitted. Percussionists do not need to prepare a piece of their own choice.

2. Audition excerpts:

The excerpts will be emailed to you two weeks before the audition date so that every applicant has the same amount of preparation time. The excerpts for December auditions will be different to the November audition excerpts. Excerpts are graded to the different ensemble levels, so consult your teacher and select only one set of excerpts of the level best suited to your playing ability to prepare. If you have applied for multiple ensembles on the same instrument, you will need to prepare the excerpts for the highest graded ensemble that you wish to be considered for. You will then be considered for the ensembles you have selected that are of a lower grade.

THE AUDITION PANEL

The audition panel consists of experienced tutors drawn mainly from the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, leading freelance professional musicians as well as WA Youth Orchestras conductors.

YOUR INSTRUMENT

Applicants are expected to supply their own instrument for auditions, rehearsals and concerts. Percussion instruments will be supplied but percussionists are required to provide their own sticks and mallets.

RESULTS

Results will be emailed to all applicants on Wednesday 11 December, 2024. Applicants need to accept their offer by Monday 13 January 2025, otherwise your place may be offered to a reserve member in the second round of offers.

The audition panel's decision is binding and final. No correspondence will be entered into. Feedback from auditions is not available as information collected through the audition process is private and confidential. Access to any audition recordings will also not be permitted and will serve only as a reference for the audition panel.

FAQ

FREQUENT QUESTIONS

WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO AUDITION EACH YEAR?

Like all the state-based youth orchestras in Australia, we audition all players each year on a competitive basis. Competitive auditions are the accepted method of equitably assessing an orchestra's members and ensuring that players of similar ability are placed together.

There are two main reasons that we audition each year:

- Individual players progress at different rates. Placements are based on playing ability in the context of all auditionees, not on membership length. Each year there will be some players from an orchestra who are ready to face the challenges of another ensemble and there are those who will benefit more from continuing with their current group.
- There are new members auditioning for WA Youth Orchestras each year. By hearing all players, new and existing, auditioning for an orchestra, we can be sure that our standards are high, and that placement is fair and appropriate for everyone. This provides balance within each ensemble and maximum benefit for its members.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I SUBMIT MY APPLICATION FORM?

APPLICATION PROCESSING: Following the receipt and processing of your application you will receive a confirmation email and detailed Applicant Information Pack. If you have not received this email within 2 days of lodging your application, please contact us.

AUDITION PREPARATION: You can start preparing your own choice piece now. You will receive your excerpts, along with your exact audition date and time by email two weeks before your audition.

See our [Key Dates](#) for more audition timeline details.

WHAT IF I'VE NEVER SAT AN AMEB EXAM OR AM UNSURE OF MY GRADE / LEVEL?

The AMEB levels indicated in the Prospectus give a rough guide only to the level of technical/musical ability that is required for each ensemble. AMEB exams are not a prerequisite for entry, nor does performance at the minimum level guarantee a place into a WA Youth Orchestras ensemble. Applicants who have never sat an AMEB exam or are unsure of their level should seek advice from their instrumental teacher. If you are still unsure, it is best to list preferences for all the relevant ensembles on your application form. Then when you receive your audition excerpts you should select and prepare the one set of excerpts for the ensemble that you and your teacher consider to best match for your playing ability.

WHAT IF I AM NOT CURRENTLY HAVING INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS?

It is expected that all junior instrumental members will be taking regular lessons on their instrument with an appropriate teacher. Senior members may be exempt from this condition, provided that they have achieved appropriate levels of technical and musical ability through prior learning.

FAQ

FREQUENT QUESTIONS

WHAT IF I WANT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR MORE THAN ONE ENSEMBLE?

The audition panel will consider you for all ensembles you have listed a preference for on your application form, so please number all ensembles you are interested in.

You will need to prepare the one set of excerpts for the highest graded ensemble that you wish to be considered for. You will then be considered for the ensembles you have selected that are of a lower grade.

Only one application fee is required regardless of how many ensembles you wish to apply for on the same instrument.

WHAT IF I ALSO PLAY AN ADDITIONAL / AUXILIARY INSTRUMENT?

If you play an additional standard orchestral or wind orchestra instrument, you must submit a separate application (including the additional \$45 application fee) for each additional instrument you wish to audition on. You will also need to attend a separate audition for each instrument.

If you play an auxiliary instrument in addition to your standard instrument (such as piccolo, E-flat or bass clarinet, contrabassoon, etc.), then you will not need to apply or audition separately on this instrument. WAYO owns a number of auxiliary instruments for use by our members, so it is not expected that players of these instruments provide their own. If you are unsure about whether your instrument falls into the additional or auxiliary category, please contact us for further advice.

HOW IS THE SEATING / SECTION WORKED OUT?

The audition panel will make seating recommendations at the time of audition, which are adjusted when positions are accepted. There is no compelling musical reason to place players from strongest to weakest – in fact, just the opposite. In the WAYO we often rotate players around, and in the younger orchestras this is encouraged. Conductors of the string orchestras may choose to do so, in order to provide the experience of sitting in different positions. Players learn to play next to different players, and also learn that an orchestra is made up of equally valuable sections, not just the first violins.

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact the WAYO office on (08) 9328 9859 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday, or email info@wayo.com.au

SUPPORT US

Everything we do – whether on the concert platform or in the community – is made possible by a network of generous individuals and organisations.

And every donation, no matter how large or small, plays an important part in creating an inspirational environment in which young musicians can thrive and reach their potential.

As a not-for-profit association, WA Youth Orchestras works tirelessly to raise close to 80% of its own income and relies on the support of our corporate sponsors, government partners and generous individuals. We invite you to join in and consider giving to WAYO.

To find out more about ways in which you can support us, please contact the WAYO office on (08) 9328 9859 or visit wayo.com.au/support-us/



THANKS

WAYO would like to sincerely thank our generous donors who play a vital part in supporting our programs and activities.

BOARD and Staff



BOARD

John McMath
Chair

Leanne Milligan
Deputy Chair

Peter Moore OAM
Musical Director

Ian Clarke

Carol Day OAM

Natasha McCarthy

Greg Mogan

Ben Wholagan

Ben Burgess
Ex-officio

VICE PATRON

Mr Graham Wood
OAM, MMUS, ALCM

LIFE MEMBERS

Carol Day OAM

Peter Moore OAM

2024 STAFF CONDUCTORS

Peter Moore OAM
Musical Director

Grace Ah-quee

Daemon Clark

Sara Duhig

Dale Pointon

Christie Sullivan

Jeanette Teh

Jen Winley

MANAGEMENT

Ben Burgess
Executive Director

Elisa Vasilas
*Education &
Administration Manager*

Breanna Evangelista
Operations Manager

Yvette Brownlie
*Graphic Designer
(part time)*

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COMMUNITY & FAMILY PARTNER

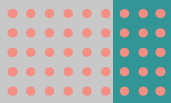


FUNDING PARTNERS



VENUE SUPPORT & TERTIARY PARTNERS





WA YOUTH ORCHESTRAS



Ready to apply? **WAYO.COM.AU/APPLY**



#wayouthorchestra



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN YOUTH ORCHESTRAS ASSOCIATION (INC.)

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telephone: +61 8 9328 9859
email: info@wayo.com.au
web: www.wayo.com.au
facebook & instagram: @wayouthorchestra

THANKS

WAYO members past & present.

DISCLAIMER

WA Youth Orchestras has made every effort to ensure that all details are correct at time of publication, however we reserve the right to make changes where necessary and without notice.

PRIVACY

WA Youth Orchestras is committed to upholding the National Privacy Principles contained in the Privacy Act 1988. Personal information is collected and maintained by us for the purposes of processing your application and enabling us to run our programs effectively – thereby delivering maximum benefit to our participants. We will not pass on personal information to a third party without your consent. If you wish to correct any personal information please contact us.