

2025-2026 STRING AUDITION GENERAL INFORMATION
CONCORDIA COLLEGE • MOORHEAD, MN

You do not need to be a music major to participate in orchestra. Regardless of previous experience and/or skill level there is an orchestral ensemble available for you to make music at Concordia College.

! ANY STUDENT WITH A CONCORDIA MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP MUST PLAY AN AUDITION EVERY YEAR !

Ensemble Rehearsal Schedule for Strings

The Concordia Orchestra

Mon 5:00PM - 6:30PM (Strings only)

& Tues & Thurs 4:30PM - 6:30PM (Tutti)

Wed 5:00PM - 6:30PM (Opera personnel, only few select Wednesdays)

There may also be a very limited amount of Friday evening dress rehearsals.

Conductor / Contact Person

Dr. Kevin Sütterlin

Director of Orchestral Activities & Opera

ksuetter@cord.edu

Symphonia Orchestra

M,W, F 4:00PM - 4:55PM

Dr. Eduard Teregulov

eteregul@cord.edu

The Concordia Orchestra is the college's touring orchestra and performs a wide variety of orchestral repertoire from many styles and periods in an average of 20-25 concerts per year. This group normally tours annually and is featured in the Homecoming Concert and Christmas concerts. Students who are selected for membership into The Concordia Orchestra are required to study privately, as are students who have received a Concordia Music Scholarship. **Any student who wishes to be a member of The Concordia Orchestra needs to perform an audition, regardless of previous membership** (see audition info below).

The Symphonia Orchestra is open to all intermediate to advanced string players, performing both chamber and symphonic repertoire. An audition is not required for participation, but strongly encouraged for incoming freshman or students who have not previously participated in an orchestra at Concordia. Symphonia presents a formal concert each semester, with additional performance opportunities. Private lessons are available for students in the Symphonia Orchestra, and members are strongly encouraged to participate however it is not required for membership in Symphonia.

The orchestral program runs on "Dignity, Respect, Care, Trust, and Grace"

As members of the Concordia community, and as members of the orchestra family, we treat each other with dignity and respect. Our top priority must always be our own and everyone else's health and wellbeing—that includes physical, mental, emotional, and academic health. We agree to make our best efforts to learn about each other; learn to understand each other better; respect each other even in disagreements; care about each other, and appreciate each other as individuals with our very own unique strengths, dreams, goals, attributes, quirks, and flaws, as well as members of a global community in which we are dedicated to contribute towards peace and harmony rather than discord and negativity; to encounter each other with grace and forgiveness.

AUDITION MATERIALS

The orchestra audition will consist of the following components:

1. SCALES & ARPEGGIOS: One major and one harmonic minor (basses melodic minor) **scale** and **arpeggio**; 3 octaves (basses 2 octaves). Major: eighth note triplets, slur 3, quarter =52. Minor: 16th notes, détaché, quarter =52.

2. SOLO PIECE: A **solo piece** (or excerpt of one) of your choosing (around 1 - 1.5 minutes in length) which demonstrates your finest playing. Etudes from a method book or portions of a solo composition are appropriate.

3. ORCHESTRAL EXCERPTS: The specific excerpts are from upcoming repertoire. The excerpts for your instrument are available as a PDF document at the Instrumental Ensemble Audition information page:

<https://www.concordiacollege.edu/student-life/music-ensembles/orchestras/orchestra-auditions/>

The Fall 2025 excerpts are from [Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 6, Mov. 1](#), [Antonin Dvorak's Cello Concerto, Mov. 1](#), and [Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 3, Mov. 1](#). You can access [full scores for your study here](#) (recordings can be found by clicking on the linked titles above). It is highly recommended that you study the excerpts with the recordings and scores linked above.

SCHEDULING AN AUDITION

Musicians interested in auditioning for placement in an orchestral ensemble should **sign-up for a brief (7 minute) audition according to the audition schedule listed below**. Please fill out the [online audition form](#) prior to your audition. Sign-up sheets are located in the music building (Hvidsten) outside the Orchestra Rehearsal Hall beginning on Friday, August 22. Sign up for an audition time before Sunday, August 24, 9PM. For first-year students involved in orientation activities, auditioning involves missing only a brief portion of the activities during a given day (approximately 30 minutes including warm-up, auditioning, and returning to orientation activities). If you are encountering scheduling issues, or have any questions or concerns regarding the audition schedule, please contact Dr. Sütterlin at ksuetter@cord.edu as soon as possible.

Monday 25 August 2025: 3:30PM-7:00 PM *Celli and Basses*
7:40PM-9:45PM *Violas and Violins*

Tuesday 26 August 2025: 3:30PM-7:15 PM *Violas and Violins*

PLEASE FILL OUT THE ONLINE AUDITION APPLICATION FORM.

Prior to your blind audition, please fill out the audition application form which you can find here: <https://www.concordiacollege.edu/student-life/music-ensembles/orchestras/orchestra-auditions/>.

THE AUDITION PROCESS

1. Auditions will be **BLIND** which means that the judges won't see you. Don't speak while in the audition space. Avoid coughing, clearing your throat, shoe noise, etc. A student proctor will be present in case you have questions.
2. **Incoming Freshmen** and **transfer** students **may opt for a non-blind audition**; just let the student proctor know prior to your audition.
3. Immediately prior to your audition, check in at the info desk right outside the orchestra room. A student proctor will accompany you into the Orchestra Rehearsal Hall for your audition.
3. The proctor will inform the judges of your instrument and assigned number.
4. One of the judges will instruct you on what to present. As outlined above, you may be asked to play the following materials in no specific order (at the discretion of the judges):
 - a) scales and arpeggios
 - b) prepared solo piece
 - c) prepared orchestral excerpt (bring your own copy)
5. The judges may cut you off for time limitation reasons and may instruct you to move on to the next step.

LESSONS

Lessons are available for a fee from Music Department Faculty to any interested student. Lessons are scheduled individually with faculty so that a lesson time that does not conflict with scheduled classes can be identified. ***Students who are selected for membership into The Concordia Orchestra are required to study privately, as are students who have received a Concordia Music Performance Scholarship.***

Please contact the following studio faculty regarding the scheduling of private lessons.

Violin: Dr. Victor Avila Luvsangenden, vavilalu@cord.edu

Viola: Prof. Thomas Bandar, tbandar@cord.edu

Cello/Bass: Dr. Eduard Teregulov, eteregul@cord.edu

Teacher/Studio assignments will be posted by Friday, August 29. Please check your email, as your teacher will be reaching out to you to schedule lessons. Lessons begin September 2. Please contact Dr. Teregulov with questions.

ENSEMBLE FEES

An ensemble fee of \$125 per ensemble registration is charged each semester to the student's term bill. Students participating in The Concordia Orchestra, The Concordia Choir, or The Concordia Band will be charged an additional fee of \$150 per semester. \$450 ensemble fee cap (no student pays more than this total in one semester).

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

Questions or concerns regarding the auditions can be directed to Dr. Sütterlin at ksuetter@cord.edu.

CHECKLIST

- ☐ Downloaded audition excerpts [here](#).
- ☐ Practiced & prepared scales, arpeggios, solo piece, and orchestral excerpts.
- ☐ Filled out the [Online Application Form](#).
- ☐ Signed up for audition time slot on sign-up sheet outside the orchestra room.
- ☐ Understood that the audition is a “blind audition,” which means that the faculty will not be able to see you or speak to you during your audition. (Incoming freshmen and transfer students can opt for a non-blind audition)