

Symphony San Jose invites highly qualified candidates to apply for the open position of Concertmaster.

The Concertmaster is a visible artistic leader of Symphony San Jose, working closely with the Executive Artistic Director and guest conductors in shaping the artistic personality of the orchestra and musical interpretation of each individual piece performed.

Specific responsibilities may include:

- Serving as the first chair violinist/principal of the first violin section
- Acting as a liaison between the conductor and the orchestra, translating the conductor's musical requests into technical instructions for musicians
- Marking all first violin parts with bowings to ensure that the section plays in unison, and coordinating with other string principals on the bowings for their sections
- Serving as a member of audition committees for any titled string chair, as well as any section violin position
- Establishing the order of the first violin sub list
- Participating in tenure meetings involving probationary members of the first violin section and all titled strings
- Serving on the orchestra's Artistic Committee
- Upon request, performing solo and chamber works
- Participating in fundraising, marketing, and public relations activities
- Meeting with the Executive Artistic Director, guest conductors, principal musicians of the orchestra, and musicians of the first violin section as needed to foster the development of the Symphony's artistic product and general welfare

Preliminary auditions will take place in San Jose on Monday, May 12, 2025. Initial rounds, conducted behind a screen, will consist of the first movement of two standard concertos, select concertmaster solos, and tutti first violin excerpts (see attached repertoire list). Select candidates will be invited to perform chamber music with musicians from Symphony San Jose in an unscreened round.

Candidates advanced as finalists will be invited to return to play one week with Symphony San Jose during the 2025/2026 season. In addition to that week's repertoire, finalists will perform select concerto, concerto grosso, and concertmaster solos with the orchestra in a closed final round audition.

To apply, please send a resume and refundable \$50 deposit check made payable to "Symphony San Jose" postmarked no later than Friday, March 28, 2025 to:

Nick Nichols, Director of Operations
Symphony San Jose
P.O. Box 790
San Jose, CA 95106-0790

Now in its 23rd season, Symphony San Jose's unique artistic identity has enabled it to become one of Silicon Valley's premier cultural institutions. Comprised of some of the best musicians in the Bay Area, the Symphony's innovative business model utilizes a roster of distinguished guest conductors in lieu of a resident music director. With an annual operating budget of \$4 million, the Symphony offers a subscription series at San Jose's majestic California Theatre, education and community activities, and a variety of special programming. The Concertmaster is a tenure-track position governed by the collective bargaining agreement between the Symphony and AFM, Local 6. Concertmaster compensation for the 2025/2026 season will be \$370 per service, with approximately 60 services offered.

Questions about the position or the audition may be addressed to nnichols@symphonysanjose.org.

Thank you for your interest in Symphony San Jose!



SYMPHONY SAN JOSE

CONCERTMASTER AUDITION - PRELIMINARY REPERTOIRE
Monday, May 12, 2025

SOLO:

MOZART Concerto 3, 4, or 5 (1st movement with cadenza)

-and-

1st movement exposition of a standard, Romantic concerto of the candidate's choice

CHAMBER MUSIC:

BRAHMS	String Quartet No. 1	Mvt. I: beginning to m. 136
SHOSTAKOVICH	String Quartet No. 8 (quintet arrangement with bass)	Mvt. I: beginning to 2 before [7] Mvt. II: beginning to 1 before [22]

FIRST VIOLIN SOLOS:

J.S. BACH	B Minor Mass	"Laudamus Te"
BRAHMS	Symphony No. 1	Mvt. II: 1 before [E] to end
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV	Capriccio espagnole	Mvt. III: solo
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV	Scheherazade	Mvts. II, III, & IV: solos
R. STRAUSS	Ein Heldenleben	1 after [22] to [31]

ORCHESTRAL EXCERPTS (1st Violin):

BARTOK	Concerto for Orchestra	Mvt. I: mm. 55-63; 76-135
CLYNE	Masquerade	4 before [Q] to 2 after [S]
BEETHOVEN	Symphony No. 9	Mvt. III: mm. 99-114
BRAHMS	Symphony No. 4	Mvt. I: m. 392 to end
MOZART	Symphony No. 39	Mvt. IV: beginning to m. 78
PROKOFIEV	Symphony No. 1	Mvt. I: beginning to [H]
SCHUMANN	Symphony No. 2	Mvt. II: beginning to m. 54
SHOSTAKOVICH	Symphony No. 5	Mvt. I: [9] to [12]

EXCERPTS TO BE POSTED HERE WHEN AVAILABLE.