

HELENA SYMPHONY

ALLAN R. SCOTT MUSIC DIRECTOR
THE JIM & SUZI STANGER CHAIR

AUDITION ANNOUNCEMENT

BASS

1 Opening- Associate Principal*

** If titled position is awarded to a current orchestra member, a section position may be offered to a successful candidate.*

The Helena Symphony Orchestra & Chorale led by Music Director Allan R. Scott has an annual concert season of 14-18 concerts, including 6 subscription concerts, 4 non-series concerts, 5 educational concerts, occasional runout or benefit performances, and potential outreach / school visits, totaling 55-65 services a season. The Helena Symphony Orchestra works under a master agreement, and there are 2-6 services in a concert series week.

Audition Date: 22 March 2026
Application Deadline: 1 March 2026
Start Date: ASAP- Based on Availability
Reports to: Music Director and Director of Artistic Planning
Length of Season: September to May (plus summer concerts June and July)

AUDITION

The Helena Symphony Orchestra encourages talented and dedicated musicians to audition. Musicians are judged on musicianship, preparation, tone quality, and proficiency on their instrument. Prior to the audition, Candidates must submit a completed Audition Information Form and a single-page CV or performance resumé to Rehanna Olson, Director of Artistic Planning, artisticplanning@helenasympphony.org. In addition, ALL candidates must send a \$50 audition deposit to reserve an audition time, which must be received in the Helena Symphony Office on or before the audition application deadline. The deposit will be returned at the audition or destroyed if cancellation is requested 2 weeks prior to the audition date. Deposit is forfeit if cancellation is requested after 2 weeks prior to the audition date, or if candidate does not appear for audition.

- The Audition consists of the following – **PLEASE READ:**
 - Prepared unaccompanied solo; **2 minutes** in length to demonstrate instrument proficiency, tone quality, technique, and virtuosity (need not be memorized). **Solo choices are listed below.**
 - Several prepared excerpts (listed below) that are assigned to demonstrate musician's preparation ability. (Excerpts are available online via IMSLP or www.orchestraexcerpts.com, along with recorded examples.)
- Number of audition rounds will be determined by the number of qualified candidates.
- A pre-screening may occur depending on the number of qualified candidates.
- Candidates may be asked to sight read.
- Final round may include non-blind audition and an interview with the Audition Committee.

SOLO: 2 minutes, choose one from the following:

J.S. BACH – Cello Suite (of candidate's choice)

OR

BOTTESINI – Bass Concerto No. 2, Movement I with cadenza

OR

KOUSSEVITZKY – Concerto for Double Bass, Op. 3, Movement I

ORCHESTRA EXCERPTS: Prepare all excerpts. Audition Committee will choose which excerpts are played at the audition.

BARTÓK	Concerto for Orchestra	Movement I: m. 22-58
BEETHOVEN	Symphony No. 5	Movement III: Scherzo, m. 1-100
		Movement III: Trio, m. 133-218 (no repeat)
BEETHOVEN	Symphony No. 9	Movement IV, m. 8-140; m. 431-596
BRAHMS	Symphony No. 2	Movement I, m. 48-66, m. 212-225, m. 270-302
		Movement IV, Beginning - 6 m. after Reh. B
MAHLER	Symphony No. 2	Movement I, beginning – Reh. 2
MOZART	Symphony No. 40	Movement I, m. 114-138
TCHAIKOVSKY	<i>The Nutcracker</i> : Suite No. 1	Trepak

ORCHESTRA SOLOS: Prepare all excerpts. Audition Committee will choose which excerpts are played at the audition.

MAHLER	Symphony No. 1	Movement III solo
PROKOFIEV	<i>Lieutenant Kijé</i> : Suite	Romance: Rehearsals 15-16, solo
STRAVINSKY	<i>Pulcinella</i> : Suite	Movement VII: Vivo, solo
VERDI	<i>Otello</i>	Act IV Soli: Reh. U to 7 m. after Reh. X