YOLA National

2027 YOLA National Festival
Application Steps & Checklist

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

November 09, 2026	Application Opens
March 1, 2027	Priority Deadline
March 8, 2027	**Final Deadline - Application close**
March 15, 2027	Recommendation Due
March 30, 2027	Notification distributed to applicants
July 24 - August 3, 2027	**YOLA National Festival**

APPLICATION STEPS AND CHECKLISTS

Review the responsibilities for musicians, parents/guardians, and program leader's / teaching artists. Each has different contributions to this application process.

Students:

1. Create a username and password to access the submission system (https://app.getacceptd.com/login#/laphil.com/ynf). You will be able to save your application if you do not complete it all at once.
2. Review the Personal Statement & Musical Audition Requirements on the application
3. Download the Audition Repertoire from your active application (first page). Practice, practice, practice!
4. Record your Musical Audition videos. You will be asked to submit the video files in the online application system. Videos recorded on mobile devices are perfectly acceptable. A reminder to introduce the part of the application performed in that video.
5. Record your Personal Statement video. You will be asked to submit the video or written file in the online application system. Videos recorded on mobile devices are perfectly acceptable.
6. Upload a clear, high resolution, photo of yourself. Make this headshot as professional as you possibly can!
7. Submit your recommendation request to your Program Director or Teaching Artist on the online application system. Be sure to talk to your recommenders in person!
8. Review and submit your online application and videos by March 8, 2027.

LA Phil
GUSTAVO DUDAMEL MUSIC & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

YOLA National

Parents/Guardians:

- Complete and submit a Parent Consent Form from your musicians application and upload it into the Acceptd platform through your students' account no later than March 8, 2027
- Confirm that your musician has completed the above instructions.

Program Directors/Teaching Artists Providing Recommendations:

- Applicants will be prompted to submit an email address for their program director or primary teaching artist on the online application system. You will receive an email with instructions on how to submit your recommendation (due March 15, 2027)

SUBMISSION MATERIALS

Required for all musicians

1. Personal Statement Video

In a single, unedited video, please record yourself answering one of the three personal statement questions below in 90 seconds or less. Please begin your video by stating which question number you are answering. If you applied last year, do not reuse your video. Answer specifically and express your unique perspective.

1. How have you used, or how do you believe you can use, your musical experience to shape the world around you? Give us a specific example of this and explain how it has or could affect the people who surround you.
2. What are some of the skills, lessons, and values you've learned from studying music that will help you be successful in the life you envision?
3. Pick a song or piece that is meaningful to you. Explain why you connect with this song or piece and talk about any personal experiences or special moments connected to it. How has this song or piece influenced the way you think about music and life?

2. Personal Biography - Written

Please share a 200-word biography telling us about yourself and your personal history. This is your opportunity to introduce yourself in your own words and help us get to know you.

You're welcome to include anything that feels meaningful to who you are—such as your interests, inspirations, family, community, or experiences that have shaped your journey. We encourage you to share what motivates you, what you care about, and what makes you unique. Your response can include music, but it doesn't have to—we're excited to learn about you as a whole person.

YOLA National

3. Musical Audition

To access links for your audition excerpts, start an application on Acceptd. The links for your instrument will appear after applicants complete the first page.

Questions? Email YOLANationalTeam@laphil.org. Audition is required for all students.

Audition Scales & Music Excerpt Requirements*

In the final submission of scales and music excerpts, please introduce the scale/excerpt before performing. Each student should submit only one application.

Symphony Orchestra

Consisting of two required sections and two optional sections:

- Assigned scales
- Required music excerpts (2 total)
- OPTIONAL Auxiliary and Principal Audition Excerpt
    - Submit if the applicant would like to be considered for the Symphony Orchestra principal parts.
    - If a musician is 14 years old and chooses to apply for the Symphony Orchestra, but would like to be considered for the Overture Chamber Music Program, the Auxiliary and Principal Audition Excerpts is REQUIRED.
- OPTIONAL Solo of Choice
    - No longer than 3 minutes in length in an unedited video. A first or third movement from a concerto or sonata is recommended but not required. This should be unaccompanied.
    - Submit if the applicant would like to strengthen their application.

Overture Chamber Music Program

Consisting of required three sections:

- Assigned scales
- Required music excerpts (3 total)
- Solo of Choice
    - No longer than 3 minutes in length in an unedited video. A first or third movement from a concerto or sonata is recommended but not required. This should be unaccompanied.

**Applicants that submit videos that are edited to enhance sound or visual quality in any way will be subject to disqualification.*