

AYSO 2026

Open Call

AYSO Summer Academy *AYSO Young Soloist*

Artistic Director: Teresa Satalino

Deadline
30 March 2026

A vertical photograph on the left side of the page shows an orchestra performing in a grand, ornate hall. The musicians are seated on a stage, and the audience is visible in the foreground. The hall features large chandeliers and a balcony with spectators.

AYSO 2026

Call for Applications

OrchestrAcademy announces the selection process to participate in the artistic activities of AYSO 2026, a program offering talented young musicians the opportunity to experience high-level artistic and professional training within an international environment of excellence.

The call for applications is divided into two distinct and/or complementary paths, designed to enhance talent and offer each musician a rigorous, stimulating and artistically oriented environment for growth.

The two paths for 2026 are as follows:

1. AYSO Summer Academy

1-18 august

2. AYSO Young Soloist

various productions in the course of 2026



AYSO Summer Academy

1-18 august 2026

An international musical journey

The Summer Academy is designed for musicians who wish to test themselves against the discipline, responsibility and intensity of a major international orchestra, developing real professional skills in a demanding, stimulating and excellence-oriented environment.

The symphony orchestra will be composed of approximately **70 musicians** from different countries, selected to tackle a challenging repertoire and a wide-ranging artistic programme.

The entire course will take place from 1 to 18 August 2026.

Artistic residency in Bari

The first phase consists of an intensive residency in Bari, scheduled **from 1 to 12 August** 2026, with daily activities, section training, technical insights and lessons with **first-part coaches from national and international orchestras**, team building activities and orchestra rehearsals with Artistic Director Teresa Satalino.

This phase is accompanied by a **program dedicated to chamber music**, which allows participants to play in small ensembles and develop advanced chamber music skills.

Tour and concert at the *Young Euro Classic Festival in Berlin*

The second phase, from **13 to 18 August** 2026, is dedicated to the tour, which represents the culminating moment of the journey and leads the orchestra to Berlin **for the *Young Euro Classic Festival***, one of the most prestigious stages dedicated to youth orchestras in the world. The Festival is sponsored by an Artistic Committee that brings together leading figures on the international scene such as Daniel Barenboim, Iván Fischer, Gidon Kremer. The orchestra will perform at the **Konzerthaus in Berlin on August 16, 2026**.

An opportunity for continued growth (autumn–winter 2026)

The selected musicians will have the opportunity to take part in a second artistic residency in Bari, scheduled between autumn and winter 2026: an appointment reserved for a selected group of participants, who will work closely with prominent guests to deepen new repertoires and consolidate their skills.



AYSO Young Soloist

Productions 2026

A professional ensemble supported by the Ministry of Culture

AYSO Young Soloists is the program dedicated to young performers who wish to compete in high-level professional productions. The ensemble, with a staff ranging from quintet to chamber orchestra, is supported by the National Fund for Live Entertainment of the Ministry of Culture, a recognition that attests to its solidity and relevance on the national scene.

Required artistic profiles

The program is aimed at performers with a solid technical and musical background, with a clear artistic identity and able to face complex repertoires with maturity, autonomy and a sense of responsibility.

The selected musicians must be able to actively contribute to the definition of the sound, style and interpretative vision of the ensemble, working with professionalism within a high-level production context.

Mentoring with internationally renowned artists

The selected musicians will work closely with established artists on the international scene, in an advanced mentoring path that favors a direct comparison with professionals active on the main European stages.

A dialogue that refines technique, style and interpretative vision.

Productions with a regular employment contract

Each project involves a contract, guaranteeing a professional framework.

The productions are curated with high standards and represent a concrete opportunity to build a credible curriculum and acquire skills that can really be spent in the world of work.

A rich and flexible calendar

The activities will take place in the months of May, July, August, September, October and December 2026, with modular projects that allow musicians to reconcile the path with academic or professional commitments.

An opportunity not to be missed

AYSO Young Soloists is designed for those who want to work with reference artists, face real productions and build a solid and competitive professional profile. It's a rare opportunity to enter a professional circuit while still in training — and to do so with a clear identity, a meaningful repertoire, and a high-level network of contacts.

Participation rules

AYSO 2026 Requirements and Registration Procedures

1. Recipients

Musicians aged between 18 and 28 (**born between 1998 and 2008**), **Italian citizens or residents of a Member State of the European Union or non-EU citizens with a regular residence permit** can participate in the selections.

Any exceptions for underage candidates of particular merit or for specific staffing needs may be evaluated at the discretion of the Artistic Committee.

2. Permitted instruments

Selections are open for the following instruments:

Strings: violin, viola, cello, double bass

Woodwinds: flute, piccolo, oboe, English horn, clarinet, piccolo clarinet, bass clarinet, bassoon, contrabassoon

Brass: horn, trumpet, cornet, tenor trombone, bass trombone, tuba

Percussion, piano, harp.

Auditions are also open to **saxophones** (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone) for the constitution of a chamber ensemble.

For AYSO Young Soloist the choice of instruments is subject to the choice of repertoire and programming.

3. How to apply

All applicants can apply in one of the following ways:

- only for *AYSO Summer Academy*
- solo per *AYSO Young Soloists*
- for both routes

Applying to both programs is considered a reward element at the application stage. Saxophonists will only be able to apply for AYSO Young Soloists.

4. How to register

Registration takes place no later than **March 30** exclusively through the following form: <https://forms.gle/kfBqhCPyHFBbNEUU8>

Required documents (in PDF format):

- Valid identity document
- Updated artistic curriculum
- Certificate of payment of the registration fee
- Link to the video

5. Selection procedure and outcomes

The selection procedure will take place online only.

There are no face-to-face hearings. The evaluation will take place in two phases.

Step 1 – Evaluation of the videos and curriculum

The Artistic Committee examines the material sent by the candidates, with particular attention to:

- Audition video, examined for technical and musical quality and consistency with the requirements.
- Artistic curriculum, with reference to relevant training, experience and skills.
- Any additional elements useful for the overall evaluation of the profile.

Step 2 – Online interview

Candidates deemed suitable in the first phase will be invited for an online interview via videoconference, aimed at evaluating:

- Motivation and awareness of the path.
- Availability for the activities envisaged by the project.
- Aptitude for ensemble work and collaboration in professional contexts.
- The interview is an integral part of the selection.

Communication of results

The final results will be communicated by e-mail by April 20, 2026.

There are no public rankings, nor will individual feedback or reasons for the Commission's decisions be provided.

The participants in the selections, by the mere fact of competing, expressly recognize the faculties and powers of the Examining Committees, whose decisions are final.

6. Video requirements

The video will need to be uploaded to YouTube or Vimeo with the setting "public" or "unlisted".

Registration must comply with the following criteria:

- Made in a single take, without cutting or audio/video editing (percussionists are exempt from recording in a single take)
- Made no later than 3 months before the date of enrolment
- With musician and instrument always clearly visible

Required video content

- Free choice piece from solo or concert repertoire (max 5 minutes)
- 4 orchestral excerpts (2 Required and 2 to be chosen) from the list published at this link: <https://bit.ly/4cm7gCn>

For percussionists they will have to record all the orchestral excerpts inserted in their folder and on the following instruments: timpani, bass drum, drum, basque tambourine, cymbals and xylophone.

Saxophonists will record only the song of their choice.

7. Registration fee

To participate in the selections there is a registration fee of € 40 to be paid by bank transfer to:

OrchestrAcademy Association
IBAN: IT14F0542441570000001008006
Reason: "Contribution to the Association"

Payment must be made before sending the application.

The certificate of the transfer must be uploaded in the Online Form in PDF format.

For those who will participate in the selections for both Summer Academy and AYSO Young Soloist, the registration fee will have to be paid only once.

The tuition fee is not payable by applicants who, in the last three years, have attended at least 80% of AYSO activities.

The exemption is applied after verification by the organizing secretariat.

8. Coverage and facilities

For the activities that take place in Bari, the organization provides dedicated accommodation facilities. The methods of assignment and any total or partial coverage will be communicated to the selected musicians based on availability and organizational needs.

AYSO guarantees travel, food and accommodation coverage for the entire duration of the tours.

Musicians selected for Young Soloists productions receive a regular employment contract, with compensation defined according to the project, the duration of the activities and the staff involved.

AYSO provides for the possibility of activating scholarships for merit or proven economic need. The assignment will take place on the basis of the artistic evaluation, the documentation submitted and the available resources.

For informations

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Contacts

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Instagram: [aysorchestra](https://www.instagram.com/aysorchestra)

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