2024-2025 Season Audition Notice
ENSEMBLE/SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

AUDITION DATE: Monday, April 22, 2024
LOCATION: St. Paul’s Methodist Church
5501 Main St, Houston, TX 77004
DEADLINE TO APPLY: Thursday, April 18, 2024

APPLICANT MUST BE AUTHORIZED TO WORK IN THE UNITED STATES.

AUDITION REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS:

ALL INSTRUMENTS OTHER THAN STRINGS
Please perform one solo excerpt and three orchestral excerpts that are contrasting. Please provide two copies of your scores for your audition.

NOTE: We are a period-instrument orchestra, so you are required to audition and perform with Baroque and/or Classical period instruments. NO EXCEPTIONS.

STRINGS
Please prepare solo and orchestral excerpts as described below. You may audition on modern instruments; however, we primarily perform on period instruments at A=415 (Baroque) or A=430 (Classical).

All Strings - Solo Excerpt Requirements:
- Classical Concerto (exposition of first movement)
- A movement from any of the Bach Solo Sonatas or Partitas (violin/viola) or Suites (cello/bass)

Violin Orchestral Excerpt Requirements:
Bach: Orchestra Suite No. 3, Violin I – Overture, Bar 1 to 96, and Air (both without repeats)
Mozart: Symphony No. 39, Violin I – Movement 4, Exposition Only
Beethoven: Symphony No. 9, Violin 2 – Movement 2, Bar 9 to 84
- Symphony No. 9, Violin 1 - Movement 3, Bar 99 to 114

Viola Orchestral Excerpt Requirements:
Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 – Last movement, Bar 22 to end
Mozart: Symphony No. 35 – Movement 4, Bar 134 to 215
Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 – Movement 3, Bar 1 to 165
- Symphony No. 5 - Movement 2, Bar 1 to 10

Cello Orchestral Excerpt Requirements:
Bach: Orchestral Suite No. 2. – Overture, Bar 1 to 56 (skip empty bars), Badinerie (no repeats)
Mozart: Symphony No. 35 – Movement 4, Bar 134 to 215
Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 – Movement 3, Bar 1 to 165
- Symphony No. 5 – Movement 2, Bar 1 to 10
- Symphony No. 5 – Movement 3, Bar 1 to 100 and Trio (in entirety, no repeats)
Bass Orchestral Excerpt Requirements:
Bach: Orchestral Suite No. 2. – Overture, Bar 1 to 56 (skip empty bars), Badinerie (no repeats)
Handel: "Happy We" (from Acis and Galatea) – “A” section
Mozart: Symphony No. 35 – Movement 4, Bar 134 to 215
Beethoven: Symphony No. 5 – Movement 3, Bar 1 to 100 and Trio (in entirety, no repeats)

Mercury Chamber Orchestra is a professional chamber orchestra located in Houston, Texas. Now in its 22nd season, we present a Downtown Series and a Neighborhood Series in venues across the Houston metropolitan area and educational/outreach programming as well as collaborations, chamber music and touring opportunities. Mercury Chamber Orchestra is a per-service orchestra, with compensation at $63 per rehearsal hour and $189 per service for the 2024-2025 season, along with pension benefits at a rate of 11.99%. For more information, please visit our website at www.mercuryhouston.org

HOW TO APPLY
Please send:
• A one (1)-page resume including email and cell phone contact information (a cover letter is not necessary) to auditions@mercuryhouston.org.
• A $50 deposit check, payable to “Mercury” to Mercury Chamber Orchestra
  ATTN: Matthew Carrington
  3100 Timmons Ln Ste 201
  Houston, TX 77027

Deposit check: Please make payable to Mercury Chamber Orchestra. Checks will be held and returned when candidates arrive at the audition or will be destroyed if candidate withdraws before the withdrawal deadline (48 hours in advance).

Upon receipt of resume, you will be contacted to set-up an audition time. Auditions will be between 9 am and 2 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to request a video audition, please contact Matthew Carrington, Personnel Manager at matthew@mercuryhouston.org.

Highlights of Mercury Chamber Orchestra’s 24th Season (2024-2025)

BACH: St. John Passion, Orchestral Suite No. 1
MENDELSSOHN: Symphony No. 4
BOCCHERINI: La Casa del Diavolo, Cello Concerto in B-flat with Elinor Frey
C. SCHUMANN: Liebst du um Schönheit (arr.)
VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis
And more...