



GREAT BARRIER REEF ORCHESTRA

YOUTH ORCHESTRA

AUGUST 28 - 30

APPLICATION PACKAGE

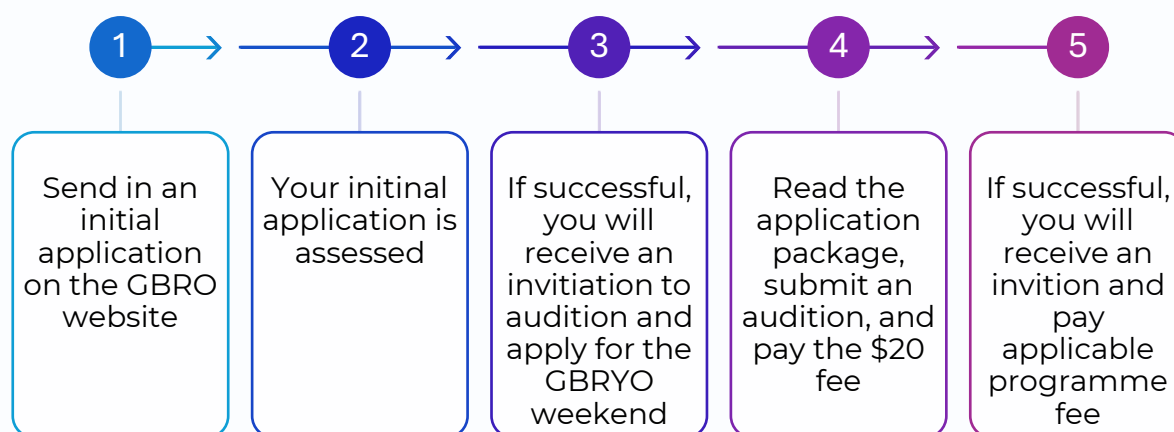
2026

Please ensure you read this application package
carefully before submitting your application

Thank you for your interest in applying for the Great Barrier Reef Youth Orchestra weekend!

Within this application package you will find everything you need to know about the weekend and how to apply.

Please ensure you read and re-read this entire application package before submitting your audition application. We aim to answer as many questions as possible in this package. There is a FAQ section at the end.



1. About the programme

The Great Barrier Reef Orchestra is planning to establish a Youth Orchestra as part of its long-term commitment to developing young orchestral musicians in North Queensland.

As the first step, GBRO will host a Youth Orchestra Trial Weekend in August 2026. The weekend will bring together young musicians from across the region to rehearse and perform challenging orchestral repertoire under the guidance of experienced conductors and tutors. It will also help determine the feasibility of establishing a permanent GBRO Youth Orchestra in 2027.

2. Who can participate and audition?

The programme is open to young musicians who are:

- 13-23 years of age
- AMEB grade 5 standard or higher
- Interested in developing their orchestral playing
- Players of orchestral instruments:
 - Flute
 - Oboe
 - Clarinet
 - Bassoon
 - Horn
 - Trombone
 - Trumpet
 - Trombone
 - Tuba
 - Percussion (auxiliary and timpani)
 - Violin (including concertmaster position)
 - Viola
 - Cello
 - Double bass

You do not need to be studying, working, or in high school to participate. We are particularly interested in hearing from young people studying at university who are looking for a place to continue playing their instrument.

3. What repertoire will we be playing?

We are planning to cover as much breadth and depth as possible in three short days, while ensuring we present a high-level performance worthy of the concert hall, without playing arrangements of any pieces.

Repertoire is yet to be fully confirmed, but may include:

Franz Schubert: Symphony No. 8 (the Unfinished)

Jean Sibelius: Finlandia

Antonin Dvorak: Symphony No. 8, movement 2

Edvard Grieg: Peer Gynt Suite, movement 1: Morning Mood, and movement 2: In the Hall of the Mountain King

4. Dates and location

The GBRYO weekend will take place at Pimlico State High School's Denise Glasgow Performing Arts Centre (DGPAC) from 6pm on Friday 28 August to 4:30pm on Sunday 30 August, with a concert at 3pm on Sunday 30 August.

5. Player commitment and schedule

The GBRYO weekend is a 100% attendance commitment, with participants unable to leave the venue during the day. The only exception to this 100% attendance commitment is for AMEB exams which are scheduled during this time or due to extenuating circumstances. When submitting your audition application, you must inform us of your AMEB exam if you have one, and you must agree to the 100% attendance commitment. If you are unable to commit to the 100% attendance due to reasons other than AMEB examinations on these dates, we may select other players for the orchestra.

Great Barrier Reef Youth Orchestra Weekend Schedule 2026

Friday	28/08/2026	18:00 – 21:30 requirement
17:30	Venue open	
18:00	Arrival & registration	Under 18 participants must be signed in
18:30 – 19:30	Rehearsal	
19:30 – 20:15	Dinner (provided)	
20:15 – 21:30	Rehearsal	
22:00	Venue closed	Under 18 participants must be signed out
Saturday	29/08/2026	08:30 – 18:00 requirement
08:15	Venue open	Under 18 participants must be signed in
09:00 – 10:30	Rehearsal	
11:00 – 13:00	Tutorials	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch (provided)	
14:00 – 15:00	Activities	
15:30 – 18:00	Rehearsal	
18:15	Venue closed	Under 18 participants must be signed out
Sunday	30/08/2026	08:30 – 12:00 & 14:00 – 16:30 requirement
08:30	Venue open	
9:00 – 12:00	Rehearsal	
12:15	Venue closed	All participants to leave DGPAAC. Under 18 participants must be signed out
13:50	Venue open	
14:00	Check-in for concert	
14:50	Musicians on stage	
15:00 – 16:00	Concert	
16:30	Venue closed	

6. Application dates and deadlines

21 July 2026	Initial applications open
23 July 2026	Audition applications open for invited applicants
08 August 2026	Applications due
After 08 August 2026	Late applications, if space available

7. Application and programme fee

To benefit you, the musicians, we have kept the fees as low as possible. There is no fee to send in an initial application that will be assessed. To audition, there will be a \$20 fee.

Schedule of fees

Audition fee (non-refundable, payable on application)	\$20
<u>Fees for successful participants, due by 15 August</u>	
Participation Fee	\$55
Late Participation Fee (paid after 15 August)	\$65

What is included in the programme fee?

- Participation in the GBRYO weekend
- Training and guidance from professional musicians
- Two meals provided
- Access to a high-quality performance space and instruments (where applicable)
- One year student membership to the Great Barrier Reef Orchestra organisation
- Opportunities to meet, become friends with, play music, and share stories with like-minded young musicians from across Townsville and the world.

8. Application and audition process

How do I apply?

Please follow the link sent to your email if your initial application has been assessed and approved. **You cannot submit a video audition without your initial application being approved.**

What do I submit in my video audition?

Please record the following in **one take**.

Scales:

1 major scale (articulated), 1 minor scale (legato), 1 arpeggio (legato)

Pieces:

A piece of your choosing that best reflects your strongest qualities as a player. If you are unsure of what to play, ask a friend, teacher, or family member. **Do not perform with piano accompaniment.**

Concertmaster audition:

If you would like to be considered for the concertmaster position, you are required to submit your video and two excerpts, which are available to download on the GBRYO page.

How do I record?

Please record in **landscape** and ensure that the video captures your instrument and hands. You can use a phone or tablet – the microphones in these devices are fine. Do not film straight on with a music stand blocking you/your instrument.

We need to see you playing. The acoustic/venue/dress code does not matter, so long as your video is an accurate representation of *you*.

Where do I submit?

Please upload your video to a video platform that allows us to view to video. We recommend YouTube or Dropbox. We do not need to download the video, but it must be made available to us until 30 August 2026. You will then submit the link with the audition application form.

Frequently asked questions:

Q. I have a friend's sleep over on Saturday afternoon, can I still attend?

A. This does not align with our 100% attendance commitment. You will be unable to attend the sleepover.

Q. I play the piano, can I audition?

A. Unfortunately, there will be no repertoire performed that includes piano. If you are interested in playing in an orchestra, mallet percussion is a great place to start as a pianist.

Q. What time do I have to arrive on Friday/Saturday/Sunday?

A. Please re-read the schedule.

Q. I submitted a video link in the initial application on the GBRO website, why have I not been accepted yet?

A. Please read the application package. You must submit an initial application to be assessed for suitability to submit an audition.

Q. Where do I submit my video audition/audition application?

A. All video auditions will be submitted through the link that will be sent to you once your initial application is assessed.

Q. I have an AMEB audition during this weekend can I still apply and attend?

A. Yes, it may be possible for you to still attend. If your initial application is accepted, you will need to provide your AMEB exam details in your audition application form.

For any other questions, please re-read the application package before contacting the Great Barrier Reef Orchestra.

Email: brotownsville@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nqorchestra/>

Website: <https://nqorchestra.com.au/>