


BE EMBRACED

WESTERN BALKANS YOUTH
ORCHESTRA SUMMER 2026

A photograph of the Western Balkans Youth Orchestra performing on stage. The conductor is in the center, facing the orchestra. The musicians are seated and playing various instruments, including violins and violas. The stage is lit with blue and white lights, and the background features a large screen displaying a pattern of white dots. The audience is visible in the foreground, some holding up their phones to record the performance.

WBYO
Western Balkans
Youth Orchestra

Playing the future

July 28 – September 14, 2026



Connecting the Balkans, the EU, and Beyond

An immersive, life-changing
orchestral and chamber music
experience. We connect young
professional musicians from the
Western Balkans and the
European Union to create
a unified musical voice.

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THE 2026 REPERTOIRE

Ludwig van Beethoven
Richard Wagner
Paul Dukas
George Enescu
Benjamin Britten
Ottorin Respighi

Egmont Overture, Op.84
Tannhäuser Overture
The Sorcerer's Apprentice
Romanian Rhapsody No.1
The Young Person's
Guide to the Orchestra
Pines of Rome



PROFESSIONAL GROWTH & MENTORSHIP

THE RESIDENCIES

Two intensive training periods:

- Shkodra, Albania (Project Start)
- Essen, Germany (Mid-Point)

THE EDUCATION

Masterclasses in orchestra playing with professional lecturers from Austria, Germany, Italy, North Macedonia, Scotland, and Serbia

THE GRAND TOUR BY THE NUMBERS

48

Days together with the **WBYO Family**

14

Symphonic Concerts

05

Chamber Music Concerts

10,200+
Total Audience Capacity



THE BALKAN ROUTE

JULY 29 - AUGUST 27



Shkodra, Albania
Residency: July 29 - Aug 13

Kotor, Montenegro
Cinema Square: Aug 15

Ohrid, North Macedonia
Roman Amphitheatre: Aug 17

Skopje, North Macedonia
Kursumli Ann: Aug 19

Prishtina, Kosovo
Concert: Aug 21

Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina
National Theatre: Aug 25

Novi Sad, Serbia
Synagogue: Aug 27

THE GERMAN FINALE

AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 14



Essen
Residency: Aug 28 - Sept 03

Aachen
City Theater: Sept 05

Aub
Freilichtbühne: Sept 09

Essen
VHS Concer Hall: Sept 11

Dortmund
Orchesterzentrum NRW:
Sept 11 (Chamber)

Essen
Philharmonie Essen: Sept 12

Oberhausen
Luise-Albertz-Halle: Sept 13



YOUR PROFILE

ORCHESTRA MEMBERS

- **Age: 16-27 (BY SEPT14, 2026)**
- **Education: High or advanced level of musical education**
- **Capacity: Up to 70 musicians**

CONCERT MASTER

- **Age: Up to 30 years old**
- **Requirements: Exceptional violinists demonstrating leadership, technical mastery, and musicality**

Open to musicians from the Western Balkans (WB6), the EU, and beyond.

FULLY FUNDED EXPERIENCE



Travel

**Expenses to/from
residencies covered**



Accommodation

**Hotel or Youth Centres
stays provided**



Meals

**Daily meal
allowances.**



Tuition

**Full Scholarship for
all masterclasses.**

HOW TO APPLY

Complete Online Application Form
CV with Musical Experience
Personal Statement
Photo (min Full Hd)
Video Link (Unlisted)

Selection Process:

Reviewed by WBYO lecturers and conductor.

Notification within 15 working days of deadline.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Format: One or more unlisted videolinks (Youtube/Vimeo/Drive)

Content Requirements:

- **Showcase your best technical performance.**
- **Orchestra excerpts selected from the WBYO 2026 concert program**

Technical Tip: Ensure high audio quality.
Clear visibility of hands and instrument



Orchestra Exerpts



Application Form



**WESTERN BALKANS
YOUTH ORCHESTRA
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MAKE 2026 YOUR YEAR

www.wbyo.org

Contact: management@wbyo.org