



GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION
PRINCIPAL CELLO / STRING QUARTET CELLO
National Search

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY & CASCADE QUARTET
WWW.GFSYMPHONY.ORG | WWW.CASCADEQUARTET.ORG

POSITION STARTS SEPTEMBER 1, 2025
PERMANENT POSITION AFTER 18 MONTH PROBATIONARY PERIOD

ANNUALIZED SALARY INFORMATION
\$24,600 - \$30,500+

- This position is .3 Full-Time Equivalent and requires residency in Great Falls, Montana and a prioritized commitment to the Great Falls Symphony.
- Candidate must be available to work for a minimum of 90 days between the months of September – May, and may be called for additional services between the months of June – August. The Principal Cellist is required to be present for least 33 GFSO services.
- The part-time nature of this position allows time for the candidate to pursue opportunities outside of the Great Falls Symphony at their discretion.
- As part of the Great Falls Symphony's Residency requirement, the candidate is expected to build and maintain a studio of local students. All income earned through the candidate's private studio work will belong to the candidate.

SERVICES DETAIL

	MIN	MAX*
Residency Stipend (\$850/Month)	\$ 10,200.00	\$ 10,200.00
Symphony Services (33-41)+	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 4,100.00
Outreach Services (14)+	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,400.00
Chamber Music Services (40-48)	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 8,400.00
Teaching/Coaching Services (6-28)+	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,400.00
Administrative Hours (110-250)+	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 5,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 24,600.00	\$ 30,500.00

**Additional performance, teaching, and administrative opportunities beyond the MAX may be available, and includes but is not limited to touring, solo performances, Youth Orchestra coaching, and committee work.*

New Extended Application Deadlines

Applications Due April 23rd, 2025

EMAIL COVER LETTER, RESUME, AND 3 REFERENCES TO:

auditions@gfsymphony.org

(PDF or Word)

Preliminary Video Round Will Take Place April 25-27, 2025

Final Round is in Great Falls, MT May 19-21, 2025

- Applicants who are chosen to participate in the final round May 19-21, 2025 will be notified no later than Friday May 2, 2025.
- No more than four (4) finalists will be invited to the live audition on May 19-21, 2025.
- Position open until filled.

See pages 2 & 3 for details.

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION
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RESPONSIBILITIES & EXPECTATIONS

GENERAL:

The ideal candidate embodies the Great Falls Symphony's mission to make Great Falls a better place through music. They must be a positive force for good both onstage and off, and they must be fully committed to serving the community through their work as a musician, a teacher, and a leader within the organization.

MASTER AGREEMENT:

Candidate shall adhere to the terms of the Great Falls Symphony's Musician Master Agreement.

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA:

Candidate shall serve as Principal Cello in the Great Falls Symphony. Annually, the orchestra presents six (6) subscription series concerts and three (3) Youth/Family Matinee concerts. The Principal Cello is required to be present for at least 33 GFSO services. Additional concerts may be presented in any given year.

CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES:

Candidate shall serve as Cellist in the Cascade Quartet, the resident string quartet of the Great Falls Symphony Association.

OUTREACH:

Candidate is expected to participate in education and outreach programs. This includes but is not limited to coaching Youth Orchestra students, outreach performances, and background music gigs.

ADDITIONAL DUTIES:

Candidate is expected to participate in education and outreach programs. This includes but is not limited to coaching Youth Orchestra students, outreach performances, and background music gigs. A portion of the musician's salary will come from certain administrative tasks performed throughout the season and paid by the hour. Such duties may include but are not limited to, committee meetings, chamber music library duties, Chamber Music Series production, writing program notes for Chamber Music Series, bowings, social media content editing and publication for GFSO social pages, poster distribution, PR work, A/V recording and editing, and other administrative duties as required and shared among the other Quartet members.

RESIDENCY:

Candidate is expected to reside in Great Falls, Montana and is expected to prioritize the work of the Great Falls Symphony over all other work opportunities.

PRIVATE STUDIO:

As part of the residency requirement, candidate must establish and maintain a private lesson studio of local students. Candidate is responsible for managing all aspects of their studio, and shall collect all revenue from their studio.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Master's Degree in Music Performance preferred
- Professional level orchestral, chamber music and private teaching experience preferred
- Strong communication and collaboration skills required

PRELIMINARY VIDEO ROUND RECORDING (April 25-27, 2025):

SOLO:

2-3-minute solo

ORCHESTRA:

3-5 excerpts will be chosen by the Great Falls Symphony's Audition Committee from the following list.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Strauss | Don Juan | Opening to letter D |
| • Mozart | Symphony No. 35 | Mvt IV, beginning - mm. 37 |
| • Beethoven | Symphony No. 5 | Mvt III, pick-up to mm. 141-218 |
| • Elgar | Enigma Variations | Var. XII |
| • Mendelssohn | Midsummer Night's Dream | Scherzo, C to D |

VIDEO RECORDING:

- Applicants will be expected to prepare one (1) 2-3-minute solo of choice and three (3-5) excerpts chosen by the Great Falls Symphony's Audition Committee from the list above.
- On Friday, April 25th, applicants will be emailed a specific excerpt list along with a musical submission key and instructions for filming.
- Applicants will have until Sunday, April 27th at 11:59PM (Mountain Time) to submit a single-take video of the entire repertoire list with no cuts or splices.
- The video must not include any talking, and must begin with the musical submission key to prove that the recording was made during this window of time. The submission key will consist of a short sequence of notes to be played by the applicant. The key will be sent along with the list of 3-5 excerpts required for the video.
- Reasonable time between excerpts is allowed in order to allow applicant the opportunity to drink water or to pause for other reasons, but the applicant must not leave the camera's field of view.
- Accompanied solos should be performed *without* accompaniment.

AUDIO/VIDEO QUALITY:

There are no specific requirements for applicant's audio or video quality, but it is in the applicant's best interest to submit the highest quality video available to them. Videos of sufficiently poor quality or where there is question of authenticity or identity may be disqualified by the Audition Committee.

SUBMITTING VIDEO:

Videos shall be submitted to auditions@gfsymphony.org via a Dropbox link OR a YouTube link. If submitting a file by Dropbox, the file name must include the applicant's name as well as the composer and title of the chosen solo (e.g.: "First Last - Composer, Title"). If submitting by YouTube, that same information should be the video title. Please note that YouTube videos must be unlisted with all comments and ratings options disabled. Any recordings that do not follow the above criteria will not be considered for the final round/live audition.

FINAL AUDITION IN GREAT FALLS, MONTANA (May 19-21, 2025):

CHAMBER MUSIC:

Candidates advancing to the final audition in Great Falls, Montana will rehearse and perform selections of string quartet repertoire with members of the Cascade Quartet.

Semi Final Round:

- Mendelssohn String Quartet in A Minor, Op. 13, Mvt II
- Beethoven String Quartet in A Major, Op. 18, Mvt IV

Final Round:

- Brahms String Quartet in C Minor, Op. 51, Mvt II
- Haydn String Quartet in G Major, Op. 77, Mvt IV
- Hovhannes String Quartet No. 3 Op. 208, No. 1, Mvt I

INSTRUMENT DEMO:

Candidates will present a 5-minute instrument demonstration appropriate for 4th graders.

INTERVIEW:

Candidates will have an interview with the Audition Committee.

Winning candidate must be authorized to work in the United States.

Winning candidate must reside in Great Falls, Montana.

Winning candidate must pass a criminal background check.

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY

2025 Principal Cello Audition Orchestra Excerpts · Preliminary Round

STRAUSS

Don Juan, Op. 20: Opening to Letter D (1 of 2)

Allegro, molto con brio

The musical score is written for a cello in a key of D major (two sharps) and a 2/4 time signature. It begins with a dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo). The first system features a melodic line with triplets and sixteenth-note patterns, and a bass line with a similar rhythmic texture. The second system includes a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking and continues the melodic and bass lines. The third system shows a transition to *arco* (arco) playing with a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic, featuring sixteenth-note patterns. The fourth system returns to *pizz.* and *arco* markings, with a *ff* dynamic and triplet markings. The fifth system continues with *ff* dynamics and triplet markings. The sixth system features a *fff* (fortississimo) dynamic and triplet markings. The seventh system includes a section labeled 'B' with *ff* dynamics and triplet markings. The eighth system concludes with a *p* (piano) dynamic, a *tranquillo* tempo change, and the instruction *sul ponticello* (sul ponticello), with a *pp subito* (pianissimo subito) dynamic marking.

STRAUSS

Don Juan, Op. 20: Opening to Letter D (2 of 2)

molto Vivo

f *p* *espr.* *p* *cresc.* *rapidamente* *ff* *sfz* *tranquillo* *ppp* *tranquillo* *ppp* ...

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY

2025 Principal Cello Audition Orchestra Excerpts · Preliminary Round

MOZART

Symphony No. 35: Mvt. IV, beginning – mm. 37

Presto

FINALE

The musical score is written for a cello in bass clef, G major, and common time. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The second staff starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The third staff starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The fourth staff starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The fifth staff starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The sixth staff starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic, followed by a section marked piano (*p*) and fortissimo (*fp*). The final section of the sixth staff is crossed out with a large X.

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY

2025 Principal Cello Audition Orchestra Excerpts · Preliminary Round

BEETHOVEN

Symphony No. 5: Mvt III, pick-up to mm. 141 – 218

137 unis. *p* *f*

147

158 1. 2. *f*

166

175 1 2 3 4 5 6

188 Vcllo Cb. **B** *f* *f*

198 unis. *dimin.* *p*

207 *sempre più p* 8

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY

2025 Principal Cello Audition Orchestra Excerpts · Preliminary Round

ELGAR

Enigma Variations, Var. XII

52 *Andante. ad lib.*
SOLO. *P* *molto espress.*
TUTTI. *pp* *largamente espress.*

cresc. f *dim.*

53 *cresc.* *f* *dim.* *p cantabile*

cresc. *ff* *dim.* *p* *dim.*

54 *pp* *cresc.*

sul A. - *largamente* *mf* *cresc.* *ff* *sf* *dim. molto*

SOLO. *P* *rit.* *pp* *pp* *dim.* *PPP*
TUTTI. *P* *pp* *lunga.* *rit.* *attacca.*

* This bar should be omitted except when Var. XII is played separately.

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY

2025 Principal Cello Audition Orchestra Excerpts · Preliminary Round

MENDELSSOHN

Midsummer Night's Dream, Scherzo: C to D

The musical score is written for a cello in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of four systems of music. The first system includes dynamic markings such as *sf*, *p*, *pizz.*, and *arco*, and features a large 'X' over the first few measures. The second and third systems continue the rhythmic patterns. The fourth system includes dynamic markings like *p*, *arco*, and *cresc.*, and contains a measure with the number '21' written inside.