



Announces auditions for the following positions on **May 4 & 5, 2026:**

PRINCIPAL BASSOON (approx. 80 services)

SECOND BASSOON (approx. 78 services)

THIRD BASSOON/CONTRABASSOON (approx. 45 services)

These are permanent, tenure track, per-service positions beginning during the 2026-2027 season with the employment start date being mutually agreed upon based on the availability of the winning candidate. The 2026-2027 section rates are \$107.02 per rehearsal and \$127.85 per performance and principal rates are \$127.46 per rehearsal and \$154.09 per performance. If travelling from outside of Pulaski County, contracted ASO musicians are provided accommodation (typically at the DoubleTree Hotel next door to Robinson Performance Hall), in addition to a mileage/travel reimbursement of \$0.26/mile up to \$300 per concert week.

The Arkansas Symphony aims to cultivate a thriving network that enables professional musicians to call Arkansas home and seeks highly qualified musicians who will deepen the connection with our community through music.

Auditions will take place on **Monday, May 4, 2026 and Tuesday, May 5, 2026** at the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra's new facilities in the Stella Boyle Smith Music Center located in Little Rock, Arkansas.

To apply:

- Please email a **one page résumé** as a PDF file to auditions@ArkansasSymphony.org and list your instrument in the subject line.
- Audition excerpts, a confirmation form, and additional audition information will be provided by email following receipt of the applicant's résumé. Information will not be given by phone.
- Completed confirmation forms and deposit checks must be received by **Friday, April 24, 2026** to be guaranteed an audition time.

In the event an internal candidate wins a position, the audition committee and/or Music Director reserve the right to offer the subsequently open position to another audition candidate. Winning candidates may be offered additional performance, teaching, and employment opportunities by other local organizations based on expertise, experience, and interest. The ASO is committed to leveraging its organizational partnerships and educational initiatives to ensure that fine orchestral musicians can thrive as performing artists. Winning candidates must obtain and provide the necessary clearance papers (proof of U.S. citizenship, permission to work as an alien, etc.) prior to the starting date of employment.

ARKANSAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The ASO is the state's premier professional orchestra and a thriving organization bucking national trends with conspicuous artistic growth, record attendance, financial stability, community engagement, and a tradition of artistic excellence. A major renovation to the ASO's primary performing space, the historic Robinson Music Center, was completed in 2017. In 2024, the ASO opened their new facilities located at the Stella Boyle Smith Music Center. A radically welcoming hub of musical activity for all Arkansans, the Music Center houses a rehearsal/recital hall, teaching spaces, a recording/streaming studio, and offices. ASO's 2026-2027 season includes a subscription series highlighted by Bartok's Concerto for Orchestra and Stravinsky's Rite of Spring. In addition to its Masterworks and Pops series, the ASO performs to audiences in diverse locations with its popular River Rhapsody Chamber Music Series at the Stella Boyle Smith Music Center, Education and Community Engagement programs for children and families, and myriad programs and performances of all types throughout the state of Arkansas. The ASO also has three youth orchestras, a community orchestra, and is involved in multiple music education partnerships and collaborations throughout Arkansas.

LITTLE ROCK, AR

Greater metropolitan Little Rock is a community of over 700,000 known for high quality of life, low cost of living, a vibrant arts scene, excellent education and healthcare, and an aspirational posture toward economic and cultural growth. It is currently ranked in the top ten of US cities in separate rankings of Happiness, Cleanliness, and Value. The Brookings Institute placed Little Rock in the top twenty "Strongest Metro Areas in the Country" and Forbes listed it in its "15 Best Cities for Young Adults." Kiplinger named Little Rock No. 1 on its 2013 list of "10 Great Places to Live."