

Orchestre Métropolitain’s Orchestral Conducting Academy

Call for Applications

Deadline to submit an application: April 15, 2026

Program duration: September 2026 to June 2028

[Online registration form](#)

Background

The Orchestre Métropolitain and its Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin are pleased to announce their call for new applicants to take part in the **OM’s Orchestral Conducting Academy**, a mentorship program for emerging orchestral conductors. The applicants chosen through the selection process will be invited to join this two-year program (from September 2026 to June 2028). The Academy aims to provide substantial experience of the symphonic milieu and to promote the career development of young conductors.

Eligibility criteria

The call for applications is open to orchestral conductors who meet the following criteria:

- Are between 18 and 35 years of age*;
- Are at an early stage in their career and identify as part of the new musical generation;
- Are residing in Canada from September 2026 through June 2028;
- Are registered in a conducting program (or equivalent) in an institution of higher learning OR have recently completed the requirements for such program;
- Show commitment and dedication to a professional career in orchestral conducting, more specifically in symphonic music;
- Are available to take part in all the program’s activities (see “Preliminary Calendar” section).

The OM invites and encourages conductors of diverse cultural backgrounds to apply.

*Applicants who are over 35 but who meet all other criteria, which includes being at the start of their career, may still submit their applications while detailing in their letter of intent the reasons they identify as an artist of the new generation.

Program description

The selected applicants will join the Academy's current cohort and benefit from a unique mentorship experience under the guidance of Yannick Nézet-Séguin. They will assist in OM rehearsals and concerts conducted by him throughout the 2026–2027 and 2027–2028 seasons. They will also be assigned assistantships to guest conductors in their second year in the program. Throughout their internship, for training purposes they will also benefit from ongoing exchanges with the Orchestre Métropolitain's administrative team and musicians and receive guidance in their contributions to the OM's educational and artistic activities. The OM is also pleased to collaborate with the Atelier lyrique de l'Opéra de Montréal, offering Academy participants additional training opportunities in the opera world.

Preliminary calendar (subject to change)

2026-2027 SEASON

Program 1 — September 19 and 20, 2026

Program 2 — October 30 to November 1st, 2026

Program 3 — December 17 to 19, 2026

Program 4 — January 25 to 28, 2027

Program 5 — April 19 to 22, 2027

Program 5 — June 13 to 15, 2027

2027-2028 SEASON

The 2027–2028 calendar will be communicated to the selected applicants in the winter of 2027.

Repertoire

The orchestra's repertoire will be shared with the selected applicants.

Conditions

Financial assistance of up to \$6000 will be granted to successful applicants who must travel to Montreal for Academy activities, to help cover their transportation and accommodation costs. Honoraria will be paid to participants for their engagements as assistants in the second year of the program.

Please note: The Orchestra's and the Academy's activities take place primarily **in French**.

Submitting your application

Applicants are invited to submit their application package by **April 15, 2026**. Submitted application packages must include the following:

- A completed registration form;
- A curriculum vitae.
- A biography (maximum 300 words);
- Between one and three video recordings of performances with orchestra, filmed after September 1, 2024, of a maximum total duration of 15 minutes;
- A letter of intent detailing the applicant's reasons for wanting to take part in the program and the impact it will have on their career development.

Applications will not be accepted after the submission deadline.

[Fill out the online registration form.](#)

Agreement

By submitting their application, applicants agree to be available and to participate actively in the program if they are selected. They also understand that their name and image may be made public as part of OM communications surrounding this initiative.

Important dates

Deadline to submit an application: April 15, 2026

Announcement of selected applicants: June 2026

OM's Orchestral Conducting Academy participation period: September 2026 to June 2028

Contact

If you have any questions, please contact:

Zofia Szynsiak

Administrative Artistic Coordinator

514 598-0870, ext.48

zszynsiak@orchestremetropolitain.com