



2019 Youth Brass Ensemble Program Policies & Procedures

The **Vanguard Music and Performing Arts Youth Brass Ensemble (VMAPA-YBE)** is a premiere performing arts ensemble aimed at giving participants the opportunity to perform unique repertoire and arrangements of various genres of music at the highest level possible. **YBE** specializes in music composed for brass instruments (**Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Bass Trombone, Baritone, Euphonium, and Tuba**), and is open to anyone of the age of 13-21 by audition. Participants will attend master classes from professionals throughout the season, continue to develop their individual and ensemble musicianship, and perform a variety of music.

AUDITION INFORMATION:

Membership in the VMAPA Youth Brass Ensemble is offered by audition and/or invitation only. Each year, new applicants AND returning members must pass the audition to be enrolled. Applicants age 13-21 are eligible to apply, but exceptions to this age range may be made at the discretion of the VMAPA Community Arts staff.

To audition, please fill out an online application here: <https://goo.gl/forms/9831OY2aQs2ChPkG2>

After you complete the online application you will receive a confirmation email from the VMAPA Community Arts Manager. If you do not receive an email confirmation within 48 hours of your application, please email Ben Nadler at bnadler@scvanguard.org.

A \$20 non-refundable registration/audition fee is required for all new and returning members. This fee must be paid **NO LATER THAN** the date of the audition. Online payment (credit, debit, Paypal) is available leading up to the audition date, and cash or check payments are accepted on the day of the audition. Please make all checks out to VMAPA, and we ask that you include "[MUSICIAN'S NAME] YPE REGISTRATION FEE" in the memo section.

Applicants will be notified of their audition date and time approximately one week prior to the audition.

Missed auditions will not be rescheduled.

AUDITION PROCESS:

- Applicants should arrive at least 20 minutes before their scheduled audition time to check-in with our staff.
- We ask that everyone bring their own instrument and copy of the audition materials. A warm up room and a music stand will be provided.
- Applicants will be led from the warm-up room to the audition room to perform before one or more of our staff. The audition will take no more than 15 minutes.

2019 YBE Audition Requirements:

- **Prepared Piece/Scales:** Please prepare both the lyrical and technical excerpts provided. Omission of one or the other is optional but not recommended. You will be asked to perform 3 out of the 4 scales.
- **Sight-reading:** Applicants will be expected to sight-read and accurately demonstrate recognition of key/time signatures, rhythm, and accidentals.
- **Interview:** The applicant will be asked about their musical experience and goals within the performing arts.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT:

Those offered membership in the VMAPA-YBE are required to attend rehearsals regularly. Members may miss NO MORE THAN 3 rehearsals per season due to illness, emergency, or special circumstances (that must be pre-arranged with their director). Notice of absence must be made by the **Absence Request Form** and submitted to Dr. Rivera **3 weeks in advance** of the absence.

More than three unexcused absences per season will result in disciplinary action and may endanger the musicians' membership with the VMAPA Youth Brass Ensemble. Absence from a concert or dress rehearsal may result in dismissal or a fee for the full cost of hiring a professional replacement, which can run upwards of \$450. Parent/guardians are encouraged to contact VMAPA-YBE to discuss issues concerning their student's absences.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The membership tuition will be \$125 for the ensemble season. **This does not include your audition fee.**

Rehearsals will be held every Sunday beginning in January and ending in May at the Santa Clara Vanguard Hall (1795 Space Park Drive, Santa Clara, CA 95054). Doors will open at 5:00 PM with rehearsals starting at 5:30 PM and ending at 7:30pm. Calendar will be provided separately.

Musicians are required to bring their own instrument, mutes and other accessories, sheet music, music folder (provided), and a pencil to each rehearsal. Prior to every rehearsal, a schedule will be provided of what specific sections will be rehearsed, so you are prepared.

Our program is a supplement rather than a substitute to school music programs. ***We expect our members to participate in their school music program.*** With that being said, musicians are also expected to practice and come prepared to every rehearsal. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of rehearsal to warm-up and get situated. Late arrivals may be asked to sit out until the start of the next piece to avoid disrupting rehearsal. No food or drinks (except bottled water) are allowed in ANY of the rehearsal rooms. Musicians will not do homework, talk/disrupt rehearsal, or leave the rehearsal site during rehearsal hours.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Rivera by email at trivera@scvanguard.org. In case of an emergency, you can contact Dr. Rivera by phone – (407) 375.4192.