



verbierfestival
academy & orchestras

VERBIER FESTIVAL ACADEMY & ORCHESTRA TRAINING 2026

SUMMARY OF APPLICANTS AND SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES

17 March 2026

ALL ACADEMY AND ORCHESTRA TRAINING PROGRAMMES

APPLICANTS

Total 2,425 applications representing 2,493 musicians
Highest number of applications on record

NATIONALITY OF APPLICANTS

81 countries represented

Top 10 countries represented

USA	442
FRA	198
ESP	198
KOR	192
CHN	183
ITA	124
CHE	104
DEU	104
CAN	87
TWN	75

STUDENTS INVITED

Total	227
Accepted from Juried Selection	134
of which 3 responses to invitations pending	
of which 5 are alumni of an Academy or Orchestra Training Programme	
Re-invited to an Orchestra Training programme	77

verbierfestival

GENDER IDENTIFICATION OF INVITED STUDENTS

Male	128
Female	94
Non-Binary	1
Unknown	2

AGE

Youngest	13
Oldest	35
Average	22

NATIONALITIES

43 countries represented

AUS	1	HKG	1	ROU	1
AUT	10	ISR	3	RUS	6
BEL	2	ITA	11	SRB	2
CAN	7	JPN	3	SVN	3
CHE	11	KOR	19	SWE	1
CHN	12	LVA	1	TUR	2
COL	1	MDA	1	TWN	2
CZE	1	MLT	1	UKR	2
DEU	7	MYS	1	USA	41
EGY	1	NLD	1	UZB	1
ESP	16	NOR	2	VEN	1
FRA	21	NLD	2	Unknown	3
GBR	10	NZL	1		
GEO	1	POL	7		

Top 10 countries represented

USA	41	CHE	11
FRA	21	ITA	11
KOR	19	AUT	10
ESP	15	GBR	10
CHN	12	PRT	8

SCHOOLS

Top 10 schools represented

1. The Juilliard School	10
2. Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris	9
3. Haute école de Musique de Genève-Neuchâtel	7
4. Hochschule für Musik und Theater München	6
5. Rice University Shepherd School of Music	6
6. Curtis Institute of Music	6
7. Hochschule für Musik Hanss Eisler Berlin	6
8. Escuela Superior de Musica Reina Sofia	6
9. New England Conservatory	5
10. Universität der Künste Berlin	5

ACADEMY

SOLOISTS & ENSEMBLES

APPLICANTS

Soloists ages 16 to 26	379
Junior Soloists ages 13 to 15	47
Ensembles avg age < 30	27 representing 95 musicians
Total	453 applications representing 521 musicians

STUDENTS INVITED

Total	44
of which 2 are Junior Soloists aged 14	
of which 1 is an 'Artist of Promise' aged 13	
of which 1 is a Verbier Festival Junior Orchestra alumnus	
of which 5 are Verbier Festival Academy alumni	

MUSICIANS PER PROGRAMME

Piano	8
Violin	8
Viola	6
Cello	7
String Quartet (1)	4
String Ensemble (1)	11

GENDER IDENTIFICATION

Male	26
Female	18

AGE

Youngest	13
Oldest	29
Average	22

NATIONALITIES

20 countries represented

AUS	1	HKG	1
AUT	9	ISR	1
BEL	1	ITA	2
CHE	3	KOR	3
CHN	3	POL	1
CZE	1	RUS	1
DEU	1	ESP	2
EGY	1	SWE	1
FRA	1	UKR	1
GBR	3	USA	7

SCHOOLS

verbierfestival

Top schools represented

1.	Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofia	5
2.	The Juilliard School	3
3.	Hochschule für Musik und Theater München	3
4.	Hochschule für Musik Basel FHNW	2
5.	Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler Berlin	2
6.	Yale School of Music	2

ATELIER LYRIQUE

APPLICANTS

Total 160

STUDENTS INVITED

Total 15
of which 1 is a Verbier Festival Academy alumnus
1 invitation pending

SINGERS BY VOICE

Soprano	7
Mezzo-soprano	1
Tenor	2
Baritone	3
Bass	1
Unknown	1

GENDER IDENTIFICATION

Male	6
Female	8
Unknown	1

AGE

Youngest	22
Oldest	32
Average	27

NATIONALITIES

10 countries represented

CHN	2	LVA	1
FRA	2	POL	1
GBR	3	RUS	1
GEO	1	USA	1
KOR	1	UZB	1

SCHOOLS

Top schools represented

Royal College of Music, London	3
Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London	2

CREATIVE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT RESIDENCY

APPLICANTS

Total 18

STUDENTS INVITED

Total 1

GENDER IDENTIFICATION

Female 1

AGE

23

NATIONALITIES

ESP 1

SCHOOL

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

AUDIO RECORDING

APPLICANTS

Total 13

STUDENTS INVITED

Total 4

GENDER IDENTIFICATION

Male 2

Female 2

AGE

Youngest 25

Oldest 29

Average 26.5

NATIONALITIES

CAN 1

DEU 2

POL 1

SCHOOLS

Erich-Thienhaus Institut (Hochschule für Musik Detmold) 2

McGill University 1

Conservatorium van Amsterdam 1

ORCHESTRAS

VERBIER FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA (VFO)

APPLICANTS

Total 1,360

ages 18 to 28 may apply

17% increase over applications submitted in 2025

STUDENTS INVITED

Total 99

New to Programme 49

Re-invited 50

Students are eligible to take part in VFO up to 3 times

GENDER IDENTIFICATION

Male 57

Female 41

Non-Binary 1

AGE

Youngest 18

Oldest 28

Average 24

NATIONALITIES

26 countries represented

AUT	1	KOR	11
BEL	1	NLD	1
CAN	3	NZL	1
CHE	2	POL	2
CHN	5	PRT	7
COL	1	RUS	4
DEU	3	SRB	2
ESP	4	SVN	1
FRA	10	TUR	1
GBR	1	TWN	2
ISR	2	UKR	1
ITA	7	USA	23
JPN	2	VEN	1

Top 5 countries represented

USA	23
KOR	11
FRA	10
ITA	7
PRT	7

2 Swiss musicians will take part in the VFO,
both from the Canton of Vaud

verbierfestival

SCHOOLS

Top 5 schools represented

1.	The Juilliard School	6
2.	Rice University Shepherd School of Music	6
3.	Haute école de Musique de Genève-Neuchâtel	5
4.	Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris	5
5.	Universität der Künste Berlin	5

VERBIER FESTIVAL JUNIOR ORCHESTRA (VFJO)

APPLICANTS

Total 176

ages 15 to 18 may apply

50% increase over applications submitted in 2025

STUDENTS INVITED

Total 60

New to Programme 34

Including acceptance to 2 invitations pending

Re-invited 26

Students are eligible to take part in VFJO up to 3 times

GENDER IDENTIFICATION

Male 35

Female 23

Unknown 2

AGE

Youngest 15

Oldest 18

Average 17

NATIONALITIES

21 countries represented

CAN	2	MLT	1
CHE	7	MYS	1
CHN	2	NOR	2
DEU	1	POL	1
ESP	9	PRT	1
FRA	8	ROU	1
GBR	3	SVN	2
ITA	2	TUR	1
JPN	1	USA	9
KOR	4	Unknown	1
MDA	1		

verbierfestival

Top 4 countries represented

ESP	9
USA	9
FRA	8
CHE*	7

* all Swiss students are from Swiss Romandie; cantons of Geneva, Fribourg, Vaud and Valais

SCHOOLS

Top 5 schools represented

1. Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional de Paris	4
2. Conservatoire de Lausanne	3
3. Conservatoire populaire de Genève	2
4. Curtis Institute of Music	2
5. Escuela Superior de Musica Reina Sofia	2

CONDUCTING MENTORSHIP

APPLICANTS

Total 176

94% increase over applications submitted in 2025

STUDENTS INVITED

Total	4
New to Programme	3
Re-invited after juried process	1

Conducting Fellows are eligible to take part in the programme twice

AGE

Youngest	25
Oldest	35
Average	30

GENDER IDENTIFICATION

Male	2
Female	1
Unknown	1

NATIONALITIES

CAN	1
POL	1
USA	1
Unknown	1

SCHOOLS

Eastman School of Music	1
The Colburn School	1
New England Conservatory	1
Unknown	1