



# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS ONJ YOUTH ORCHESTRA

**Season 6: 2024- 2025**  
**Musical direction Sophia Domancich**  
**Didier Levallet's repertoire**

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ORCHESTRE NATIONAL DE JAZZ



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**The Orchestre National de Jazz launches the new season of the ONJ Youth Orchestra, a program for European students who want to get involved in an orchestra project.**

*Project manager: Marianne Clair.*

## ▪ LIKELY CANDIDATES

**Students from French and European higher education centers of artistic education.**

**Students in either a specialist-curriculum or preparatory class for higher education at a conservatory or music academy.**

## ▪ AIMS

The ONJ Youth Orchestra is a unique project created in 2018, which allows students to play with other musicians from different regions of France and Europe, to meet artists and composers from the French and European jazz scene and to learn to work in an orchestra.

This ensemble is dedicated to the reinterpretation of the repertoires of the French Orchestre National de Jazz since its creation (1986), with the ambition of enhancing the great richness of this heritage, of transmitting it to new generations of artists and of making it discoverable to new audiences. Each season, the direction of the orchestra is entrusted to a former musical director of the ONJ. Since 2018, five of them have succeeded each other at the helm: saxophonist François Jeanneau (1986), vibraphonist Franck Tortiller (2005-2008), pianists Denis Badault (1991-1994) and Laurent Cugny (1994-1997), and guitarist Claude Barthélemy (1989-1991). In addition, the ONJ Youth Orchestra helps to identify new talent and to recruit soloists for the Orchestre National de Jazz.

**Soloist with ONJ Didier Levallet (1997-2000 mandate), pianist and composer Sophia Domancich will take the reins of the Orchestre des Jeunes for this new season dedicated to the repertoire written by the double bassist.**

The orchestra's instrumentation will be in the spirit of the jazz "big band", broadening its sound palette by introducing instruments that are rarer or never encountered in this context (cello, horn...).

As in previous seasons, the orchestra will perform in concerts (6 per season on average).

## ■ INSTRUMENTATION

13 musicians :

1 alto saxophone\*  
1 tenor saxophone (doubling on clarinet (Bb) and/or soprano saxophone)\*  
1 tenor saxophone (doubling on flute and piccolo)\*  
1 baritone saxophone (doubling on bass clarinet if possible)\*  
2 trumpets  
2 trombones  
1 horn  
1 guitar  
1 cello  
1 double bass  
1 drum kit

*\*In your application, please specify if you play other saxophones / reeds / woodwinds than the one you are applying for.*

In addition to musical direction, Sophia Domancich will play the piano in the orchestra.  
Unsolicited applications from other instrumentalists may be considered.

## ■ CALENDAR

7 rehearsal and concert sessions are being planned between December 2024 and June 2025.

Dates of sessions scheduled as of today:

- December 4, 5, 6, 7 — Paris (75)
- February 6, 7, 8 — Bourges (18)
- February 26, 27, 28, March 1 — Paris (75)
- March 7, 8, 9 — Dreux (28)
- April 17, 18, 19 — Orléans (45)
- May 16, 17, 18 — Tours (37)
- June 27, 28, 29 — Paris (75), Les Lilas (93)

For this season, the residencies will take place in **France**, mainly in the **Centre-Val de Loire region**. They will also be the occasion for several cultural actions, professional meetings/extramusical training courses and a recording session, in collaboration with local partners.

## ■ APPLICATION FORM

- A Resume (CV).
  - A letter of motivation.
  - Two video excerpts in which the candidate plays and improvises, or alternatively 2 audio recordings.
- At least one of the two excerpts must present the candidate in a group context. For drummers, both must be in a group context, one of which must be in an orchestra if possible.

## ■ MODALITIES

- Only adults (over 18 years old) and students are allowed to apply.

- Application file to be sent to : [orchestredesjeunes@onj.org](mailto:orchestredesjeunes@onj.org)

The video and audio files are to be sent only by **WeTransfer** – no other transmission channel is accepted.

Audios: 10 Mb maximum / Videos: 100 Mb maximum.

Please specify your name, first name and the name of the instrument played in the name of the files.

- Travel, lodging and meals are provided by the ONJ.

- Concert and recording activities are paid for. Rehearsals, considered as training time, are subject to an agreement with the partner schools.

*As part of the ONJ's active policy of restoring gender parity in jazz orchestras, we strongly encourage women to apply.*

<b>Application deadline: Sunday, October 6, 2024.</b>
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## MORE INFOS

> Discover the documentary *Orchestre des Jeunes de l'ONJ 'ONJ Youth Orchestra'* directed by Slaven Rébélo.

> Listen to the albums of the ONJ Didier Levallet on Bandcamp : [orchestrenationaledejazz.bandcamp.com](https://orchestrenationaledejazz.bandcamp.com)

> For more details : [orchestredesjeunes@onj.org](mailto:orchestredesjeunes@onj.org) / +33 (0)1 82 83 43 23