

2025/26 Entrance Audition Requirements

As part of your application, candidates auditioning for YSKC should record an unedited video which includes:

- A short verbal introduction from the candidate (1 minute) talking about themselves, why music is important to them, why they wish to join YSKC and what they hope to achieve in future.
- A **performance of the material** appropriate to the **Grade Level they will be entering** at school in Fall of 2025, **as outlined below**.

Once this is completed, please upload this as an UNLISTED video to YouTube, and provide the link to this video in your application.

N.B. If you choose to audition on more than one instrument, i.e. 'cello and percussion, submit two videos on ONE application.

Here are a few things for Candidates to remember when submitting an application:

- At YSKC, we look for musical **potential**, not perfection.
- We help and encourage our students to **find their own voice** and develop individual excellence.
- Throughout **elementary, middle and high** school, we help students turn aspiration into achievement.

We're passionate about helping young musicians like you reach their musical potential in an orchestral setting and beyond. We are excited to meet you via video submission, and we really look forward to hearing you play.

Good Luck!

Keith Stanfield
Artistic Director - The Youth Symphony of Kansas City



Questions? Email us at hello@yskc.org.

Start your application today

JUNIOR SCHOOL:

5TH - 8TH GRADE (2025/26)

PLEASE RECORD AN UNEDITED VIDEO CONTAINING:

- A short verbal introduction from the candidate (1 minute) talking about themselves, why music is important to them, why they wish to join YSKC and what they hope to achieve in future.
- The orchestral excerpt below - prioritizing intonation, rhythm and tone over tempo
- 2-3 minutes of a piece of your choice, **which best showcases your talents**

March from the Nutcracker Ballet, Tchaikovsky/arr. Merle Isaac

25

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Upload your audition video that includes the **verbal introduction, orchestral excerpt and solo piece** to YouTube as an **unlisted video**, viewable via link ([see instructional video](#))

Copy and paste the unlisted link into your YSKC application, accessible via our Candidate Portal at YSKC.org. Applications will be available by February 14th, 2025.

SENIOR SCHOOL:

9TH - 12TH GRADE (2025/26)

PLEASE RECORD AN UNEDITED VIDEO CONTAINING:

- A short verbal introduction from the candidate (1 minute) talking about themselves, why music is important to them, why they wish to join YSKC and what they hope to achieve in future.
- The orchestral excerpt below - prioritizing intonation, rhythm and tone over tempo
- 2-3 minutes of a piece of your choice, **which best showcases your talents**

Symphonie Fantastique (Hector Berlioz), V.

Allegro (♩. = 104)

The image shows a musical score for the Bassoon part of the fifth movement of Hector Berlioz's 'Symphonie Fantastique'. The score is written in bass clef with a 6/8 time signature. It begins with the tempo marking 'Allegro (♩. = 104)'. The music is characterized by a driving, rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. Dynamic markings include 'ff' (fortissimo) and 'sf' (sforzando), indicating moments of high intensity. The score includes various musical notations such as accents, slurs, and ties, and ends with a final cadence.

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SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (2025/26)

- To be considered for Symphony Orchestra you must complete the Senior School audition as well as the Symphony Orchestra audition
- The Senior School and Symphony Orchestra audition may be two separate videos but both links must be submitted in the application to be considered.
- Record an unedited video of the orchestral excerpt below - prioritizing intonation, rhythm and tone over tempo

Swan Lake, Op. 20, Act 4: No. 29, Pytor Tchaikovsky

The musical score is presented in seven staves. The first staff is the treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. It includes dynamic markings like 'cresc.' and 'ff'. The second staff is the bass clef with 'ff' markings. The third staff is the treble clef with a '21' measure marker and 'ff' marking. The fourth staff is the treble clef with a '2' measure marker and 'ff' marking. The fifth staff is the bass clef with a '22' measure marker and '3' (triplets) markings. The sixth staff is the bass clef with '3' (triplets) markings. The seventh staff is the bass clef with a '2' measure marker and 'Volto subito' marking.

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