

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



CELLO 2025

JUNIOR SCHOOL:
4TH 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.
- A COMPLETE performance of ANY PIECE from Suzuki School of Cello Volume 3. No repeats necessary.

Upload your audition video that includes the **verbal introduction 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.

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, tone and rhythm over tempo
- 2-3 minutes of a piece of your choice, **which best showcases your talents**

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

17

f

25

ff *f*

33

1/3 pos.

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 (Kansas **or** Missouri All-State Excerpt) - prioritizing intonation, tone and rhythm over tempo
- 2-3 minutes of a piece of your choice, **which best showcases your talents**

Cello

Symphony No. 6 "Pathetique"
2nd mvt.

5

Peter Tchaikovsky

Allegro con grazia ♩ = 132-144

The musical score is written for Cello and consists of four staves. The first staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 5/4 time signature. It begins with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and features a triplet of eighth notes. The second staff is in alto clef with a key signature of one sharp and a 3/8 time signature. It includes a glissando (gliss.) and a fortissimo (ff) dynamic. The third staff continues in the same alto clef and 3/8 time signature, marked 'sempre mf'. The fourth staff also continues in the same alto clef and 3/8 time signature, showing first and second endings.

SENIOR SCHOOL:

9TH - 12TH GRADE (2025/26)

3. Orchestral Excerpt: R. Strauss, Ein Heldenleben (measures 1-13)

Lebhaft bewegt ♩ = 116

The image shows a musical score for Cello, measures 1-13 of R. Strauss' Ein Heldenleben. The score is in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major, and consists of three staves. The first staff is the Cello part, starting with a forte (f) dynamic and a triplet of eighth notes. The second and third staves are piano accompaniment. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

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.

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, tone and rhythm over tempo

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

Quarter=52

Andante. *Nº 29. Scène finale.*

Quarter=152, rehearsal marking 23 half note = 76

ff *poco ritentato*

ritentato. *All. brev. Moderato e maestoso.*

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](#))

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