

## 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](mailto: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 (no repeat)
- 2-3 minutes of a piece of your choice, **which best showcases your talents**

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

Vivace

P. I. Tschaikowsky  
arr. by Merle J. Isaac

*f p f p f p*

*f p*

*f p*

*mf*

17

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

Second Suite (Gustav Holst), "Song Without Words"

The image shows a musical score for a clarinet. It consists of two staves of music. The first staff begins with the tempo marking "Andante" and the dynamic marking "pp con espress.". The second staff includes the marking "ad lib.". The music is written in a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is characterized by flowing eighth and sixteenth notes, often grouped with slurs and breath marks.

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](http://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

The image displays a musical score for the Clarinet part of Swan Lake, Op. 20, Act 4: No. 29, by Pytor Tchaikovsky. The score is written in C major and 2/4 time. It consists of eight staves of music. The first staff is a whole note chord. The second staff is a sixteenth-note melody. The third staff is a whole note chord with a circled '2' and a fermata. The fourth staff is a sixteenth-note melody with a 'poco subito' marking. The fifth staff is a sixteenth-note melody. The sixth staff is a whole note chord. The seventh staff is a sixteenth-note melody with a circled '22' and a fermata. The eighth staff is a sixteenth-note melody with a circled '22' and a fermata.

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](http://YSKC.org). Applications will be available by February 14th, 2025.