

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



BASS 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 Bass Volume 2 or 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](https://www.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, rhythm and tone 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

The image shows a musical score for the Bass part of the Trepak from the Nutcracker Ballet. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff starts with a dynamic marking of *f* and includes a box around measure 17. The second staff starts with a dynamic marking of *ff* and includes a box around measure 25. The third staff starts with a dynamic marking of *f* and includes a box around measure 33. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings like *f*, *ff*, *p*, and *mf*.

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)

4. Orchestral Excerpt: Mozart, Symphony No. 40 (1st movement, measures 118-138)

$\text{♩} = 100$

The musical score is written for a bass instrument. It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 100. The first staff shows the initial notes with accents and slurs. The second staff starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The third and fourth staves continue the melodic line with various articulations. The fifth staff features a dense, sixteenth-note passage.

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](https://www.yskc.org). Applications will be available by February 14th, 2025.

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (2025/26)

PLEASE RECORD AN UNEDITED VIDEO CONTAINING:

- 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 (rest one measure length for the multi-measure rest)

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

Quarter=132, 10 m. after rehearsal marker 20 accel., 13 m. after rehearsal marker 20 quarter=152

The musical score is presented on seven staves of bass clef notation. The first staff begins with a multi-measure rest of 20 measures, indicated by a large '20' above the staff. The music then continues with eighth and sixteenth notes. The score includes various dynamic markings: 'f' (forte), 'cresc.' (crescendo), 'ff' (fortissimo), 'poco ritenuto' (slightly ritardando), and 'Alla breve. Moderato e maestoso'. There are also rehearsal markers and tempo changes indicated, such as 'riten.' (ritardando) and 'ff' (fortissimo). The score concludes with a final multi-measure rest of 10 measures, indicated by a large '10' above the staff.

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.