

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



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 (rest one measure for multi-measure rests)
- 2-3 minutes of a piece of your choice, **which best showcases your talents**

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



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

Academic Festival Overture (Johannes Brahms)

(♩ = 138-144)

The musical score is written in bass clef, 2/4 time, and B-flat major. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff starts with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G2. The second staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a series of eighth notes. The third staff features a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a fermata. The fourth staff continues with a sforzando (*sf*) dynamic. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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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)

- 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 excerpt below - prioritizing intonation, rhythm and tone over tempo (rest one measure for any multi-measure rests)

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

21 22 23 24

rit. poco rit Moderato maestoso ff p. 3 22

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