

**YOUTH
SYMPHONY of
KANSAS CITY**



**2026-2027
New Candidate
Application**

HORN

2026-2027 New Applicant Audition Requirements

Note: This is only for new students who have not previously participated in Youth Symphony of Kansas City.

Thank you for your interest in joining the Youth Symphony of Kansas City. As part of your application, candidates auditioning for YSKC should record a single, continuous, and unedited video including:

- 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 2026, **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.

Note: If you choose to audition on more than one instrument (i.e. cello and bassoon) 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

Executive Director - Youth Symphony of Kansas City

Questions? Email us at hello@yskc.org.

2026-2027 New Applicant Process

This is a guide for how to fill out your application. It is a five-step process outlined below:

Note: This is only for new students who have not previously participated in Youth Symphony of Kansas City.

1. Follow this link to submit the inquiry form: <https://www.yskc.org/start-here/>
2. After submitting the inquiry form, you will receive an email prompting you to create a Veracross account. Veracross is YSKC's secure online portal where families complete application and enrollment steps, submit forms and payments, and receive important updates throughout the season.
3. Complete all checklist items and submit your video audition in the Veracross Admissions Portal before **Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 11:59 CST.**
 - o **Step 1:** Login to the admission portal.
 - o **Step 2:** Pay the application fee and submit a YouTube link containing a single audition video in one take.
 - o **Step 3:** Refresh your page and fill out the student/guardian information.
4. An acceptance decision made by the YSKC Faculty will be available in your Veracross portal by **Saturday, May 23, 2026.**
5. If offered a position, accept your position, fill out the enrollment form, and pay the enrollment fee and tuition deposit before **June 1, 2026.** Congratulations on becoming a member of the Youth Symphony of Kansas City!

Questions? Email us at hello@yskc.org.

Junior School:

5th–8th Grade (2026-2027)

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 (as mentioned in the General 2026/27 Entrance Requirements).
- The orchestral excerpt below - prioritizing intonation, tone and rhythm over tempo (no repeat).
- 2-3 minutes of a piece of your choice, **which best showcases your talents.**

“March” from the *Nutcracker* Ballet, Tchaikovsky, arr. Merle Isaac

Horn, mm. 1-18

♩ = 144

Tempo di Marcia I. I. TCHAIKOVSKY
arr. by Merle J. 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 14, 2026.

Senior School:

9th–12th Grade (2026-2027)

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 (as mentioned in the General 2026/27 Entrance Requirements)
- The orchestral excerpts below - prioritizing intonation, tone and rhythm over tempo.
- 2-3 minutes of a piece of your choice, **which best showcases your talents.**

Beethoven, *Egmont Overture*

mm. 287 - End

Tempo: Half note = 94

The image shows a musical score for the Horn part of Beethoven's Egmont Overture, measures 287 to 328. The score is written in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The tempo is marked 'Allegro con brio'. The dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *ff* (fortissimo). The score includes a rehearsal mark 'H' above measure 304. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The first six measures (287-292) are marked with numbers 1 through 6 above the notes. The score ends with a double bar line at measure 328.

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Léo Delibes - *Le Roi S'Amuse*, Horn I

No. 5, mm. 9 - 16

Tempo: Quarter note = 84

4 **Horn in E** CORS.

$\bullet = 84$ ♩ 5

And^{mo} **MADRIGAL.**

en ML. A single line of musical notation for Horn I, measures 9-16. The music is in treble clef and 3/4 time. It begins with a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) and continues with various dynamics including *mf* and *p* (piano). The notation includes quarter notes, eighth notes, and a half note, ending with a double bar line and a fermata.



Upload your audition video that includes the **verbal introduction, orchestral excerpts, 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 14, 2026.

Symphony Orchestra (2026-2027)

- 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.

Beethoven, *Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125, Mvt IV*

Horn, mm. 337-558

♩ = 144

Horn in D

431 **K** *sempre l'istesso tempo*
Cor. III

445 10

463 7 10

488 Viol. I *Sea* L 1

496

505

The image shows a musical score for Horn in D, measures 431-505. The score is written in 4/4 time and includes dynamic markings such as *ff* and *sf*. The key signature is D minor. The score is divided into systems, with measures 431-444, 445-462, 463-487, 488-495, and 496-505. The first system (431-444) includes a key signature change to D minor and a tempo marking. The second system (445-462) features a 10-measure rest. The third system (463-487) includes a 7-measure rest and a 10-measure rest. The fourth system (488-495) includes a first ending bracket and a 1-measure rest. The fifth system (496-505) continues the musical notation.

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514
ff sf 1-11 2 3 4 5 6
f f f f f f

524 7 8 9 10 11
f dimin. - - - - - p più p - - - - -

535 M
pp sempre pp pp cresc. - - - ff

546

556

The musical score consists of five staves of music in treble clef. The first staff (measures 514-523) features a series of eighth notes with dynamic markings *ff*, *sf*, and *f*. The second staff (measures 524-534) continues with eighth notes, including dynamics *f*, *dimin.*, *p*, and *più p*. The third staff (measures 535-545) includes a *M* marking and dynamics *pp*, *sempre pp*, *pp cresc.*, and *ff*. The fourth staff (measures 546-555) shows a continuation of the eighth-note pattern. The fifth staff (measures 556-565) begins with a large bracketed section.

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Copy and paste the unlisted link into your YSKC application, accessible via our Candidate Portal at YSKC.org. Applications will be available by February 14, 2026.