

**YOUTH
SYMPHONY of
KANSAS CITY**



**2026-2027
New Candidate
Application**

TIMPANI

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** for the orchestra you would like to be considered for 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!

Reachel Beichley

Interim 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, August 8, 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, August 15, 2026.**
5. If offered a position, accept your position, fill out the enrollment form, and pay the enrollment fee and tuition deposit before **August 20, 2026.** Congratulations on becoming a member of the Youth Symphony of Kansas City!

Questions? Email us at hello@yskc.org.

Philharmonic Orchestra (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

Timpani, mm. 13-43

♩ = 144

The musical score is presented on three staves of music. The first staff begins at measure 13 with a piano (p) dynamic. It features a series of eighth notes and rests, with a crescendo hairpin leading to a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic at measure 17. The second staff starts at measure 25 with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic, continuing the rhythmic pattern. The third staff begins at measure 33, also with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic, and concludes at measure 41 with a forte (f) dynamic. 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](https://www.yskc.org).

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

Timpani, mm. 801-940

♩ = 144

The image displays a musical score for the Timpani part of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, Mvt IV, measures 801-940. The score is written in bass clef and includes various dynamics and articulations. A red bracket labeled "Start Here" is placed over measures 801-803. The score is divided into several systems with the following details:

- System 1 (Measures 763-803):** Tempo: *Allegro ma non tanto*, $\text{♩} = 120$. Dynamics: *pp*, *f*, *sf*, *f*, *f*. Includes a *S Viol. I* staff.
- System 2 (Measures 803-810):** Dynamics: *f*, *ff*, *f*, *f*, *f*, *p*, *cresc.*, *f*.
- System 3 (Measures 810-825):** Tempo: *poco adagio*, *Tempo I*. Time signature: $\frac{4}{4}$. Dynamics: *f*, *f*, *f*, *f*, *f*, *ff*.
- System 4 (Measures 825-843):** Tempo: *poco adagio*. Dynamics: *f*, *f*, *f*, *p*, *cresc.*, *ff*, *f*, *f*, *f*.
- System 5 (Measures 843-852):** Tempo: *poco Allegro, stringendo il tempo, sempre più Allegro*. Dynamics: *cresc.*, *ff*. Includes a *Viol. I* staff.
- System 6 (Measures 852-940):** Tempo: *Presto*, $\text{♩} = 132$. Dynamics: *sf*, *sf*, *f*, *f*, *f*. Includes a *Viol. I* staff.

Continued on next page

866 6 7 8
f *f* *f*

876 7 T 6
ff *ff*

898
ff

908
ff *ff* *ff*

916 *Maestoso* ♩ = 60 *Prestissimo*
p *f* *sf* *sf* *ff*

924

933

The musical score is written in bass clef with a 3/4 time signature. It consists of seven staves of music. The first staff (measures 866-875) features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with dynamic markings of *f*. The second staff (measures 876-897) includes a triplet of eighth notes (marked 7) and a sixteenth-note triplet (marked 6), both leading into a *ff* dynamic. The third staff (measures 898-907) continues with a *ff* dynamic. The fourth staff (measures 908-915) shows a change in tempo and dynamics, with *ff* markings. The fifth staff (measures 916-923) is marked *Maestoso* (♩ = 60) and *Prestissimo*, with dynamics ranging from *p* to *ff*. The sixth staff (measures 924-932) features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The seventh staff (measures 933-934) ends with a large fermata over a final note.

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.