

**YOUTH
SYMPHONY of
KANSAS CITY**



**2026-2027
New Candidate
Application**

VIOLA

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.**
 - **Step 1:** Login to the admission portal.
 - **Step 2:** Pay the application fee and submit a YouTube link containing a single audition video in one take.
 - **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.

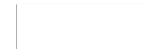


VIOLA 2026

Debut 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).
- A COMPLETE performance of ANY PIECE from Suzuki Viola School Book 1-3. 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.

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**

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

Viola, mm. 1-16

♩ = 144

4

TREPAK

Vivace

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

The musical score for Viola, measures 1-16, is presented on three staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The tempo is marked 'Vivace'. The score includes dynamic markings: *f* (forte) at the beginning, *p* (piano) at measures 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10, and *mf* (mezzo-forte) at the end. There are also performance instructions such as 'V' for breath or bowing, and 'mf' for dynamics. The score is numbered '4' in the top left corner.

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.

Classical 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, *Egmont Overture*

mm. 287-347

Tempo: Half note = 94

The image displays a musical score for the Viola part of Beethoven's *Egmont Overture*, measures 287-347. The score is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked "Allegro con brio". The dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *ff* (fortissimo). The score includes a bracketed section starting at measure 287, which is marked *pp*. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The score is divided into four systems, with measure numbers 283, 293, 300, and 307 indicated at the beginning of each system. The first system also includes the instrument abbreviations "Ob." and "Clar." above the staff. The score concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Continued on next page

315

ff *mf* *marcato* 3 3

This musical staff contains measures 315 through 322. It begins with a forte (*ff*) dynamic and a melodic line. The dynamic shifts to mezzo-forte (*mf*) and includes a *marcato* marking. The piece concludes with two triplet figures.

323

This musical staff contains measures 323 through 328. It features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the first half, followed by a melodic line, and ends with another rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

329

This musical staff contains measures 329 through 336. It starts with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, followed by a series of chords with accents, and ends with a melodic line.

337

338

This section contains two staves, 337 and 338, covering measures 337 through 344. Staff 337 begins with a melodic line and a forte (*ff*) dynamic. Staff 338 continues with a melodic line, a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, and ends with a series of chords. A large bracket is drawn on the right side of the page, encompassing the final measures of both staves.

Next excerpt on following page

Léo Delibes - *Le Roi S'Amuse*, Viola

No. 5, mm. 1-26

Tempo: Quarter note = 84

Mod^{to} ben marcato. ALTO

$\text{♩} = 64$

The musical score is written for the Alto Viola part. It begins with a tempo marking of *Mod^{to} ben marcato.* and a metronome marking of $\text{♩} = 64$. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a fortissimo (*ff*) section. The second staff features a mezzo-piano (*mp*) section followed by a forte (*f*) section. The third staff includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) section, a triplet of eighth notes, and a piano (*p*) section. The fourth staff concludes the excerpt with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Various articulations such as accents (*>*) and slurs are used throughout the piece.

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.