

**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** 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**.
 - **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, 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.



VIOLA 2026

Junior School:

2nd–4th 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).
- 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](https://www.yskc.org). Applications will be available by February 14, 2026.

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**

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

Viola, mm. 1-16

♩ = 144

4

TREPAK

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

Vivace

The musical score for the Viola part of 'Trepak' from the Nutcracker Ballet. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a forte (f) dynamic and a slur over the first four measures. The second staff starts with a piano (p) dynamic and a slur over the first four measures. The third staff begins with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and a slur over the first four measures. The score is marked 'Vivace' and includes various articulation marks such as accents and slurs. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

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 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. 287-347

Tempo: Half note = 94

The musical score for Beethoven's *Egmont Overture*, measures 287-347, is presented in four systems. The first system (measures 283-292) features the Oboe (Ob.) and Clarinet (Clar.) parts. The tempo is marked 'Allegro con brio' and the dynamics range from 'pp' to 'cresc.'. The second system (measures 293-300) continues the Viola part. The third system (measures 301-306) continues the Viola part. The fourth system (measures 307-314) continues the Viola part. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The score is divided into four systems, with measure numbers 283, 293, 300, and 307 indicated. The dynamics range from 'pp' to 'ff'.

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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**

$\text{♩} = 64$

f **ff** **f** **mp** **f** **mp** **p**

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](https://www.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*

Viola, mm. 441-558

♩ = 144

Viola

19

427 **K** *sempre l'istesso tempo* 6 Viol. I

440 *sf* *sempre ff* *sf*

449

456

464 *sf* *sf*

472 3

482

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