

**YOUTH
SYMPHONY of
KANSAS CITY**



**2026-2027
New Candidate
Application**

VIOLIN

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.

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 Violin 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

Violin, mm. 1-16

♩ = 144

TREPAK

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

Vivace

f p *f p* *f p* *mf*

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. 287-347

Tempo: Half note = 94

4

Allegro con brio VIOLIN I

287

292

296

301

306

311

pp *cresc...* *ff* *sf* *sf* *cresc...*

Vcll. Fag. H

Continued on next page

This image shows a page of a violin score for measures 315 through 344. The score is written on six staves, each beginning with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music is characterized by dense, rapid sixteenth-note passages. Measure 315 starts with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic and includes a first ending bracket. Measure 319 has a sforzando (*sf*) dynamic. Measure 327 features a first ending bracket and a *sf* dynamic. Measure 331 consists of a series of chords, each marked with a *sf* dynamic. Measure 344 begins with a *ff* dynamic and ends with a double bar line and a large closing bracket on the right side of the staff.

Next excerpt on following page

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

No. 1, mm. 36-downbeat of 72

Tempo: Dotted half note = 64

The image displays a musical score for Violin I, titled "Léo Delibes - Le Roi S'Amuse, Violin I". The score is in 3/8 time and features a tempo marking of "♩. = 64". The music is written on six staves. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) and a fermata. The second staff has dynamic markings of *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *f* (forte). The third staff has dynamic markings of *mp* and *p*. The fourth staff has a *cresc* (crescendo) marking and a *p* marking. The fifth staff has a *p* marking. The sixth staff is a single line of music.

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*

Violin I, mm. 435-544

♩ = 144

415 *più f* *f* *più f* *ff*

424 *K sempre l'istesso tempo* *3* *sempre ff*

436

444 *sf* *f*

452 *sf* *sf*

462 *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf*

472

Continued on next page

479

486 *sf sf* **L**

494

502 *sf sf sf sf sf sf*

511 *ff sf sf sf sf*

521 *sf sf sf sf* **3** *p* **4** *pp* **4** *pp cresc.*

543 **M** *ff*

550

558

Detailed description: This image shows a page of a violin audition score. It consists of nine staves of music, each starting with a measure number. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music is written in treble clef. Various dynamics are indicated throughout, including *sf* (sforzando), *ff* (fortissimo), *p* (piano), and *pp* (pianissimo). There are also performance markings such as **L** (Lento), **M** (Moderato), and **cresc.** (crescendo). The score includes a triplet of eighth notes at measure 521 and a large bracketed section at measure 543. The page ends at measure 558.

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.