



Audition Information 2023-2024

Youth Orchestra Auditions will consist of the following:

Brief solo (approx. 1 minute) of your choice
Orchestra excerpts (provided by KSYO)
Sightreading and Scales

Scale minimum tempo requirements

♩=100 for all scales
♩=80 for scales demonstrating four spiccato strokes (off-string, bouncing) per quarter

Audition Preparation

Lessons. Seek lessons from your private teacher. Please notice that some excerpts may not have many (or any!) *extra markings* or *bowings*. Your private teacher can help you with those aspects, as well as give you valuable advice on how to successfully prepare for your audition!

Listen to at least three different recordings of your audition repertoire. Listening to recordings is an important step in preparation for an audition (the *more* recordings, the better). Also, it is helpful to PLAY a recording while you practice!

Tempo. Perform at the tempo indicated. If a tempo is not indicated, get a general sense of tempo from recordings, and from your orchestra director/band director/private lesson instructor.

Practice slowly, with a metronome. After several slow passes through the excerpts, start to play faster: 1/2 tempo, 3/4 tempo, then full tempo. Practice at speeds slower and faster than the tempi indicated.

Intonation. Keep listening, carefully, to your intonation while practicing.
Wind and Brass players: work with a tuner. If you do not have one, buy one! A tuner is an essential tool in becoming a better performer.

Musicianship. Be careful to observe accents, dynamics, accidentals, written instructions and other musical aspects notated on the music. Knowledge of additional performance practices and traditions are important as well. Pay attention to all details in the music. Read the music carefully and don't take anything for granted. Play musically once technique is established.

Be sure to get good bowings on all excerpts!

Mozart: Symphony No. 39 (first movement: m. 40 until one after Letter C)
(tempo approx. ♩=148)

The image displays a musical score for the first movement of Mozart's Symphony No. 39, specifically measures 40 through 82. The score is written for the Cello and Bass (Basso) parts. The tempo is marked 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to 148 beats per minute. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The score is divided into three sections labeled A, B, and C. Section A begins at measure 53 and ends at measure 60. Section B begins at measure 61 and ends at measure 73. Section C begins at measure 74 and ends at measure 82. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'p' (piano) and 'f' (forte). There are also handwritten annotations: '3' and '2' above the first staff, 'p' below the first staff, 'f' below the second staff, 'son. b2.' below the third staff, and 'S.W.' above the fourth staff. The score is written on six staves, with the first staff starting at measure 26 and the last staff ending at measure 82. The Cello and Bass parts are indicated at the bottom right of the score.

Brahms: Symphony No. 2 (first movement: Letter E—F)

E (*quasi ritenente*)
sf ben marc.
sf marc.
ff
poco f espr.
creac.
F *pizz.*
ff
p

The musical score consists of five staves of music in bass clef, with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The notation includes various note values, rests, and dynamic markings. Handwritten annotations include 'E' in a box at the beginning of the first staff, 'F' in a box above the fourth staff, 'pizz.' below the 'F', and a large 'X' over the final staff. The score is marked with 'quasi ritenente' at the start, 'sf ben marc.' and 'sf marc.' for accents, 'ff' for fortissimo, 'poco f espr.' for a poco fortissimo with spirit, 'creac.' for crescendo, and 'p' for piano.