



**YOUTH**  
ORCHESTRAS

## Cello Audition Information 2025-2026

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!

**Beethoven:** Symphony No. 5, second movement, mm. 1-10

**Andante con moto** ♩ = 92

The image shows two lines of musical notation in bass clef, 3/8 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The first line contains measures 1 through 6, featuring a continuous eighth-note pattern with slurs and accents. The dynamic marking *p dolce* is placed below the first measure. The second line starts with a measure rest labeled '7' above it, followed by measures 7 through 10. The first measure of this line has a dynamic marking of *f (sub.) p*, and the second measure has *f* and *p* markings.

**Beethoven: Symphony No. 5, third movement**  
pickup to mm. 141-177  
pickup to mm. 198-218

137 *unis.*  
*p* *f*

158 1. 2. *f*

166

175 1 2 3 4 5 6

188 Vcllo Cb. **B** *f*

198 *unis.* *dimin.* *p*

207 *sempre più p* 8