



KSO YOUTH
ORCHESTRAS

Viola 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!

Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 4, second movement, mm. 1-27

Andante con moto

f *p*

8 *p* *cresc.* *sf* *p*

7

24

Beethoven: Symphony No. 5, third movement
pickup to mm. 147-213
(no repeat for KSYO audition; take second ending)

141 *Vello.* *f* **2**

153 **1.**

160 *ff* **2.** **4** **2** *Vello.* *f* *Vello.*

174 *b*

184 *sf* *sf* *sf*

191 **B** *ff* **6** *Vello*

205 *p* *sempre più p* **22** *Bassi*

Detailed description: This is a page of musical notation for the third movement of Beethoven's Symphony No. 5. The score is written for a string section, with measures 141 through 213. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major), and the time signature is 3/4. The notation includes various dynamics such as *f*, *ff*, *p*, and *sempre più p*. There are several first and second endings marked with '1.' and '2.'. Rehearsal marks are present at measures 160, 174, 184, 191, and 205. The word 'Vello.' is used to indicate the Violin section, and 'Bassi' is used for the Basses. The score features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.