



2023-2024

Double Bass

Audition

Packet

Orchestras

Young Artists Orchestra (YAO)

YAO, the most advanced of our ensembles, is composed of approximately 70 members and performs four to six concerts annually, including one side-by-side concert with the Colorado Symphony. Concerts are performed in venues such as Boettcher Concert Hall and Gates Concert Hall at The Newman Center. Students receive occasional coachings throughout the season and attend a weekend retreat in September. Recent repertoire includes Tchaikovsky: Symphony no. 4, Bernstein: *Symphonic Dances from West Side Story*, Stravinsky: *Firebird Suite*, and Beethoven: Symphony No. 9.

Placement in YAO is determined by audition. Membership is open to musicians between the ages of 12 and 23. YAO rehearses Saturday mornings from 9:00am-12:30pm at the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music (2344 E Iliff Ave, Denver).

Conservatory Orchestra (CO)

The Conservatory Orchestra is an advanced level ensemble for students who aspire to grow musically towards YAO. The Conservatory Orchestra performs three to four concerts annually in conjunction with the String Ensemble. Concerts are performed in venues such as Gates Concert Hall at The Newman Center and Boettcher Concert Hall. Students receive occasional coachings throughout the season and attend a weekend retreat in September. Recent repertoire includes Smetana: *The Moldau*, Bizet: *L'Arlesienne Suite no. 1*, Arturo Márquez: *Conga del Fuego Nuevo*, and Copland: "Hoedown" from *Rodeo*.

Placement in the Conservatory Orchestra is by audition. Membership is open to musicians between the ages of 10 and 18. Conservatory Orchestra rehearses Monday evenings from 6:30pm-8:30pm at Bethany Lutheran Church (4500 E Hampden Ave, Cherry Hills Village).

String Ensemble (SE)

The String Ensemble gives young music students an opportunity to experience the great wealth of string orchestra literature. The ensemble is designed for those who are developing a facility in bowing techniques, reading music, and the use of vibrato. Composed of approximately 25 members, the String Ensemble performs three to four concerts in conjunction with the Conservatory Orchestra. Students receive occasional coachings throughout the season and attend a one-day retreat in September. Recent repertoire includes Vivaldi: Concerto for Strings RV121, Britten: Simple Symphony mvt. I, a world premiere by composer and violinist Joy Black, and music from *Moana*.

Placement in the String Ensemble is determined by audition. Membership is open to musicians between the ages of 7 and 13. String Ensemble rehearses Monday evenings from 5:00pm-6:30pm at Bethany Lutheran Church (4500 E Hampden Ave, Cherry Hills Village).

DYAO 2023-2024 Video Auditions

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Record all required audition elements in one video (unedited and unenhanced in a single take, as if it were a live audition). Your video may have slight pauses between the scales/solo/excerpts but must not be spliced together with multiple takes or videos. See audition packet for requirements based on the orchestra for which you are auditioning.
 - a. **Percussionist Exception: your video may be multiple videos spliced together to allow for changing instruments (timpani, snare, cymbals, etc.)**
2. Introduce yourself at the beginning of the video and say the name of the solo/etude (excerpt) you will be playing. Record all elements of the audition in the order listed in the audition packet.
 - a. You must be visible in the video. String players' hands must be visible to the greatest extent possible (right side profile for violins and violas).
3. Upload your video to Acceptd. Don't wait until right before the deadline to start uploading, as even small files may take time.

Tips for recording your video audition:

- Don't wait until the day of the deadline to record your audition. Give yourself plenty of time to record your audition multiple times and choose the best single take. Also, make sure you upload your video well before the deadline!
- Take a deep breath, and try to relax. Everyone at DYAO is cheering you on and wants you to be successful!
- Position yourself so that the camera records you with no obstructions; *watch out for the placement of your music stand*.
- Try to find a space that is free of loud external noises and distracting background items.
- Have sufficient lighting; more light should be coming from in front of you than behind you. This will make you more visible to the viewer.
- For phone or tablet users, devices should be set horizontally – put it in Airplane mode or Do Not Disturb mode to avoid interruptions – and tap the screen to focus. Do not use the zoom function as this makes the image grainy or fuzzy.
- There is no specific dress code requirement, but we do recommend dressing professionally. It gives a good impression and can often give you confidence! Wearing overly casual clothing, like athleisure or pajamas, may not present you in the best light.
- It is okay to move—be natural and not stiff. Your hands and instrument (and bow stroke, for strings) should remain in the frame while you are playing.
- Brass and woodwind players should be at some distance from the microphone, and if possible, should not play directly into the microphone. Playing too closely can cause sound distortion.
- Watch your video before you submit it! Listen for clarity, appropriate volume, etc. Have your private teacher or school band/orchestra director watch it as well, if at all possible.

Audition Requirements

Candidates auditioning for membership in a Denver Young Artists Orchestra Association ensemble must prepare the following:

1. **Scale(s)** from the enclosed materials appropriate to the orchestra for which you are auditioning.
2. **A one-minute excerpt of a solo piece or etude** showing your highest level of development both technically and musically.
3. **Orchestral excerpt(s)** as defined below. *Note that any marked bowings are recommendations; alteration will not disqualify candidates.*

- CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR THE **STRING ENSEMBLE**

Prepare the enclosed excerpts from:

- **Dello Joio: *Choreography*, measure 15 to 35**
- **Frackenpohl: *Star Lake Suite*, sarabande, pickup to reh. F to 8 after G**

- CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR **THE CONSERVATORY ORCHESTRA**

Prepare the enclosed excerpts from:

- **Beethoven: *Symphony no. 6*, mvt. III (2 excerpts)**
- **Dvorak: *Symphony no. 8*, mvt. IV, rehearsal O to P**

- CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR THE **YOUNG ARTISTS ORCHESTRA**

Prepare the enclosed excerpts from:

- **Brahms: *Symphony no. 2*, mvt. I, measure 118 to 155**
- **Mendelssohn: *Symphony no. 4*, mvt. IV, measure 166 to 179**

****Note: if you are auditioning for more than one orchestra, please prepare the required excerpts for the higher level orchestra.****

4. **Possible sight-reading** as determined by the audition committee.

The excerpts are meant to challenge your musicianship. Below are a few suggestions to assist your audition preparation.

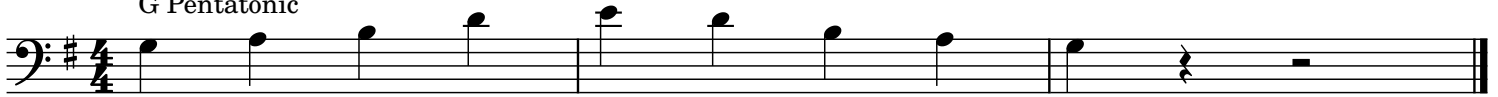
1. **Play the music in the right tempo:** If tempos are not indicated in your excerpts, please work with your teacher and listen to reputable orchestra recordings to determine the correct speed. Frequently, candidates' tempi are unsteady and often *way too fast*! Judges are not listening to hear how fast you can play; rather, they are listening to see if you can play the piece correctly at an appropriate tempo. Rushing and dragging are things to avoid. Practice with a metronome and record yourself playing these excerpts to ensure accuracy.
2. **Play with dynamic contrast:** Often judges comment that candidates ignore dynamic markings, especially the softer end of the dynamic spectrum. Remember that music is more than rhythms and pitches: first and foremost music is sound. Sell your performance!
3. **Divisi and rests:** All players should learn **top** divisi/notes unless explicitly noted otherwise. Also, unless otherwise marked, long rests (more than two measures) should be played as unmeasured pauses in the audition.

Scales: Double Bass - String Ensemble

CHOOSE 1

♩ = 120

G Pentatonic



Scales: Double Bass - Conservatory Orchestra

CHOOSE 1--perform both bowings

♩ = 120

G Major Bowing 1



Bowing 2



Bb Major Bowing 1



Bowing 2



A Major Bowing 1



Bowing 2



Scales: Double Bass - Young Artists Orchestra

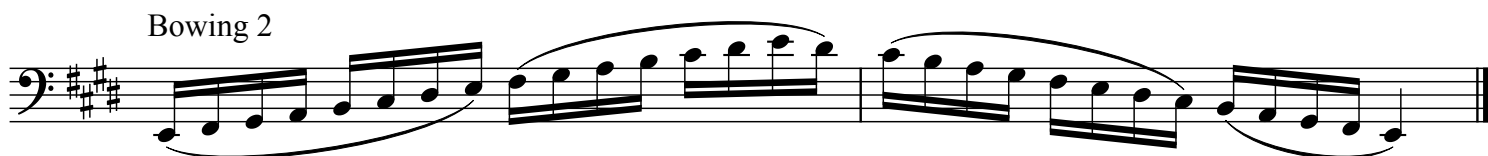
Perform one of the two major scales AND the A minor scale
(both bowings for each scale)

♩ = 100

E Major Bowing 1



Bowing 2



F Major Bowing 1



Bowing 2



Bowing 1
A Melodic Minor



Bowing 2



SE:

Choreography: Three Dances for String Orchestra, by Norman Dello Joio

BASS

4 15 (pizz.) 20 5 25 1 arco p 30 p legato ff 35 1 ff

Star Lake Suite, sarabande movement, by Frackenpohl

BASS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300

CO:

Beethoven: Symphony no. 6, mvt. 3 (2 excerpts)

Pickup to measure 49 to 75 AND measure 189 to 203

Lustiges Zusammensein der Landleute

Allegro (♩ = 108)

The image displays a musical score for the third movement of Beethoven's Symphony No. 6, titled "Lustiges Zusammensein der Landleute" (Merry Gathering of the Peasants). The tempo is marked "Allegro" with a quarter note equal to 108 beats per minute. The score is presented in two systems of excerpts. The first system covers measures 49 to 75, featuring a pickup measure followed by six measures of music. The second system covers measures 189 to 203, also featuring a pickup measure followed by three measures. The score is written for a full orchestra, with parts for Violins (Va.), Violas (Vc.), Cellos (Kb.), Horns (Horn I), and Clarinets (Klar.). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 3/4. The score includes various dynamic markings such as *pp* (pianissimo), *sf* (sforzando), *cresc.* (crescendo), and *ff* (fortissimo). The first system includes a section marked "cresc." leading to a *ff* section. The second system includes a section marked "sempre più stretto" (always more strict) and a section marked "sempre più f" (always more forte). The score is numbered 16, 39, 54, 70, 129, 161, 180, 194, and 202.

CO:

Dvorak: Symphony no. 8, mvt. IV, rehearsal O to P

dim. *p* *pp* 1 *arco* *p*

p

fz *fz* *f* *dim.* *p* *pp* *rit.*

fz *fz* *p* *dim.* *pp* 8

YAO:

Brahms: Symphony no. 2, mvt. I, measure 118 to 155

118 **E** (*quasi ritenente*)
f *sf ben marc.* *sf marc.*

124 *f*

132 *ff* *poco f espr.*

142 *cresc.*

152 *ff* **F** *pizz.* *p*

YAO:

Mendelssohn: Symphony no. 4, mvt. IV, measure 166 to 179

155

p *cresc.* *cresc.* *f*

167

f

173

f

178

f *simile*

The image displays a musical score for the bass clef of Mendelssohn's Symphony no. 4, mvt. IV, measures 166 to 179. The score is written on four staves. The first staff (measures 155-166) begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes crescendo markings (*cresc.*). It features a triplet of eighth notes and a first ending bracket. The second staff (measures 167-172) starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and contains a triplet of eighth notes. The third staff (measures 173-177) also begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The fourth staff (measures 178-179) starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a first ending bracket and a simile marking (*simile*). The score is marked with various dynamics, including *p*, *cresc.*, *f*, and *simile*, and includes first ending brackets and triplet markings.