



2020-2021

Violin
Audition
Packet

Orchestras

Young Artists Orchestra (YAO)

YAO, the most advanced of our ensembles, performs four to six concerts annually, including one side-by-side concert with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra. Concerts are performed in venues such as Boettcher Concert Hall and Gates Concert Hall at DU. Recent repertoire has included Dvorak *Symphony no. 9*, Brahms *Symphony no. 4*, Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*, and Borodin *Symphony no. 2*.

Placement in YAO is determined by audition. Membership is open to musicians between the ages of 13-23 and is conducted by Wes Kenney. Composed of approximately 70 members, YAO rehearses Saturday mornings from 9:00am-12:30pm at the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music (2344 E Iliff Ave, Denver) and they attend an overnight weekend retreat in September.

Conservatory Orchestra (CO)

The Conservatory Orchestra is an advanced level ensemble for students who aspire to grow into YAO. The Conservatory Orchestra performs 3-4 concerts annually in conjunction with the String Ensemble. Concerts are performed in venues such as Central Presbyterian Church and Boettcher Concert Hall. Students receive occasional coachings throughout the season and attend an overnight retreat in September. Recent repertoire includes Brahms *Hungarian Dances*, Beethoven *Symphony no. 1*, and Beethoven *Symphony no. 5*.

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 3-4 concerts in conjunction with the Conservatory Orchestra. Recent repertoire includes Grieg's *Holberg Suite*.

Placement in the String Ensemble is determined by audition and membership is open to musicians between the ages of 8 and 13. String Ensemble rehearses Monday evenings from 5:00pm-6:30pm at Bethany Lutheran Church (4500 E Hampden Ave, Cherry Hills Village).

Audition Requirements

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

1. A solo piece or etude (excerpt) no longer than 1 minute that best demonstrates your highest level of musicianship and technique.
2. Orchestral excerpt(s) as defined below.

a. CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR THE STRING ENSEMBLE

Prepare the enclosed excerpts from:

- Smetana: “Dance of the Comedians” from *The Bartered Bride*

b. CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR THE CONSERVATORY ORCHESTRA

Prepare the enclosed excerpts from:

- Smetana: “Dance of the Comedians” from *The Bartered Bride*
- Brahms: *Symphony no. 4*, mvt. 3

c. CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR THE YOUNG ARTISTS ORCHESTRA

Prepare the enclosed excerpts from:

- Brahms: *Symphony no. 4*, mvt. 1
- Mozart: *Symphony no. 39*

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

3. Please prepare a scale from the enclosed materials appropriate to the orchestra for which you are auditioning
4. Possible sight-reading as determined by the audition committee.

The excerpts are meant to challenge your musicianship. Written 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. Time after time our judges comment that 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.

SE and CO:

Smetana: "Dance of the Comedians" (*The Bartered Bride*)

Vivace

cresc.

f

f

f

I Ob or Fl. FL. I

CO:

Brahms: *Symphony no. 4*, mvt. 3

10

Violin I

Allegro giocoso

sf

p

cresc.

sf

p

B

YAO:

Brahms: *Symphony no. 4, mvt. 1*

Allegro non troppo

Handwritten musical score for the first movement of Brahms' Symphony No. 4. The score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is "Allegro non troppo". The first staff begins with a large bracket and a "p" (piano) dynamic. The second staff has a measure number "8" at the beginning. The third staff has measure numbers "13" and "4" at the beginning. The fourth staff has a measure number "19" at the beginning and a boxed letter "A" above the first measure. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, beams, slurs, and dynamic markings like "p" and "V" (accents). There are also handwritten annotations like "7", "4", and "3" above some measures.

YAO:

Mozart: *Symphony no. 39*

Finale
Allegro

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Allegro'. The score includes measures 1 through 77. Measure numbers are indicated at the start of each line: 1, 7, 14, 20, 26, 31, 38, 41, 48, 56, 64, 72, and 77. Dynamic markings include *p* (piano) at measures 1, 41, and 77, and *f* (forte) at measure 7. Section markers 'A' and 'B' are placed above measures 41 and 77 respectively. The score features various musical notations including eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and slurs. A large bracket on the left side of the first measure indicates the beginning of the piece.

Scales

Violin - String Ensemble

CHOOSE 1

♩ = 120

A Major



D Major



Scales

Violin - Conservatory Orchestra

CHOOSE 1

$\text{♩} = 120$

A Major



Alternate Bowing



D Major

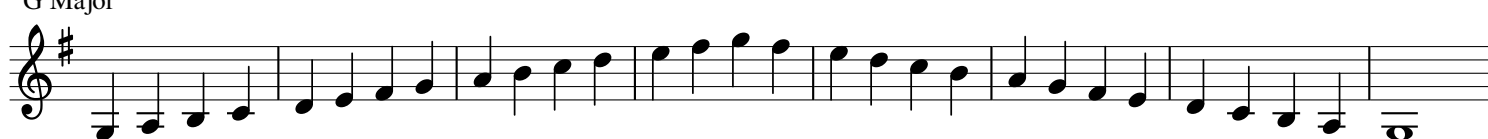


9

Alternate Bowing

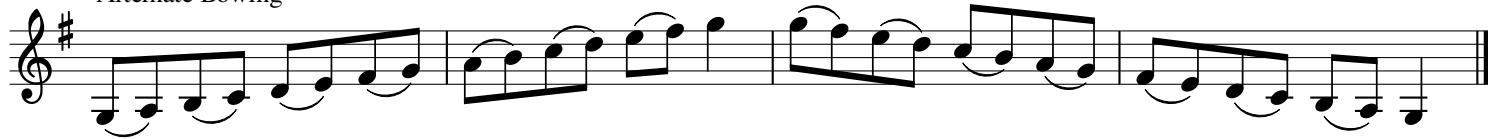


G Major



9

Alternate Bowing



Scales

Violin - Young Artists Orchestra

♩ = 100

Choose one of the two major scales in addition to the A minor scale.

E Major

E Major

The image shows a musical score for E Major in 4/4 time. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The first staff contains measures 1-4, and the second staff contains measures 5-8. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with various phrasing slurs and ties.

Alternate Bowing

3

[illegible]

Eb Major

E♭ Major

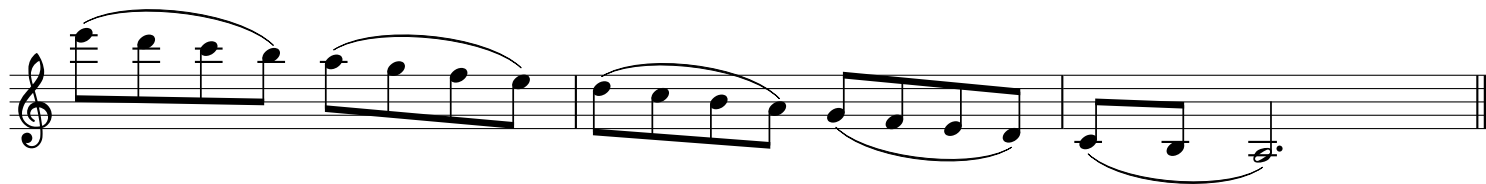
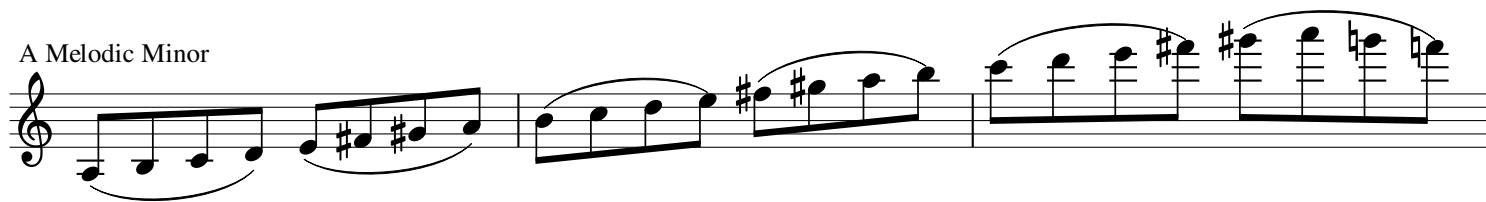
The image shows the first eight measures of a musical score in E♭ Major. The key signature has two flats (B♭ and E♭). The melody is written on a single staff. Measures 1-4 contain eighth notes, and measures 5-8 contain quarter notes. The notes are: 1. G4, A4, B♭4, C5; 2. D5, E♭5, F5, G5; 3. A5, B♭5, C6, D6; 4. E♭6, F6, G6, A6; 5. B♭6, C7, D7, E♭7; 6. F7, G7, A7, B♭7; 7. C8, D8, E♭8, F8; 8. G8, A8, B♭8, C9. The notes are grouped by slurs and beams.

Alternate Bowing

[illegible]

3

A Melodic Minor



Alternate Bowing

