



colorado symphony
association affiliate

2022-2023

Viola
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. The Young Artists Orchestra is conducted by DYAO Music Director Wes Kenney. Students receive occasional coachings throughout the season and attend a weekend retreat in September. Recent repertoire includes Elgar: *Enigma Variations*, Tchaikovsky: *1812 Overture*, Michael Daugherty: *Fire and Blood*, and Dvorak: *Symphony No. 6*.

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 into 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 Schubert: "Unfinished" Symphony, Bizet: *Carmen* Suite no. 1, Arturo Márquez: *Danzón No. 2*, and Vivaldi: "Winter" from *The Four Seasons*.

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 Holst: *St. Paul's Suite*, Mozart: *Divertimento K. 138*, and music from *Jurassic Park* and *Star Wars*.

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).

Audition Requirements

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

1. **A one-minute excerpt of a solo piece or etude** showing your highest level of development both technically and musically.

2. **Orchestral excerpt(s)** as defined below. *Note that any marked bowings are recommendations; alteration will not disqualify candidates.*

a. CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR THE **STRING ENSEMBLE**

Prepare the enclosed excerpts from:

- **Britten: *Simple Symphony*, mvt. I, pickup to 7 after rehearsal 1 through rehearsal 2**

b. CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR **THE CONSERVATORY ORCHESTRA**

Prepare the enclosed excerpts from:

- **Smetana: *The Moldau*, measure 55 to measure 69 (downbeat)**
- **Copland: “Hoe Down” from *Rodeo*, rehearsal 5 to rehearsal 7**

c. CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR THE **YOUNG ARTISTS ORCHESTRA**

Prepare the enclosed excerpts from:

- **Tchaikovsky: *Symphony no. 5*, mvt. III, pickup to measure 135 to measure 144**
- **Mozart: *Symphony no. 35*, mvt. IV, measure 134 to measure 181**

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

3. **Scale(s)** 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. 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:

Britten: *Simple Symphony*, mvt. I, pickup to 7 after rehearsal 1 through rehearsal 2

The image shows a musical score for the first movement of Benjamin Britten's *Simple Symphony*. It consists of four staves. The first three staves are for woodwinds (likely Flute, Clarinet, and Bassoon) and feature complex rhythmic patterns with various dynamics such as *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *pp* (pianissimo). The fourth staff is for Violin I, starting with a circled '2' and a bracket, indicating a second ending. It includes a *cresc.* (crescendo) marking and a *pp* marking. The score is written in a key signature of one flat and a 2/4 time signature.

CO:

Smetana: *The Moldau*, m. 55 to 69 (downbeat)

Musical score for Smetana's *The Moldau*, measures 55 to 69. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The music features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes, often grouped in pairs. Dynamics include *dim.*, *mf cresc.*, *sf*, *p*, *sf*, *cresc.*, and *ff*. A section bracket labeled 'B' spans measures 67 to 69.

Copland: "Hoe Down" from *Rodeo*, reh. 5 to reh. 7

Musical score for Copland's "Hoe Down" from *Rodeo*, rehearsal 5 to rehearsal 7. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. It features a complex rhythmic pattern with many sixteenth and thirty-second notes, often marked with accents and slurs. Dynamics include *f* and *sf*. Rehearsal marks are indicated by boxed numbers 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. A section bracket labeled 'B' spans rehearsal 7.

YAO:

Tchaikovsky: Symphony no. 5, mvt. III, pickup to measure 135 to 144

Musical score for Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 5, mvt. III, measures 131 to 144. The score is written in 3/4 time and D major. It consists of three staves. The first staff (measures 131-136) begins with a *mf* dynamic and features a first ending bracket starting at measure 135. The second staff (measures 137-140) includes dynamics of *f* and *mf*. The third staff (measures 141-144) starts with a first ending bracket at measure 141 and a *f* dynamic.

Mozart: Symphony no. 35, mvt. IV, measures 134 to 181

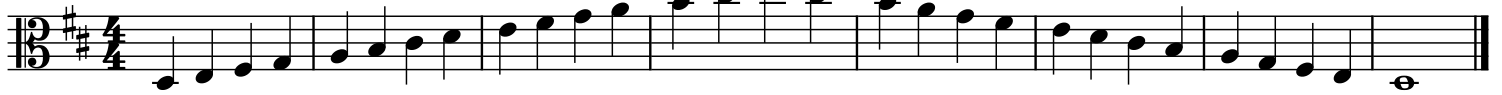
Musical score for Mozart's Symphony no. 35, mvt. IV, measures 134 to 181. The score is written in 3/4 time and D major. It consists of six staves. The first staff (measures 134-140) begins with a *p* dynamic and features a first ending bracket. The second staff (measures 141-146) continues the melodic line. The third staff (measures 150-155) features a *p* dynamic. The fourth staff (measures 159-164) continues the melodic line. The fifth staff (measures 167-172) continues the melodic line. The sixth staff (measures 176-181) features dynamics of *sf*, *p*, *fp*, and *fp*, and ends with a first ending bracket.

Scales: Viola - String Ensemble

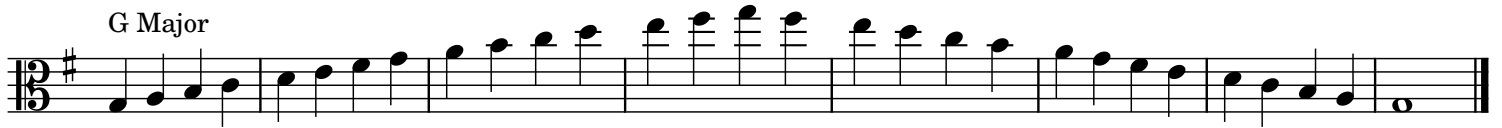
CHOOSE 1

♩ = 120

D Major



G Major



Scales: Viola - Conservatory Orchestra

CHOOSE 1--perform both bowings

♩ = 120

D Major

Musical notation for the D Major scale, first bowing. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The scale consists of 14 notes: D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D. The notes are written as quarter notes, starting on the second line (D) and ending on the second space (D).

Alternate Bowing

Musical notation for the D Major scale, alternate bowing. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The scale consists of 14 notes: D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D. The notes are written as quarter notes with slurs and hairpins indicating bowing directions: down-bow for the first seven notes and up-bow for the last seven notes.

G Major

Musical notation for the G Major scale, first bowing. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The scale consists of 14 notes: G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G. The notes are written as quarter notes, starting on the second space (G) and ending on the second space (G).

Alternate Bowing

Musical notation for the G Major scale, alternate bowing. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The scale consists of 14 notes: G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G. The notes are written as quarter notes with slurs and hairpins indicating bowing directions: down-bow for the first seven notes and up-bow for the last seven notes.

F Major

Musical notation for the F Major scale, first bowing. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The scale consists of 14 notes: F, G, A, Bb, C, D, E, F, G, A, Bb, C, D, E, F. The notes are written as quarter notes, starting on the second space (F) and ending on the second space (F).

Alternate Bowing

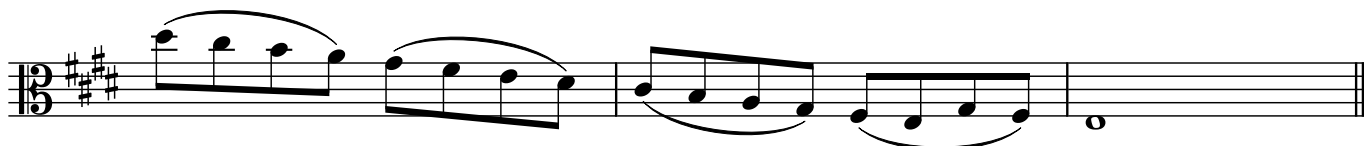
Musical notation for the F Major scale, alternate bowing. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The scale consists of 14 notes: F, G, A, Bb, C, D, E, F, G, A, Bb, C, D, E, F. The notes are written as quarter notes with slurs and hairpins indicating bowing directions: down-bow for the first seven notes and up-bow for the last seven notes.

Scales: Viola - Young Artists Orchestra

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

♩ = 100

E Major



Alternate Bowing



E \flat Major



Alternate Bowing



D Melodic Minor

First system of musical notation for D Melodic Minor. It consists of two staves: a bass staff on the left and a treble staff on the right. The bass staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/8 time signature. The melody starts with a quarter note G2, followed by eighth notes A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, and A3. The treble staff continues with a quarter note B3, followed by eighth notes C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, and C5. The system ends with a double bar line.

Second system of musical notation for D Melodic Minor. It consists of two staves: a bass staff on the left and a treble staff on the right. The bass staff continues with a quarter note D4, followed by eighth notes E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, and D5. The treble staff continues with a quarter note E5, followed by eighth notes F5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, and E6. The system ends with a double bar line.

Alternate Bowing

First system of musical notation for Alternate Bowing. It consists of two staves: a bass staff on the left and a treble staff on the right. The bass staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/8 time signature. The melody starts with a quarter note G2, followed by eighth notes A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, and A3. The treble staff continues with a quarter note B3, followed by eighth notes C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, and C5. The system ends with a double bar line.

Second system of musical notation for Alternate Bowing. It consists of two staves: a bass staff on the left and a treble staff on the right. The bass staff continues with a quarter note D4, followed by eighth notes E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, and D5. The treble staff continues with a quarter note E5, followed by eighth notes F5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, and E6. The system ends with a double bar line.