



2022-2023

Bassoon
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.

a. CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR THE CONSERVATORY ORCHESTRA

Prepare the enclosed excerpts from:

- **Mozart: Overture to *The Marriage of Figaro*, beginning to measure 7**
- **Mozart: Overture to *The Marriage of Figaro*, pickup to m. 102 to 123**
- **Berlioz: *Symphonie Fantastique*, mvt. IV, reh. 52 to reh. 53 (downbeat)**

b. CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR THE YOUNG ARTISTS ORCHESTRA

Prepare the enclosed excerpts from:

- **Mozart: Symphony no. 41, mvt. I, m. 62 to 71**
- **Mozart: Symphony no. 41, mvt. I, m. 105 to 120**
- **Brahms: Symphony no. 3, mvt. IV, beginning to m. 15**
- **Brahms: Symphony no. 3, mvt. IV, m. 223 to 247**

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

3. **Scales:** One two-octave scale of your choice (played once tongued and once slurred).

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.

CO:

Mozart: Overture to *The Marriage of Figaro*, beginning to m. 7

6

Presto
a 2
pp

ff

1

1

Mozart: Overture, *The Marriage of Figaro*, pickup to m. 102 to m. 123

97

p

Fag. I Solo
p

109

119

a 2

1

1

1

Berlioz: *Symphonie fantastique*, mvt. IV, reh. 52 to reh. 53 (downbeat)

The image shows a musical score for the fourth movement of Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique*, specifically the rehearsal section from rehearsal 52 to rehearsal 53. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or D minor). It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a boxed rehearsal mark '52' and the instruction 'a 2. Soli.' followed by a dynamic marking 'p'. The music features a series of chords and moving lines. The second staff continues the musical texture. The third staff concludes with a boxed rehearsal mark '53' and a dynamic marking 'f' (forte) on a downbeat, indicated by a right-pointing arrow. The notation includes various note values, rests, and articulation marks.

YAO:

Mozart: Symphony no. 41, mvt. I, m. 62 to 71

Musical score for the first system, measures 62 to 71. The score is written in bass clef with a 6/8 time signature. It begins with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) at measure 62. The music features a series of eighth-note chords and melodic lines. A bracket spans from measure 62 to measure 71. At measure 71, there is a dynamic shift to *f* (forte) and a key signature change to one flat (B-flat major). The system ends with a fermata over the final notes.

Mozart: Symphony no. 41, mvt. I, m. 105 to 120

Musical score for the second system, measures 105 to 120. The score is written in bass clef with a 6/8 time signature. It begins with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) at measure 105. The music is characterized by dense, rapid sixteenth-note passages. A bracket spans from measure 105 to measure 119. At measure 119, there is a dynamic shift to *f* (forte). The system ends with a fermata over the final notes.

Brahms: Symphony no. 3, mvt. IV, beginning to m. 15

Allegro

p e sotto voce

dim. *p mezza voce*

pp *pp*

A 1

6

13

Brahms: Symphony no. 3, mvt. IV, m 223 to 247

sf

sf *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf*

sf *sf*

sf *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf*

sf *sf* *sf* *sf* *f* *dim.* *p dim.*

N

223

230

236

240

244