



**2021-2022**

**Percussion**  
**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 Prokofiev Symphony no. 5, 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 a 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 The Newman Center for the Performing Arts 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 1-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:

- **Prokofiev: *Lt. Kije* Suite (snare drum)**
- **Kabalevsky: *Colas Breugnon* Overture (xylophone)**
- **Beethoven: Symphony no. 5 mvt. IV (timpani)**

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

Prepare the enclosed excerpts from:

- **Prokofiev: *Lt. Kije* Suite (snare drum)**
- **Snare drum roll from ppp to fff to ppp in about 20 seconds**
- **Tchaikovsky: *Romeo & Juliet*, Fantasy Overture (cymbals)**
- **Ten cymbal crashes from ppp to fff; play half notes with quarter = 60**
- **Tchaikovsky: Symphony no. 4 mvt. IV (bass drum)**
- **Kabalevsky: *Colas Breugnon* Overture (xylophone)**
- **Dukas: *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* (glockenspiel)**
- **Dvorak: *Carnival Overture* (tambourine)**
- **Beethoven: Symphony no. 5 mvt. IV (timpani)**
- **Brahms: Symphony no. 1 mvt. IV (timpani)**

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

3. Possible sight-reading and scales as determined by the audition committee. You may also be asked to perform snare drum rolls, cymbal crashes, etc.

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 and YAO:

## Prokofiev: *Lt. Kije* Suite (snare drum)

*Andante assai*  
*Gr. ap.*  
*p*

*rit.*

**1**  
*Doppio movimento*  
*Tamb. mil. Solo*  
*pp*

S. Prokofiev, Op. 60

**2**  
*Tamb. mil.*  
*pp*

*B.D.*  
*ppp*

*pp*

**YAO:**

**Tchaikovsky: *Romeo & Juliet*, Fantasy Overture (cymbals)**

**Allegro giusto.**

10 **D** 21 **E** Piatti *mf* *ff*

4 **F** Gr. Cassa *ff* 22 **G** 21 **H** 38

**J** 30 **K** 27 **L** 20 **M** 11 **N** *ff* 1 1

**YAO:**

**Tchaikovsky: Symphony no. 4 mvt. IV (bass drum)**

**(play bottom line)**

The musical score consists of five staves of music in bass clef. The first staff begins with a rest followed by a series of eighth notes. The second staff features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with stems pointing down. The third staff continues with eighth notes, some with stems pointing up and some down. The fourth staff shows eighth notes with stems pointing down, followed by a few chords. The fifth staff concludes with eighth notes and a final chord, ending with a double bar line and a fermata.

*Fine.*

# CO and YAO:

## Kabalevsky: *Colas Breugnon* Overture (xylophone)

Musical score for xylophone, measures 6 through 13. The score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). Measure numbers 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13 are indicated in boxes above the staff. Measure 6 contains a whole note with a fingering of 9. Measure 7 contains a whole note with a fingering of 7. Measure 8 contains a whole note with a fingering of 5. Measure 9 contains a whole note with a fingering of 9. A bracket groups measures 9, 10, 11, and 12, with a dynamic marking of *f* and an *8va* instruction above the staff. Measure 10 contains a half note with a fingering of 9. Measure 11 contains a half note with a fingering of 9. Measure 12 contains a half note with a fingering of 9. Measure 13 contains a whole note with a fingering of 7. A bracket groups measures 12 and 13, with a dynamic marking of *sf* and an instruction for a triangle below the staff. Performance instructions include "(snare drum) (timpani)" below measures 8 and 9, "(8va)" above measure 10, "cresc." below measure 11, and "(triangle)" below measure 13.

YAO:

Dukas: *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* (glockenspiel)

9 12 10 12 11 12 12 9 13 9 14 9 15 6

16 12 Altos Soli

GLOCK.  
*p détaché*

18 *cresc.* *rinf.*

19 *rinf. più f.* *sempre cresc.*

20 12 21 6 *Poco animato Più animando*

22 Au Mouv!  
GLOCK.  
*ff*

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the 'YAO' section of 'The Sorcerer's Apprentice' by Dukas. The score is written for a glockenspiel and is in the key of B-flat major (two flats). It consists of seven staves of music. The first staff shows a sequence of numbers: 9, 12, 10, 12, 11, 12, 12, 9, 13, 9, 14, 9, 15, 6. The second staff begins with measure 16, marked '12' and 'Altos Soli'. It features a bracketed section labeled 'GLOCK.' with the instruction '*p détaché*'. The third staff contains measures 17 and 18, with dynamics '*cresc.*' and '*rinf.*'. The fourth staff continues with measures 19 and 20, marked '*rinf. più f.*' and '*sempre cresc.*'. The fifth staff starts with measure 19, then measure 20 (marked '2'), measure 21, and measure 6. It includes the tempo markings '*Poco animato*' and '*Più animando*'. The sixth staff begins with measure 22, marked '22 Au Mouv!' and 'GLOCK.', with a dynamic of '*ff*'. The seventh staff continues the melodic line. The score uses various musical notations including slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.





# CO and YAO:

## Beethoven: Symphony no. 5 mvt. IV (timpani)

359 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
*Allegro* ( $\text{♩} = 84$ ) *cresc.* - - - *attacca*

374 *ff*

383

391 3 A 2 1

407 7 2 7  
*Bassi* *f* *3* *3* *3* *3*

YAO:

Brahms: Symphony no. 1 mvt. IV (timpani)

359 *Viol. I* *Trpt.* *f* **Q** 7

375 *string.* *p* *<sf>* *<sf>* *<sf>* *cresc.* 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

391 *f* *mf*

397 4 1 6 1

415 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

423 3 3 3 3 3 5 3 6 6 6 6 6 3

435 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 3 6 6 6 3

445 *tr* *sf* *tr* 1 2 3 4 *tr*

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the timpani part of Brahms' Symphony No. 1, 4th movement. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It begins at measure 359 with a complex rhythmic pattern. Above the staff, there are markings for 'Viol. I' and 'Trpt.' with a dynamic of 'f'. A 'Q' (crescendo) marking is present. The score continues with a series of notes, some with fingerings (1-7) and a 'string.' marking. A large bracket groups measures 375-445, which are marked with dynamics 'p', 'sf', and 'cresc.'. The tempo changes to 'Più Allegro' at measure 391. The score features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are several triplet markings (3) and sixteenth-note patterns (6). The piece concludes with a trill (tr) and a final note with a '1' fingering.