



## 2026-2027 Colorado Springs Youth Symphony Association Cello Audition Music

### Locate your audition status:

- **New musician to CSYSA**
- **Returning Wolfgang, Amadeus, Allegro, or Vivace musician**
- **Returning Ovation or Youth Symphony musician**

**Note:** Mozart String Project (MSP) musicians will be contacted by their musician's Mozart teacher for referral into Wolfgang String Orchestra - they will not proceed with this audition process.

### [Audition Guidelines for String Musicians NEW to CSYSA](#)

#### **Audition Requirements:**

- One scale of musician's choice from list provided
- One scale of the judges choice from list provided
- Two audition excerpts
- Sight reading
  - To be considered for either of our two top level groups (Ovation or Youth Symphony): In addition to the requirements above, prepare a two-minute maximum solo or etude of your choice.

#### **Scales List:**

- Level One (Wolfgang) - C, G, or D Major scale - one octave
- Level Two (Amadeus) - C, G, D, A, or F Major scales - one octave
- Level Three (Allegro) - C, G, D, A, F, or B-flat Major and relative (melodic) minor scales - two octaves
- Level Four (Vivace) - C, G, D, A, F, or B-flat Major and relative (melodic) minor scales - two octaves
- Ovation Youth Orchestra - C, G, D, A, F, B-flat, or E-flat Major and relative (melodic) minors when possible - two octaves (three octaves optional)
- Youth Symphony - All Major and minor scales through five sharps and 5 flats - three octaves

For string musicians who are not quite ready for our auditioned groups, we offer a beginning strings program for students with little to no experience. For more information on the Mozart Strings Project, go to our website at [csysa.com](http://csysa.com) and find Mozart Strings Project under “Programs.”

### **Audition Guidelines for All Returning Wolfgang, Amadeus, Allegro, and Vivace Musicians**

#### **Audition Requirements:**

- One scale of musician’s choice from list provided
- One scale of the judges choice from list provided
- Two audition excerpts
- Sight reading

#### **Scales List:**

- Level One (Wolfgang) - C, G, or D Major scale - one octave
- Level Two (Amadeus) - C, G, D, A, or F Major scales - one octave
- Level Three (Allegro) - C, G, D, A, F, or B-flat Major and relative (melodic) minor scales - two octaves
- Level Four (Vivace) - C, G, D, A, F, or B-flat Major and relative (melodic) minor scales - two octaves

- ★ To be considered for either Ovation or Youth Symphony, musicians in any string orchestra must pass the Vivace String Orchestra audition requirements.
- ★ If you think you will pass the Vivace String Orchestra audition requirements, it is highly recommended that you prepare both Vivace and the next level. Have a two-minute maximum solo excerpt or etude of your choice prepared.
- ★ Judges will inform the musician who has passed the Vivace level immediately after the audition. The musician will then need to schedule a second audition time with a volunteer or CSYSA office staff member.

## **Audition Guidelines for All Returning Ovation and Youth Symphony Musicians**

### **Audition Requirements:**

- One scale of musician's choice from list provided
- One scale of the judges choice from list provided
- Two audition excerpts
  - Auditioners may substitute State Honor Band or State Honor Orchestra music for the two CSYSA excerpts. Please refer to the State Honor Band/Orchestra sites to obtain their audition music.
- Two-minute maximum solo or etude of your choice
- Sight reading

### **Scales List:**

- Ovation Youth Orchestra - C, G, D, A, F, B-flat, or E-flat Major and relative (melodic) minors when possible - two octaves (three octaves optional)
- Youth Symphony - All Major and minor scales through five sharps and 5 flats - three octaves

### Excerpt #1

Slowly With Expression

*mf*

*f*

*mf*

### Excerpt #2

$\text{♩} = 120$

*mf*

*mp* *cresc.* *mf*

rall. 2nd. time

1. 2.

### Excerpt #3

Musical score for Cello, Excerpt #3, measures 9-46. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The music is divided into six systems, each containing one or two staves. Measure numbers 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 40, 44, 45, and 46 are indicated. Performance instructions include *pizz.* (pizzicato), *arco* (arco), *f* (forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *p* (piano), and *cresc. poco poco* (crescendo poco poco). Dynamic markings are often connected to notes with slanted lines. Bowing techniques are indicated by 'V' (violino) and '3' (triplato). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4. A box highlights measure 9, and another box highlights measure 17. A box highlights measure 25, and another box highlights measure 35. A box highlights measure 44, and another box highlights measure 45.

### Excerpt #4

Musical score for Excerpt #4, measures 9-16. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. Measure 9 starts with a circled '9' and a dynamic marking of *f*. Measures 10 and 11 show a crescendo to *ff* and a decrescendo back to *f*. Measures 12 and 13 show another crescendo to *ff* and a decrescendo to *f*. Measure 14 begins with a new phrase. Measure 15 continues the phrase. Measure 16 is the first ending, marked with a first ending bracket and '1.'.

### Excerpt #5

Lullaby by William Hofeldt

Tempo: Adante sostenuto (♩ = 60)

Musical score for Excerpt #5, measures 63-87. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. Measure 63 starts with a circled '63'. Measures 64-67 continue the melodic line. Measure 67 is marked with a circled '67' and a dynamic marking of *f*. Measures 68-72 continue the melodic line. Measures 73-77 continue the melodic line, with fingering numbers 1, 2, 2, 4, 2, 1 indicated. Measure 78 starts with a dynamic marking of *dim.*. Measures 79-82 continue the melodic line, with a dynamic marking of *e rit.* and a *mp* marking at the end. Measure 83 is marked with a circled '83' and the tempo marking *a tempo*. Measures 84-87 continue the melodic line.

## Excerpt # 6

Romanian Folk Dances 4. Maruntel by Bela Bartok, arranged by Deborah Baker Monday

Tempo: Piu allegro (♩ = 120)

Instructions: Play double stops

45 **Più allegro**

46 47 48 49 50 51

*f*

52 53 54 55 56 57 58

*f sfz*

59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66

*sfz*

67 68 69 70 71 72 73

*(f) sfz*

## Excerpt #7

Concerto a Cinque, Op. 7, No. 1 by Tomaso Albinoni

Tempo: ♩ = 120

12

*mf* *f*

15 *f* *mf* *mp*

18 *mf* *x1* *2* *x2* *4*

21 *mf* *mp* *mf*

24 *x2* *-2* *#* *4* *x2*

27 *x2* *1* *4* *0*

30 *-2*

33 *4* *1* *4* *V* *V* *V*

Excerpt #7 continued on next page

The image displays five staves of musical notation for a cello, written in the bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major). The music consists of eighth-note patterns. The first staff (measures 35-38) includes dynamics *mp*, *p*, and *mf*. The second staff (measures 39-41) features a *x4* marking above the first measure, dynamics *f*, *p*, and *f*, and a boxed measure number 41. The third staff (measures 42-44) has dynamics *mf*, *mp*, *f*, and *p*. The fourth staff (measures 45-47) continues the eighth-note pattern. The fifth staff (measures 48-50) includes dynamics *mp*, *mp*, *p*, and *mf*, ending with a *rit.* (ritardando) marking. A fermata is placed over the final note of the fifth staff.

## Excerpt #8

Nimrod by Edward Elgar

Tempo: Adagio (♩ = 52)

Instructions: Perform the upper divisi (top part)

Adagio ♩ = 52

*pp*

*div.*

*(v) dim.*

*pp > ppp* *mf* *cresc.*

*mf*

*dim.* *p* *pp*

*p* *cresc.*

*mf*

# Excerpt #9

♩ = 78

Musical score for Excerpt #9, measures 38-51. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 78. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff (measures 38-41) begins with a circled 'C' above the staff and a dynamic marking of *p* *exp:* below. The second staff (measures 42-46) features a dynamic marking of *f* below. The third staff (measures 47-50) features a dynamic marking of *p* below and a *dim.* marking at the end. The fourth staff (measures 51-52) continues the melodic line.

# Excerpt #10

♩. = 112

Musical score for cello, measures 238-282. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as ♩. = 112. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf*, *f*, *p*, *ff*, and *p < f*. There are also performance instructions: **L** (Left hand), **M** (Middle), and **R** (Right hand). The score is divided into systems: measures 238-242, 246-257, and 262-282. The notation includes various rhythmic values, slurs, and articulation marks.

Excerpt #11

Fantastic Symphony, Op. 14  
Movement V

Hector Berlioz

Hexenrondanz.  
Ronde du Sabbat.  
Witches' round dance.  
Poco meno mosso.

*sf* *mf* *ff* *cresc.* *f* *sempre f* *cresc.* *ff* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *cresc.* *ff*