



2026-2027 Colorado Springs Youth Symphony Association Viola 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 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

♩ = 120

2

mf

9

mp *cresc.* *mf*

rall. 2nd. time

1. 2.

Detailed description: This musical excerpt is written for a single staff in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 120. The first measure contains a whole rest, followed by a dynamic marking of *mf*. The melody consists of eighth notes. At measure 9, the dynamic is *mp*, followed by a *cresc.* (crescendo) leading to *mf*. The piece concludes with a first ending bracket (1.) and a second ending bracket (2.) with a fermata over the final note.

Excerpt #2

Slowly With Expression

mf legato

V V

V V

A

mf

Detailed description: This musical excerpt is written for a single staff in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked "Slowly With Expression". The dynamic is *mf legato*. The melody features several slurs and accents. There are two pairs of notes marked with a 'V' above them, indicating vibrato. A first ending bracket labeled 'A' is present. The dynamic *mf* is repeated at the end of the excerpt.

Excerpt #3

11 12 14 16 H2

legato

17

mp détaché

18 19 20 22

cresc. poco poco

23 25 26 27 28 V

f

29 A

Excerpt #4

10 11 12 13

ff f ff f

14 15 16

1.

Excerpt #5

Lullaby by William Hofeldt

Tempo: Adante sostenuto (♩ = 60)

Instructions: Perform the upper divisi (top part)

69 70 71 72 73

74 75 76 77 78 79 *dim.*

80 81 82 83 *a tempo* 84 85

e rit. *mp*

86 87 88 89 90 91 *div.* *mf cresc.*

92 93 94 95

Excerpt # 6

Blue Fire Fiddler by Soon Hee Newbold

Tempo: Presto (♩ = 120)

Musical score for Viola, Excerpt # 6, measures 62-74. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The tempo is Presto (♩ = 120). The score consists of four staves of music. Measures 62-65 show a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Measures 66-68 feature a more complex rhythmic pattern with accents and slurs. Measure 69 is marked with a box around the number 69. Measures 70-71 continue the complex rhythmic pattern. Measure 72 starts with a dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo). Measures 73-74 continue the complex rhythmic pattern with accents and slurs. The score ends with a double bar line.

Excerpt #7

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

Tempo: ♩ = 120

Musical score for Viola, Excerpt #7, measures 12-33. The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system contains measures 12-20, and the second system contains measures 21-33. The score includes dynamic markings (*mf*, *f*, *mp*), articulation marks (accents, slurs), and fingering numbers (4, 0). Measure 12 starts with a box containing the number 12. Measure 21 starts with a box containing the number 21. Measure 33 starts with a box containing the number 33. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Excerpt #7 continued on next page

36 *mp* *p* *mf*

39 *f* *p* *f* 41

42 *mf* *mp* 43 *f* 44 *p*

45 46 47

48 *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *rit.*

Excerpt #8

Nimrod by Edward Elgar

Tempo: Adagio (♩ = 52)

Instructions: Perform the upper divisi (top part)

Adagio ♩ = 52

pp

div.

dim.

pp > ppp

mf

f

dim.

p

pp

div.

cresc.

mf

f

ff

Excerpt #9

♩ = 62

The musical score consists of four staves of music in a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 3/4 time signature. The first staff begins with the instruction *mf espress.*. The second staff contains a first ending bracket labeled with the number 2. The third staff contains a second ending bracket labeled with the number 3 and includes dynamic markings: *cresc. molto*, *f dim.*, *p*, and *mf*. The fourth staff includes the instruction *poco cresc.* and ends with a *f* dynamic marking.

Excerpt #10

♩ = 144

171 *H sereno*
ff

173 *ff*

176

179 *come prima*
ff

181 *sempre ff*

184

Detailed description: This is a musical score for Viola, consisting of six staves of music. The first staff (measure 171) is marked with a forte dynamic (*ff*) and includes the instruction *H sereno*. The second staff (measure 173) also features a forte dynamic (*ff*). The third staff (measure 176) is a continuation of the previous line. The fourth staff (measure 179) is marked *come prima* and *ff*. The fifth staff (measure 181) is marked *sempre ff*. The sixth staff (measure 184) is the final line of the excerpt. The music is written in a single system with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 2/4. The notation includes various rhythmic values, slurs, and dynamic markings.

Excerpt #11 (top line only)

Fantastic Symphony, Op. 14

Movement V

Hector Berlioz

The image shows a page of musical notation for the Violin I part of the Fantastic Symphony, Op. 14, Movement V by Hector Berlioz. The score is written in G major and 2/4 time. It begins at measure 77 and ends at measure 82. The notation includes various dynamics such as *pp*, *cresc. poco a poco*, *mf*, *cresc. sempre*, *cresc. molto*, and *ff*. There are also performance markings like *V* (accents) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The score features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure numbers 79, 80, 81, and 82 are clearly marked. The page is numbered 13 at the bottom left.