



VERMONT YOUTH ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

2026 VYOA Percussion Audition Packet

2026 VYOA auditions at the Elley-Long Music Center will include:

1. **Scale & arpeggio:** Prepare one major **OR** one minor scale of your choice with corresponding arpeggio. The scale and arpeggio should be played at a minimum tempo of quarter note = 80 BPM. Prepare the number of octaves that best represents your range of ability. The scale and arpeggio do not need to be memorized.
PERCUSSIONISTS: In addition to one scale and arpeggio (xylophone/orchestra bells), you will be asked to demonstrate basic rudiments such as a long roll (snare) and tuning changes (timpani).
2. **Solo of your choice** (without accompaniment): Prepare a brief solo that best demonstrates your technical and expressive capabilities. 2 minutes of your solo will be heard, so select a starting point that will showcase your best playing. Your piece does not need to be memorized. Choose a solo on **ONE** instrument- snare drum, timpani, or xylophone/orchestra bells.
3. **Sight Reading:** A short passage selected by the adjudicators will be provided in the audition. You will sight read on snare drum and timpani. You will not be asked to sight read on xylophone/orchestra bells.
4. **Orchestral excerpts:** From the excerpts provided below, prepare **ONE** excerpt on snare drum, **ONE** excerpt on timpani, and **ONE** excerpt on xylophone/orchestra bells (3 excerpts total). For each instrument, select the excerpt that best demonstrates your technical and expressive capabilities. Tempos given are suggestions and you will not be penalized for deviating from them.

SNARE DRUM

Excerpt A

Mark Alpízar

4/4 Time. Quarter note=112 BPM.

Example Recording

Excerpt B

Rimsky-Korsakov- Capriccio Espagnole, Mvt. 3 “Alborada”

2/4 time, quarter note=120. Skip the rest from H to I after a brief pause and continue.

Example Recording

III. Alborada.

Vivo e strepitoso.

Handwritten musical score for a string quartet, page 12. The score consists of four staves. The top staff is treble clef, 2/4 time, dynamic f. The second staff is bass clef. The third staff is treble clef, dynamic f, with measure numbers 12 and 1. The fourth staff is bass clef. Various slurs and grace notes are present. Handwritten markings include 'H' and 'I' above the first staff, '12' and '1' above the third staff, and 'K' with a bracket connecting to the fourth staff. Measure numbers 29, 30, and 'attacca' are at the end of the fourth staff. The score is on a light blue background with a white grid.

Excerpt C

Prokofiev- Peter and the Wolf

4/4 Time, quarter note=104

[Example Recording](#)

48 Sostenuto $\text{♩} = 100$ 8

49 Military DRUM ff Solo

50 fp f fp

51 Poco piu mosso

Excerpt D

Prokofiev- Lieutenant Kijé, Symphonic Suite, Mvt. I

4/4 time, quarter note=120

[Example recording](#)

120
Military Drum
pp

4/4

104
B.Drum
M.Dr.
pp

8

XYLOPHONE

Excerpt A

Mark Alpízar

4/4 Time. Quarter Note=104

[Example Recording](#)

$\text{♩} = 104$
Allegro moderato

4/4

f

p

5

f

Excerpt B

Shostakovich- Symphony No. 5, Mvt. 3

4/4 time, quarter note=50

[Example Recording](#)

Musical score for Excerpt B, showing two staves of music. The first staff starts with a dynamic *ff*. The second staff begins with a measure of rests. Measure numbers 89 and 90 are circled. The tempo is marked *Largo* with a dotted quarter note = 50. The score is in 4/4 time.

Excerpt C

Shostakovich- Symphony No. 5, Mvt. 2.

Skip rests between rehearsals 71 and 74.

[Example Recording](#)

By Dmitri Shostakovich

Musical score for Excerpt C, showing three staves of music. The first staff starts with a dynamic *f*. The second staff begins with a measure of rests. The third staff begins with a measure of rests. Measure numbers 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, and 74 are circled. The tempo is marked *Allegretto* with a dotted quarter note = 138. The score is in 2/4 time.

Excerpt D

Kabalevsky- Colas Breugnon Suite, Overture

2/4 time, half note=120

Example Recording

Presto (in one)

8va *sempre*

f *R L R*

R R L R

R L R L R L R L R

(loco) *ff* *etc.* *mf R L*

R

36

TIMPANI

Excerpt A

Mark Alpízar

4/4 time, Quarter Note=92

[Example Recording](#)



Musical score for Timpani in 4/4 time. The score consists of two staves of music. The first staff starts with a dynamic **f**. The second staff starts with a dynamic **p**, followed by **f**, **ff**, **p**, and **ff**. The music is primarily composed of eighth-note patterns.

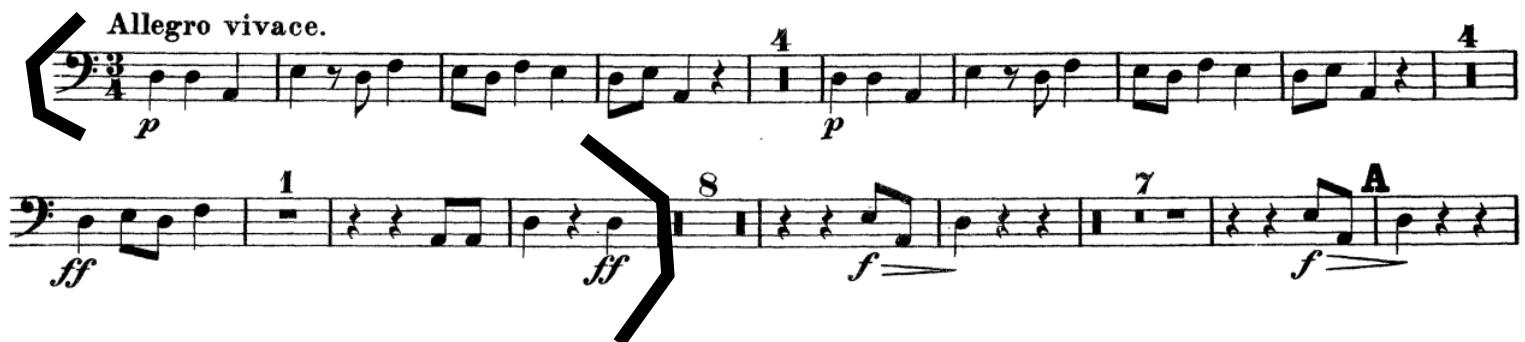
Excerpt B

Richard Strauss - Burleske for Piano and Orchestra

3/4 Time Signature. Dotted half note = 69

[Example Recording](#)

4 Pauken in F, E, D und A.



Musical score for Timpani in 3/4 time. The score consists of two staves of music. The first staff starts with a dynamic **p**. The second staff starts with a dynamic **ff**. The music is primarily composed of eighth-note patterns. A large bracket groups measures 1 through 8, with a dynamic **ff** at the beginning of the bracket and a dynamic **f** at the end. Measures 7 and 8 are labeled with the letter **A**.

Excerpt C

Beethoven- Symphony No. 5, Mvt. 3 ending and beginning of Mvt. 4 (to be performed into each other with no pause)

[Example Recording](#)

Allegro $\text{d} = 96$ op. 67

324 Solo

pp

331 1 (-30) 2 3 4 5-30

366 *cresc.* *sempre pp* *attacca subito*



4. Satz

Allegro $\text{d} = 84$

ff

7

13

18



Excerpt D

Tchaikovsky- Symphony No. 4, Mvt. 1

9/8 time, dotted quarter note=52, but note stringendo (similar to accel.) throughout.

Bars with repeat signs indicate that the previous measure is to be repeated.

Example Recording

Ben sostenuto il tempo precedente [Moderato con anima $\text{d}.$ = in movimento di Valse]

313

1

2

3 - 8

9

10

pp

poco a poco cresc.

323 *poco a poco string.*

11

12

13

14

327 15 16 - 22 T sempre stringendo al - - - - Allegro con anima

mf

cresc.

f cresc.

339

ff

343

348