



**St. Charles County
Youth Orchestra**

PRIMO Strings

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2023-2024 Audition Requirements

Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass

All Orchestra students must re-audition annually for seating placement. Evaluation of a student is determined exclusively at the discretion of the Audition Judge. The St. Charles County Youth Orchestra is not to be a replacement for an orchestra program within the school. It is strongly recommended that the student participate in both settings.

The Primo String orchestra is designed for students who are:

1. Studying violin, viola, cello, or bass, but have no orchestral experience. For example, a student that plays but does not have an orchestra program in their school
2. Currently playing in their school orchestra but are looking for additional enrichment opportunities. Students are strongly encouraged to play in their school band or orchestra.

Besides having proper instrument and bow technique, students should have solid knowledge of all notes in AT LEAST first position across the range of their instrument in addition to being able to read whole, quarter, half, eighth, and 16th notes.

Because this group is made up of students that may not have any Orchestra experience at the beginning of the season, the conductor reserves the right to make seating changes at any time throughout the season.

Audition Requirements:

Scales - C, G, and D Major scales, 1 or 2 octaves, played in single quarter or half notes at 80 beats per minute.

Solo - 1 unaccompanied solo, at least 60 seconds in length, that best demonstrates the student's ability. The solo does **not** have to be memorized.

Excerpts – **NO** excerpt required

Sight Reading - sight-reading will be given at the audition. Students should be able to sight-read grade 1-1.5 orchestral music.

The list below is an indicator of the repertoire level of a typical Primo Student:

Suzuki Violin School, Volumes 2-4; other collections include Essential Elements or Solos for Young Violinists

Suzuki Viola School Volumes 1-2; other collections include Solos for Young Violists or Essential Elements

Cello: Suzuki Cello School Volume 2; other collections include Solos for Young Cellists or Essential Elements

Bass: Suzuki book 1, Essential Elements book 2 or equivalent