

2026-2027 Dubuque Symphony Youth Ensembles Audition Information

String Ensemble

Cello

Scales

- Perform all scales listed for your instrument, paying close attention to tone, intonation, evenness, and rhythmic accuracy.

Excerpts

- Excerpts do not need to be memorized
- Prepare the excerpts in this packet to the best of your ability. Be sure to pay attention to the key signature, time signature, rhythms, slurs, strong tone, and artistic playing.
- If you are unfamiliar with the excerpt, you can consult with your private or school teacher. You can also listen to a recording or live performance of the piece in order to give yourself the proper style, tempo, and musical context.

Orchestra Placement

- The primary criterion for placement is the student's playing, which includes factors such as tone quality, technique, correct instrument position, musicality, and accuracy of pitch and rhythm.
- *Please note:* Spring 2026 auditions are used only to determine ensemble placement for the 2026-2027 season. Seating within the ensemble may change throughout the season.
- **Tuition Assistance:** The DSYE is committed to serving all students, and no student will be denied membership in the ensembles due to financial concerns. Any student requiring assistance is encouraged to learn more at: <https://dubuquesymphony.org/youth-ensembles>

Orchestra Expectations

- Students are expected to practice their music in between rehearsals to a high artistic level.
- Students are expected to exhibit mature, respectful rehearsal behavior.
- Students are expected to keep their attendance in good standing, missing no more than 2 rehearsals per trimester.

All questions, comments, and inquiries can be directed to:
Hannah Von Mulert, Director of Education & Outreach
hvonmulert@dubuquesymphony.org | 563-557-1677

Dubuque Youth String Ensemble

Cello Audition Sheet

Tempo: Quarter note= approx. 104 for all excerpts

Excerpt 1- *Falconer* by Doug Spata

mm 48-63

The musical score is written for a cello in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins at measure 45 and includes a first ending bracket from measure 46 to 47, followed by a second ending starting at measure 48. A red box labeled "Start" is positioned above measure 48. The second staff continues from measure 49 to 52. The third staff continues from measure 53 to 56, with a red box labeled "56" above measure 56. The fourth staff continues from measure 57 to 60. The fifth staff continues from measure 61 to 63 and ends with a red box labeled "End" below measure 63. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings, including a forte (*f*) marking under measure 47.

Excerpt 2- *C Here* by Seth Gamba
mm 67-74

67 *aggressively*

f

72

End

Excerpt 3- *Beginning to m. 17*

SCHUMANN
Arranged by Denis Wright

Not fast

p

mf cantabile

rit. a tempo

End