

Fall 2026
University of Kansas Orchestral Program Audition Music
Bass

Auditions are required for placement into the KU Symphony Orchestra and the KU Prairie Fire Ensemble. Auditions will be held **Thursday, August 20** through **Saturday, August 22**. Audition sign-up forms will be posted on the KU School of Music website in the orchestra section starting July 1, 2026.

Everyone is required to perform a 3-octave major and melodic minor scale of their choice and the two audition excerpts.

KU Symphony Orchestra

Fall Semester Rehearsals: TR 3:30pm-6:20pm; First rehearsal - **Tuesday, August 25, 2026**

KU Philharmonic Orchestra

Fall Semester Rehearsals: T 6:30pm-8:20pm; First rehearsal - **Tuesday, September 1, 2026**

KU Prairie Fire Ensemble

Fall Semester Rehearsals: M 4:00pm-5:50pm; First rehearsal - **Monday August 24, 2026**

Excerpt #1 - Brahms *Academic Festival Overture* - Pickup to Rehearsal I until the end of measure 345.

Half note = 70-75

This musical score excerpt covers measures 250 to 345 of Brahms' *Academic Festival Overture*. The music is written in bass clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked as 70-75 half notes. The score includes various dynamic markings and performance instructions:

- Measure 250:** Starts with a *ff* (fortissimo) dynamic. A *Vcl.* (Violoncello) part is indicated above the staff.
- Measure 259:** Features a *p m. v.* (piano mezzo voce) marking and a *dim.* (diminuendo) instruction.
- Measure 268:** Includes a *p* (piano) marking and a *cresc. molto* (crescendo molto) instruction.
- Measure 274:** Features a *ff* (fortissimo) dynamic and a rehearsal mark labeled **K**.
- Measure 280:** Includes a *marc.* (marcato) marking.
- Measure 285:** Continues the marcato section.
- Measure 290:** Features a *ff* (fortissimo) dynamic.
- Measure 301:** Includes a *marc.* (marcato) marking.
- Measure 307:** Features a *fp* (fortissimo piano) dynamic and a rehearsal mark labeled **L**.
- Measure 314:** Includes a *poco f* (poco fortissimo) marking and a rehearsal mark labeled **M**.
- Measure 324:** Features a *4* (quadruple) time signature change.
- Measure 336:** Includes a *p dolce* (piano dolce) marking and a *dolce* (dolce) instruction. The staff also indicates parts for *Ob.* (Oboe), *Klar.* (Clarinet), and *Fl.* (Flute).
- Measure 343:** Features an *Ob.* (Oboe) part and a *p* (piano) marking.

Excerpt #2 - Rachmaninoff *Symphonic Dances Op. 45 Mvt. I* - Rehearsal 1 to rehearsal 7

Quarter note = 120

9

ff

molto marcato

fff *ff*

2

dim.

3

1

mf *mf* *cresc.*

4

pizz.

ff *dim.* *p* *dim.*

arco

pp *f*

5

pizz.

1

6

p *p*

arco

1

f *p*

7

mf *f* *p*

pizz.

1

1

3/4