

Fall 2026
University of Kansas Orchestral Program Audition Music
Viola

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 is for the first excerpt of Brahms' *Academic Festival Overture*, covering measures 253 to 345. The music is written for a single staff in 3/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked as 70-75 half notes per minute.

The score includes the following measures and markings:

- Measure 253:** Starts with a forte (*ff*) dynamic. A first ending bracket labeled **I** spans measures 253-256. A *p m. v.* (pizzicato molto vivace) marking appears at the end of measure 256.
- Measure 262:** Features a first ending bracket labeled **1** and a *cresc. molto* (crescendo molto) marking.
- Measure 274:** Includes a key signature change to one flat (B-flat) and a forte (*ff*) dynamic. A first ending bracket labeled **K** spans measures 274-281.
- Measure 282:** Features a *marc.* (marcato) marking.
- Measure 287:** Includes a forte (*ff*) dynamic.
- Measure 295:** Continues the musical phrase.
- Measure 302:** Features a *marc.* (marcato) marking.
- Measure 310:** Includes a first ending bracket labeled **L** and a *fp* (fortissimo piano) dynamic.
- Measure 318:** Features a first ending bracket labeled **M**, a *poco f espr.* (poco fortissimo espressivo) marking, and a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking.
- Measure 326:** Includes a *dim.* (diminuendo) marking.
- Measure 331:** Features an *arco* (arco) marking and a first ending bracket labeled **1**.
- Measure 339:** Includes a *dolce* (dolce) marking and a *dolce* marking.

Quarter note = 100-120 (accelerando should be included.)

10 6 1 17

p *mp*

a tempo piu mosso

pp *mf* *marcato*

pizz.

mf poco a poco accel. *cresc.*

Tempo I arco

f *mf*

ff *dim.* *p* *simile*

18

pp *cresc.* *mf*

20

divfresc- *f*

unis

21 *pizz.*
ff *f* *cresc.*

div. *arco* *ff* *ff*

unis *molto marcato* *ff*

22 *ff*

23 *dim.* *mf* *f*

dim.

pizz. *div.* *mf* 24 *arco* *p* *cresc.*