



Bravo String Orchestra (BSO) Information

*All String Ensemble, Beginner to Advanced Beginner
Typical school grade levels 4th – 8th*

BRAVO STRING ORCHESTRA (BSO), conducted by Nancy Campbell and Mary Elizabeth Henton, offers string players an opportunity to play in a string ensemble with an emphasis placed on basic ensemble techniques, and rehearsal and performance etiquette. BSO is intended for motivated string players who are looking for a fun, fast-paced orchestral environment. **Students must be able to read music up to grade level 1 and focus in a 90-minute rehearsal session.**

REHEARSALS are **TUESDAYS** throughout the school year (Late August thru early May) from 6:00pm-7:30pm. Location TBD, but likely at a Fayette County Public School High School in Lexington.

TUITION: CKYO audition-based orchestras charge tuition each semester, based on the number of rehearsal hours per week. The tuition helps cover costs like conductors, sectional coaches, judges, music purchase/rental, rehearsal materials, and venue rental. On average, tuition breaks down to about \$16 per week of rehearsal. The tuition rates for the 2025-2026 season will be published in June 2025 with registration materials. Tuition Scholarship available through simple application to CKYO's Board.

- **2026-2027 Tuition: \$255 per semester (charged in September and January, can also pay the year in full in September)**
 - **Monthly Payment Plans:** Tuition can be paid in 8 equal monthly installments from September to May.
 - **Discounts:** Families with multiple children or students participating in more than one orchestra will receive a 10% discount per semester for each child or ensemble.
 - **Fundraising Participation:** Students are required to participate in fundraising each semester or can opt to pay a cash opt-out fee.
- **Financial Assistance:** CKYO offers need-based tuition assistance to ensure access to quality music education for all students. Apply for financial aid here: [CKYO Scholarship Application](#). We encourage any student who needs any assistance to apply – awards range from full tuition to a \$50 subsidy per semester.

MATERIALS: Students must bring the following to every rehearsal:

- Their instrument and necessary accessories (e.g., rock stops, mutes, extra strings, rosin, etc.)
- A pencil
- A CKYO-provided folder with music

CKYO does not provide instruments (except percussion and piano), but does offer some double basses for rent and loans specialty instruments (such as A clarinets, bass clarinet, contrabassoon, etc.) when required for the repertoire.

PERFORMANCES: The Bravo String Orchestra performs in three concerts each season at the Singletary Center for the Arts (November, mid-February, and early May). These concerts take place on Sunday afternoons or evenings, with a rehearsal on stage a few hours before the performance.



Bravo String Orchestra (BSO) Musical, Technical & Audition Requirements

Students in Bravo String Orchestra are expected to:

- Maintain focus and behave appropriately for a 90-minute rehearsal.
- Be comfortable sight-reading repertoire up to grade level 1.
- Help with tuning will be provided at each rehearsal.

ADDITIONAL COMPETENCIES REQUIRED FOR BRAVO STRING ORCHESTRA MEMBERS

- Have familiarity with sharps and flats.
- Have emerging shifting skills.
- Have awareness of compound meters (ie. 6/8 time).
- Display correct posture and setup for your instrument.

Violin, Viola, and Cello:

- Be comfortable in 1st and 3rd positions and know detaché and staccato bow strokes.

Double Bass:

- Be comfortable with music in first position with some shifting to third position and know detaché and staccato bow strokes.

BRAVO STRING ORCHESTRA Audition Requirements

To audition for the Bravo String Orchestra, students must prepare the following and submit a video following specific instructions (found here):

1. **Orchestral Excerpts**

These are short sections of music from pieces performed by the Bravo String Orchestra during the 2025-2026 season. The excerpts highlight key passages for each instrument, showcasing technique and musicality. They help the panel compare players of the same instrument in a standardized way.

2. **Scales**

Scales demonstrate your technical skills, including tone, intonation, and precision in rhythm and fingering. They show how well you can control your instrument and play a variety of music.

3. **Solo**

The solo highlights your musicality, technical ability, and independence. It allows you to showcase expression, tone, and control over challenging passages, providing a full picture of your abilities and readiness to perform in the orchestra.

Click on your instrument below to download your Audition Packet.

[VIOLIN](#)

[VIOLA](#)

[CELLO](#)

[DOUBLE BASS](#)