



**NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS**  
**DWIGHT BECKHAM YOUNG SOLOISTS COMPETITION**

Applicants will be auditioning for a solo opportunity during the 2026-27 Season

**Concert Date: Sunday, Feb. 14, 2027**

**Eligibility:**

- **High School Division:** Wind, brass, string, percussion and piano students attending schools or home schooled in Harvey, Marion, Reno, Butler and McPherson Counties. Students must be at least 16 years of age by Dec. 1, 2026 and be in private lessons.
- **College Division:** Wind, brass, string, percussion, piano, and vocal students attending a private college in Harvey, Marion, Reno, Butler, Rice, Saline or McPherson County. Applicants must be enrolled as a full time student, and involved in private music study at the school they attend.
- Previous first place winners may not compete again in the same division on the same instrument. Previous High School division winners may compete in the College division on the same instrument.

**Audition and Repertoire Information:**

Applicants should be prepared to perform one movement of a standard concerto or concert piece that they expect to perform at the Winter Classics concert. *The selection should not exceed 12 minutes in length for the audition including all solo parts to be performed during the concert, and no more than 15 min. for the concert, including orchestral exposition.* Piano soloists should have their pieces memorized. Students will provide their own audition accompanist, and two judge's copies, including at least one original copy.

**Orchestra score and parts must be available for rent or purchase in the United States. NMKSO reserves the right to reject any music selections based on availability and/or cost of orchestral parts.**

**Repertoire exemptions (played by soloists in the last five years):**

Lalo, *Cello Concerto in D minor, mvt. 1*  
Mozart, *Violin Concerto No. 5 in A Major, mvt. 1*  
Bruch, *Violin Concerto in G minor, Op. 26, mvt. I*  
Milhaud, *Scaramouche for Saxophone and orchestra, mvt. II, III*  
Barber, *Violin Concerto, Op. 14, Mvt. I*  
Tomasi, *Ballade for alto saxophone & orchestra*  
Haydn, *Keyboard Concerto in D Major, Mvt. I*  
Vaughan Williams, *Concerto for Oboe and Strings*  
Lebedev *Concerto No. 1 for Tuba, mvt. I*  
Strauss *Concerto for Horn and Orchestra, Mvt. I*

- **Auditions will be held live on Saturday, Nov. 21, 2026; individual times and location TBA.**
- **Application deadline is Oct. 16, 2026.** All applications must include a \$20 application fee, which is non-refundable. Please make checks payable to the Newton Mid-Kansas Symphony Orchestra or NMKSO.

Please mail Application to:

**Newton Mid-Kansas Symphony Orchestra**  
**P.O. Box 245**  
**North Newton, KS 67117**

If you have any questions, please contact Jill Gatz at 316-772-3265 or [manager@nmkso.org](mailto:manager@nmkso.org). The decision of the adjudicators will be final. NMKSO reserves the right to deny a winner in either category if participants do not qualify. NMKSO reserves the right to reject any music selections based on availability and/or cost of orchestral parts. The winner of the competition must be available to rehearse with the orchestra during the weekend of the performance at the discretion of the Music Director.