

# sarasota youth orchestras™



2015 | 2016 HANDBOOK

# WELCOME

This handbook contains important information about the program. Please take time to read the handbook and keep it in a handy place for future reference. Suggestions for the Youth Orchestra Program are welcomed and encouraged. It is through thoughtful feedback that the program will continue to improve and grow.

# THE HISTORY OF YOUTH ORCHESTRA

The first local Youth Orchestra was founded in 1959. Since then it has evolved into an extensive program that offers young people a chance to participate in one of seven orchestras, a summer music camp, an annual young artists competition and more.

The philosophy underlying the program is to involve all interested youth in classical and orchestral music, both as music-makers and audience members. Former participants have gone on to

join major orchestras, teach music, become administrators for musical institutions, and most importantly, join the ranks of knowledgeable members of the audience.

Conductors and coaches are selected from around the region and include certified music teachers and musicians from the Sarasota Orchestra.

# CONTACT US

The Youth Orchestra Offices are open Monday through Friday 8:30-4:30. The Education staff may be reached by phone or e-mail. Please understand that our duties often take us away from our desks or out of the office.

**In case of emergency absence please call 941-487-2732.**

# STAFF

Alyson Rozier

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You may contact the conductors through the Administrative staff listed above.





## SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Participation in the Sarasota Youth Orchestra Program is designed to enhance, not replace, school music instruction. School music programs provide essential daily ensemble and rehearsal instruction required for serious musical progress. Students who enroll in the Sarasota Youth Orchestra Program are required to participate in their school orchestra/band if one exists.

The Sarasota Orchestra believes that school music programs are vital to the development of young musicians – educationally, artistically and socially. By participating in school music programs, young musicians can serve as role models, receive leadership training and share their talents with others. School programs also provide other important opportunities such as access to All-State Band/Orchestras, Solo and Ensemble Assessments and performing in school productions.

When extenuating circumstances prevail which may prohibit or make students' participation difficult in their school music programs, a student may petition the Sarasota Orchestra for an exemption. To do so, a letter of explanation must be submitted with the Youth Orchestra application. The exemption request will be forwarded to the appropriate band/orchestra director for review and response. In cases when the exemption is not approved by the educator, the request will be reviewed by the Youth Orchestra Enrollment Review Panel. The panel will consist of a school music educator, an Orchestra administrator and a non-partisan youth orchestra parent. It will be the responsibility of the panel to make a determination as to the feasibility of the request and provide a binding recommendation.

## ATTENDANCE

Once accepted and enrolled in the Youth Orchestra Program, you have made a commitment to regular attendance. The success of each ensemble depends upon the full and regular participation of every musician.

- It is mandatory that every student check in prior to each rehearsal/concert.
- If you are absent from more than two rehearsals, your attendance record will be reviewed by artistic and administrative staff. Parent and student will be required to meet with administrative and conducting staff to review the attendance record and, if found to be unacceptable, may result in having to re-audition for the program.
- Absences must be communicated to the Education office in advance of scheduled rehearsal/concert dates, except in cases of illness. A "request for absence" form is available in the Orchestra

Center lobby and online. A form must be completed and signed by the parent/guardian, then by the conductor and submitted to the Education office prior to any absence. Phone and email messages will be accepted in cases of emergency, but please be sure to fill out the form at the next rehearsal.

- Multiple absences caused by extra curricular school activities (sports, drama, etc.) must be approved in advance.
- Dress rehearsals are equivalent to concerts and excused absences are not readily granted. Should you need to be excused from a dress rehearsal, please discuss this with your conductor before submitting a form.

# REHEARSALS

It is expected that student musicians will arrive 15 minutes before rehearsal begins. This allows time for warm-up and tuning. Students should arrange for transportation from the rehearsal hall immediately following the conclusion of each rehearsal. Parents are welcome to observe Youth Orchestra rehearsals.

## EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

All Musicians should have a sharpened pencil in their music folder at all times.

String players - for orchestra consistency, string instruments (**including bows**) should be of traditional finishes. Always have a second set of strings, rosin and shoulder rest (if needed) at all rehearsals/concerts.

Wind/Brass players - always have at least two un-chipped extra reeds, slide grease or valve oil at all rehearsals/concerts.

Percussionists - bring the following mallets to all rehearsals/concerts:

1 pair Timpani Mallets 1 pair Drum Sticks (concert style; size 2B)

1 pair Yarn Mallets 1 pair Hard Plastic Mallets

1 Mallet Bag

## INSTRUMENT LOANS

Instrument loans are available to active members of the Youth Orchestra Program who need an instrument to enable them to participate in the Youth Orchestra Program. Instrument loans

are based on instrument availability and at the discretion of the Education office. A nominal fee is charged to assist with ongoing maintenance costs.

## MUSIC FOLDERS

At the beginning of the season, a music folder containing the compositions for your particular orchestra/ensemble will be made available. It is the responsibility of each musician to bring his/her music folder to every rehearsal and performance. Replacement music is not available to students who do not bring their music folder to a rehearsal/concert.

Keep track of all the parts assigned to you. Do not swap parts with your stand partner, as each part in the folder has a specific code for inventory purposes. You are ultimately responsible for all music that is assigned to you. Music folders must be returned at the end of the season. There will be a fee charged for each missing part and/or technique book.

## DRESS REHEARSALS - CONCERT DRESS

Attendance at dress rehearsals is mandatory. Concert dress is not required for dress rehearsals.

As part of your commitment to the Youth Orchestra Program, it is essential that you conform fully to the concert dress requirements.

Concert dress for:

Prelude Strings, Chamber Strings, Divertimento Strings, Intermezzo Strings, Symphonic Strings

White shirts or blouses. Long sleeves or  $\frac{3}{4}$  length are required. NO TANK TOPS

Black bow ties for men. NO tux coats or vests.

Black pants or long skirts. NO SKIRTS ABOVE THE KNEE. Ankle or floor length preferred.

Black shoes and black socks or stockings are required. NO SANDALS, SNEAKERS OR OPEN-TOED SHOES.

Youth Philharmonic, Youth Symphony and Symphonic Winds

Black shirts or blouses. Long sleeves or  $\frac{3}{4}$  length are required.

Black pants or long skirts. NO SKIRTS ABOVE THE KNEE. Ankle or floor length preferred.

Black shoes and black socks or stockings are required. NO SANDALS, SNEAKERS OR OPEN-TOED SHOES.

Ties for men will be provided.



## CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOR

Youth Orchestra participants are expected to demonstrate appropriate conduct and behavior that exhibits respect toward fellow participants, faculty, staff, and property before, during, and after all rehearsals and concerts. If inappropriate behavior and/or conduct is exhibited, a staff member will contact

the student's parent or guardian to discuss the matter and recommend a course of action. If necessary and warranted, administrative/artistic staff reserves the right to dismiss any student from the Youth Orchestra Program.

**CELL PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES** - the use of cell phones and any other electronic or communication device is strictly prohibited during any rehearsal.

### BULLYING

It is the policy of the Orchestra that all of its students, coaches, volunteers and employees have an environment that is safe, secure and free from bullying of any kind. Consequences and appropriate remedial action for students who commit acts of

bullying may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or dismissal. Incidents of bullying shall be reported to the Vice President of Education or designee.

## DROP-OFF & PICK-UP POLICY

In the interest of the safety for all Youth Orchestra participants, we ask that parents adhere to the following student drop-off and pick-up policies. Please read them carefully. Your adherence to these procedures is necessary and appreciated.

### STUDENT DROP-OFF

**It is expected that student musicians arrive 15 minutes before rehearsal begins.** In cases of very young children, it is recommended a parent/guardian accompany the child into the Orchestra Center. Parents/Guardians are welcome to observe Youth Orchestra rehearsals.

Note: A car pool list is available from the Education staff for those requiring transportation assistance.

### STUDENT PICK-UP

**Parents/Guardians should plan to be at the Orchestra Center at least 5 minutes prior to the end of each rehearsal.** In cases of very young children, it is recommended a parent/guardian come into the lobby to meet the student(s) and accompany them to the vehicle. Students will be asked to remain inside the Orchestra Center until their rides arrive. The building will close 15 minutes after the conclusion of each rehearsal.

# SCHOLARSHIP

Through the generosity individual donors, foundations and grants, college music and summer music camp scholarships are available to Youth Orchestra participants. **Submission deadline is MARCH 2, 2016 for the following scholarship applications:**

## Private Lesson Scholarships

These scholarships are intended to help students who could not otherwise afford the cost of private lessons. All qualified recipients are required to participate in the Youth Orchestra Program. Scholarships are awarded from September 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 with a maximum of 38 lessons per student.

## College Music Scholarships

These scholarships are given to graduating seniors for their continuing music education at the college level. Scholarships are awarded to students becoming music majors studying instrumental music education and/or performance. Scholarships vary in number and size and are based on economic need, instrumental proficiency and service to the Youth Orchestra Program.

## Summer Music Camp Scholarships

These scholarships are intended to help students who could not otherwise afford to attend summer music camps or festivals. Scholarships are based upon financial need and dedication to the Youth Orchestra Program.

## HONORARY AWARDS

**Bette Mattina Award** - In 1983, the family of Bette Mattina established an honorary award to be given to an outstanding and highly dedicated member of the Youth Symphony. The award is to be used to further the recipient's musical education and assist the student with the purchase of a new instrument, or anything appropriately related to furthering their music education while participating in the Youth Orchestra Program.

**Suzanne Alden Memorial Award** - In 1992, the Suzanne Alden Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of the first Orchestra's Development Director. This award was established to recognize the hard work and dedication of a graduating senior to help them begin their college study in music.

# ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

## EDWARD & IDA WILKOF YOUNG ARTISTS CONCERTO COMPETITION

Since 1966, the Sarasota Orchestra has sponsored an annual Young Artists Concerto Competition. Each year, young musicians from the region compete for the opportunity to perform in concert with the Sarasota Orchestra. The competition is open to youth orchestra participants and local pianists. For complete rules and regulations, see our website or contact the Education office. Competition Finals, held in Holley Hall, are open to the public.

## CONCERT CLUB

Students (K-12) are invited to become Concert Club members. Membership enables the student along with family members to attend select Sarasota Orchestra concerts (more than 30 each season) for the unbelievable rate of \$9.00 per ticket! There is a one-time membership fee of \$30.00 per student to participate in Concert Club. Membership is valid through 12th grade. Applications are available from the Education office.

## STUDENT TICKETS TO SARASOTA ORCHESTRA CONCERTS

Students with valid student ID are able to purchase tickets to Sarasota Orchestra concerts for \$9.00 per ticket. All ticket sales are subject to availability. The tickets may be purchased in advance, are non-transferable and cannot be combined with any other discount offer.

## SUMMER MUSIC CAMP

A three-week summer music camp designed for beginning, intermediate, and advanced students. Students participate in an intensive daily rehearsal schedule (Monday through Friday), which includes an instrument technique class, a performing ensemble, and a student elective class. String students meet in the morning. Wind, brass, and percussion students meet in the afternoon. At the conclusion of the 3-week camp, students participate in a recital.

Tuition scholarships are available. Applications are mailed to Youth Orchestra participants in early spring.

## MONDAY REHEARSAL SCHEDULE 2015-16

Symphonic Winds | Youth Symphony | Youth Philharmonic  
5:15 pm - 7:45 pm

### SEPTEMBER

- 14 PARENT/STUDENT ORIENTATION - Holley Hall
- 21 Rehearsal
- 28 Rehearsal

### OCTOBER

- 5 Rehearsal
- 12 Rehearsal
- (Sun.) 18 2:00 pm Young Artists Comp Prelim - Holley Hall
- 19 Rehearsal
- (Sun.) 25 2:00 pm Young Artists Comp Finals  
(Audience welcome) - Holley Hall
- 26 Rehearsal

### NOVEMBER

- 2 Rehearsal
- 9 Dress Rehearsal
- 16 5:15 - 7:00 pm Dress Rehearsal - Riverview HS  
7:00 pm SW, YS, YP Concert - Riverview HS
- 23 Rehearsal
- 30 Rehearsal

### DECEMBER

- 7 Rehearsal
- 14 Rehearsal
- 21 NO REHEARSAL
- 28 NO REHEARSAL

### JANUARY

- 4 NO REHEARSAL
- 11 Rehearsal
- 18 Rehearsal
- 25 Rehearsal

### FEBRUARY

- 1 Rehearsal (YP Side by side with Sarasota Orchestra)
- 8 Rehearsal
- 15 Rehearsal
- 22 Rehearsal
- (Sat.) 27 4:00 pm YP Rehearsal; 7:30 pm YP Concert (Young Artist  
Competition winner and Side-by-side) Neel PAC
- 29 5:15 - 7:45 pm YP Rehearsal  
5:15 - 7:00 pm SW Rehearsal  
7:00 pm SW and YS Concert - Holley Hall

### MARCH

- 7 Rehearsal
- 14 Rehearsal
- 21 Rehearsal
- 28 Rehearsal

### APRIL

- 4 Rehearsal
- 11 Rehearsal
- 18 Rehearsal
- (Sat.) 25 Rehearsal
- 30 TBD Dress Rehearsal - Riverview High  
TBD Showcase Concert - Riverview High School

## TUESDAY REHEARSAL SCHEDULE 2015-16

Chamber Strings | Divertimento Strings  
Intermezzo Strings | Symphonic Strings  
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

### SEPTEMBER

- 15 PARENT/STUDENT ORIENTATION - Holley Hall
- 22 Rehearsal
- 29 Rehearsal

### OCTOBER

- 6 Rehearsal
- 13 Rehearsal
- 20 Rehearsal
- 27 Rehearsal

### NOVEMBER

- 3 Rehearsal
- 10 Dress Rehearsal
- 17 5:30 - 6:30 pm Dress Rehearsal  
6:30 pm Concert (CS, DS, IS, SS) - Holley Hall
- 24 NO REHEARSAL

### DECEMBER

- 1 Rehearsal
- 8 Rehearsal
- 15 Rehearsal
- 22 NO REHEARSAL
- 29 NO REHEARSAL

### JANUARY

- 5 NO REHEARSAL
- 12 Rehearsal
- 19 Rehearsal
- 26 Rehearsal

### FEBRUARY

- 2 Rehearsal
- 9 Rehearsal
- 16 Dress Rehearsal
- 23 5:30 - 6:30 pm Dress Rehearsal  
6:30 pm Concert (CS, DS, IS, SS) - Holley Hall

### MARCH

- 1 Rehearsal
- 8 Rehearsal
- 15 Rehearsal
- 22 Rehearsal
- 29 Rehearsal

### APRIL

- 5 Rehearsal
- 12 Rehearsal
- 19 Rehearsal
- 26 Rehearsal
- (Sat.) 30 TBD Dress Rehearsal - Riverview High  
TBD Showcase Concert - Riverview High School

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## Youth Calendar

### REHEARSALS

**Tuesdays 5:30 - 7:30 pm**

Prelude Strings, Chamber Strings, Divertimento Strings, Intermezzo Strings,  
Symphonic Strings

**Mondays 5:15 - 7:45 pm**

Symphonic Winds, Youth Symphony and Youth Philharmonic

### YOUNG ARTISTS CONCERTO COMPETITION

**Sunday, Oct 18,** Prelims – Holley Hall 2:00 - 6:00 pm

**Sunday, Oct 25,** Finals – Holley Hall 2:00 - 6:00 pm, free and open to the public

### CONCERTS

**Monday, Nov. 16,** Symphonic Winds, Youth Symphony & Youth Philharmonic Concert – 7:00 pm

**Tuesday, Nov. 17,** String Orchestras Concert – 6:30 pm

**Tuesday, Feb. 23,** String Orchestras Concert – 6:30 pm

**Saturday, Feb.27,** Youth Philharmonic Concert/Competition Winners

– Neel 7:30 pm (Side-by-Side with Sarasota Orchestra)

**Monday, Feb. 29,** Symphonic Winds and Youth Symphony Concert – 7:00 pm

**Saturday, Apr. 30,** Youth Orchestra Showcase – TBD