



# Musician's Handbook

## 2022-2023 Season

Revised May, 2022

Welcome to the 2022-2023 season of the Loudoun Symphony Youth Orchestra Program. For those who are new to the orchestra this year, congratulations on your new position! This document is a reference for each musician. It is written to provide an overview of the nature of the organization, the operational policies, requirements, and expectations for the musicians. By accepting a position within the LSYO, you are agreeing to the policies and expectations outlined in this handbook.

### **About Loudoun Symphony Association**

The LSYO is part of the Loudoun Symphony Association, Inc. which is a not-for-profit, 501(c)3 corporation whose mission is to enrich our community through music. The Loudoun Symphony Orchestra (LSO), is also part of the association and was established in 1990 to provide superior classical music experiences and performances to our region.

### **LSYO Player Representatives**

Each season, two parents from the LSYO community may volunteer to serve on the Loudoun Symphony Association Board of Directors as LSYO Player representatives. LSYO Player

representatives are currently Kellan Hogye and Megan Dickerson. If you are interested in serving on the board of directors or volunteering, please contact Karen Knobloch, Loudoun Symphony's executive director at [karen.knobloch@loudounsymphony.org](mailto:karen.knobloch@loudounsymphony.org).

### **Free LSO concerts for LSYO members!**

Loudoun Symphony Orchestra concerts are free for students 12 and under. LSYO musicians may receive one complimentary ticket to each LSO concert by visiting the Loudoun Symphony web site at [www.loudounsymphony.org](http://www.loudounsymphony.org) and ordering in advance. Use promotional code 'LSYO2223' when prompted. All LSO and LSYO concerts will be live performances for the 2022-23 season.

## **General Information**

### **Membership in LSYO**

- Membership in the LSYO is by audition only. Auditions for positions will be held at the end of the season for the following season.
- Individual auditions may be granted during the course of the year for vacant positions as determined to be appropriate by conductors.
- Performers should be aware that their seating may change during the season. Seating auditions will be conducted by the music director and conductors prior to each performance.
- Musicians may be asked to participate in other ensembles other than their own orchestra group.
- Mentoring younger musicians is highly encouraged; please reach out to the conductors or managers to set it up.
- **It is required for students to be enrolled in their school's orchestra or band program** (depending on the instrument they play) in order to be an LSYO member. To request an exemption, please email the General Manager at [lsyo@loudounsymphony.org](mailto:lsyo@loudounsymphony.org).

### **Rehearsals**

LSYO will be conducting in-person rehearsals with full safety/health mitigation as recommended by the CDC. We will not be offering any virtual rehearsal options this season. **Please note that if at any time it is unsafe to hold an in-person ensemble rehearsal, we will make adjustments to the rehearsal formats and schedules.**

- Students will be ready to play (tuned and warmed up) at the start of rehearsal.
- Students will bring their own pencils, tuners, and music to rehearsal.
- We will adhere to any school music room usage rules. At this time, water is allowed, but no eating may take place in LCPS music rooms.

## **COVID-19 Policy**

It is recommended that all Loudoun Symphony musicians, staff, and volunteers who participate in Loudoun Symphony's programs and activities be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 when eligible (as determined by age). For students, masking is optional during rehearsals and concerts.

COVID protocols may be adjusted as we receive updated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Virginia Department of Health, the Virginia Music Educators Association (VMEA), and Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS).

## **COVID-19 Protocols During Rehearsals and Concerts**

Musicians should not attend rehearsal or concerts if they:

- Test positive for COVID-19
- Exhibit any symptoms of COVID-19
- Have had a fever within 24 hours prior (musicians must be fever-free for 24 hours without the help of a fever-reducing medication)

## **COVID-19 Protocols for Audiences**

All audience members will be required to be masked during LSO and LSYO concerts.

## **Schedule**

- String Orchestra
  - Starting: September 13, 2022
  - Weekly on Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 PM
- Symphonic Orchestra
  - Starting: September 13, 2022
  - Weekly on Tuesdays, 6:45 p.m. - 8:30 PM
- Philharmonic Orchestra
  - Starting: September 11, 2022
  - Weekly on Sundays, 4:00 - 6:00 PM
- Weekly reminders of the location and rehearsal goals will be emailed to you.
- Please arrive 10 minutes early to get seated and tuned.
- Late arriving musicians will be seated in the back of their section at the rehearsal.

## **Rehearsal Locations**

Rehearsals will be held in Ashburn. Whenever possible, rehearsals will be held at the following schools:

- Symphonic & String Orchestras

- Trailside Middle School: 20325 Claiborne Pkwy, Ashburn VA 20147
- Philharmonic Orchestra
  - Stone Bridge High School: 43100 Hay Rd, Ashburn VA 20176
- Musicians and parents will be notified via email of our rehearsal location(s) in the weeks prior to our first rehearsals.
- Please note that there will be some rehearsals that need to be held at different locations. Notification about the change of location will be sent in advance via email.

### **Tuition**

Tuition is paid upon registration. A payment schedule may be set up but full tuition must be received by November 1, 2022.

String Orchestra: \$450

Symphonic Orchestra: \$550

Philharmonic Orchestra : \$600

The Loudoun Symphony offers scholarships for LSYO participants who have financial needs. **The Financial Aid Committee must receive your completed financial aid application by August 31, 2022.** Applications received after this time will be considered only if funding is still available.

By paying tuition, you are agreeing to the policies and expectations outlined in this handbook.

### **Concerts**

LSYO will present three concerts per season. Our tentative schedule is to have concerts in November 2022, February and May 2023. All LSYO concerts are free, but attendees must register via Eventbrite. A link will be provided in the weeks prior to a concert.

### **Performance Dress**

String & Symphonic Orchestra

- Tops: Black blouse or shirt
- Bottoms: Black skirt past the knees or black pants
- Footwear: Black socks/stockings and black dress shoes

Philharmonic Orchestra

- Tops: Black blouse or white shirt with black bow tie and black tuxedo jacket or floor-length black dress/skirt
- Bottoms: Black tailored pants
- Footwear: Black socks/stockings and black dress shoes

Any variations in performance attire will be announced in advance. Avoid any strong perfumes, lotions, or other heavy scents. Pungent foods should be avoided before rehearsals and concerts.

### **Concert Performance Location**

Concert venue is not determined at this time. It will be provided prior to each concert cycle.

## **Musician Responsibilities**

### **General Responsibilities**

- Musicians or parents must notify the LSYO General Manager at [lsyo@loudounsymphony.org](mailto:lsyo@loudounsymphony.org) of any changes in contact information, emergency contact information, or medical needs.

### **Artistic Responsibilities**

- Each musician is to maintain a high level of musicianship on their instrument.
- Musicians may be provided with digital files of excerpts and orchestra parts to support individual practice.
- Each musician is to be prepared for each rehearsal and conduct oneself in a professional manner.

### **Rehearsal Attendance**

All musicians are expected to attend rehearsals regularly.

If a musician needs to miss a rehearsal, notification should be sent to the General Manager via email at [lsyo@loudounsymphony.org](mailto:lsyo@loudounsymphony.org) or text via Remind App with **at least 24 hours notice** unless it is a sudden or emergency situation.

Join the Remind App by texting the number 81010 and include the following message based on your ensemble:

- @lsyo22str (for String Orchestra)
- @lsyo22symp (for Symphonic Orchestra)
- @lsyo22phil (for Philharmonic Orchestra)

LSYO allows two (2) tardies and/or two (2) absences during each concert cycle.

- Students must be ready to play (warmed up and tuned) at the down beat.
- Late arrival or early departure will count as a tardy.
- **Two (2) tardies equal one (1) absence**

- If you miss more than two (2) absences in each concert cycle, you may be asked to not play in the concert.
- **Rehearsal attendance during concert week is mandatory.** Exceptions for extenuating circumstances will be determined by the conductor.

**If a musician is unable to commit to rehearsals to the satisfaction of the conductor, the musician may lose their chair position or be removed from the orchestra without tuition reimbursement.**

### **Concert Attendance**

All members of the orchestra are expected to make concert performances a priority in their scheduling. If a musician is unable to commit to any performance, they may be removed from the LSYO without tuition reimbursement.

### **Music Distribution & Returning Music**

- **Most often, music is sent via email and students are expected to print it off prior to their rehearsal.**
- If original music is used only light pencil marks can be made on the music. No colored pencils or pens may be used.
- Original music must be returned immediately after in-person concerts or within 7 days after virtual concerts are recorded.
- Failure to return original music in a timely manner will result in a late/replacement fee.

## **Loudoun Symphony Youth Orchestra Leadership**

Dr. Hayden Denesha  
Music Director and Conductor  
Philharmonic Orchestra

Ashley Driscoll  
Conductor  
Symphonic Orchestra

Robby Carroll  
Conductor  
String Orchestra

Meredith Gersten

General Manager

[lsyo@loudounsymphony.org](mailto:lsyo@loudounsymphony.org)

Dr. Laurie Hudicek

Director, Educational Programming

[laurie.hudicek@loudounsymphony.org](mailto:laurie.hudicek@loudounsymphony.org)

Loudoun Symphony Association, Inc.

Karen Knobloch

Executive Director

[karen.knobloch@loudounsymphony.org](mailto:karen.knobloch@loudounsymphony.org)