



Musicians' Handbook
2023-2024 Season

Welcome to the 2023-2024 season of the Loudoun Symphony Youth Orchestra Program (LYSO). For those who are new to the orchestra this year, congratulations on your new position! This document is a reference for each musician. It provides an overview of the nature of the organization, the operational policies, requirements, and expectations of each musician. 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 Laura Ogellman. 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.

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 and ordering in advance. Use promotional code **LSYO2224** when prompted. All LSO and LSYO concerts will be live performances for the 2023-2024 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.
- **It is required for students to be enrolled in their school's orchestra or band program (depending on the instrument they play) to be a LSYO member.**
 - Homeschool and Elementary students are exempt from this requirement.
 - To request an exemption for any other reason, please email the General Manager at lsyo@loudounsymphony.org.
 - Verification of school participation will be by class schedules provided to the General Manager or verification through email with the schools music director.
- Musicians should be aware that their seat placement 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 coordinate.

Sick Policy

During Rehearsals and Concerts

Musicians should not attend rehearsal or concerts if they:

- Test positive for 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)

Rehearsals

LSYO rehearsals are in-person

- Students will arrive 15 minutes prior start time to set up the rehearsal space, unpack, tune, warmup and be ready to play at designated scheduled time.
 - Sections in each orchestra will be assigned set up duty for their rehearsal room on a rotating basis
 - All musicians will assist with clean up of host space after rehearsal
- Students will bring their own pencils, tuners, and music to rehearsal.
- We will adhere to any host school music room usage rules.
 - At this time, water is allowed, but no eating may take place in LCPS music rooms.

Schedule

- Prelude Strings Orchestra
 - Starting: September 12, 2023
 - Weekly on Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- String Orchestra
 - Starting: September 12, 2023
 - Weekly on Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- Symphonic Orchestra
 - Starting: September 12, 2023
 - Weekly on Tuesdays, 6:45 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- Philharmonic Orchestra
 - Starting: September 10, 2023
 - Weekly on Sundays, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Weekly reminders of the location, set up duty assignments and rehearsal goals will be emailed to you.
- 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:

- Prelude to Strings, String and Symphonic Orchestras
 - Trailside Middle School: 20325 Claiborne Pkwy, Ashburn VA 20147 (Tentative Location)
- Philharmonic Orchestra
 - Stone Bridge High School: 43100 Hay Rd, Ashburn VA 20176 (Tentative Location)
- 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 due to the host schools hosting their own events. Notification about change of location will be sent in advance via email.

Tuition

Tuition includes weekly rehearsals, sectionals, performances, masterclasses, and volunteer opportunities as they arise.

The first half of tuition is due within **14 days of acceptance**. The remainder is due August 31, 2023. A payment schedule may be arranged, but full tuition must be received by November 1, 2023. All payments are non-refundable.

Prelude to Strings*: \$450

String Orchestra*: \$500

Symphonic Orchestra*: \$600

Philharmonic Orchestra*: \$650

*These are prorated when joining later in the Season.

The Loudoun Symphony offers scholarships for LSYO participants who have financial needs. The Financial Aid Committee will consider your completed financial aid application on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the General Manager at lsyo@loudounsymphony.org for more information.

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

Concerts

LSYO will present three concerts per season. Concerts are held at 2 PM on the following dates: November 18, 2023, February 13, 2024, and May 11, 2024. At this time, all LSYO concerts are free however attendees must register via Eventbrite. A link will be provided in the weeks prior to a concert.

Performance Dress

Prelude Strings, String & Symphonic Orchestra

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

Philharmonic Orchestra

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

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

Concert Performance Location

Concert venues can change due to school need and 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 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. Students should reference the LSYO calendar before accepting other commitments.

If a musician needs to miss a rehearsal, notification must be sent to the General Manager via email at lsyo@loudounsymphony.org with **at least 24 hours' notice** unless it is a sudden or an emergency.

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 tardy.
- **Two (2) tardies equal one (1) absence**
- If you have more than two (2) absences in any 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 prior to their rehearsal.**
- If original music is used only light pencil marks may be made on the music. No colored pencils or pens may be used.
- Original music must be returned immediately after in-person concerts.
 - Failure to return original music in a timely manner will result in a late/replacement fee.

Loudoun Symphony Youth Orchestra Leadership

Dr. Hayden Denesha
LSYO Music Director and Conductor
Philharmonic Orchestra

Ashley Driscoll
Conductor
Symphonic Orchestra

Robby Carroll
Conductor
String Orchestra

TBD
Conductor
Prelude to Strings

Jamie Farber
General Manager
jamie.farber@loudounsymphony.org

Dr. Laurie Hudicek
Director, Educational Programming and Outreach
laurie.hudicek@loudounsymphony.org

Loudoun Symphony Association, Inc.
Karen Knobloch
Executive Director
karen.knobloch@loudounsymphony.org

Acknowledgment Page

To be printed, signed, and returned to the General Manager no later than first rehearsal.

By signing below, you acknowledge you have read, understand and are agreeing to the policies and expectations outlined in the LSYO 2023-2024 Musicians' Handbook.

Print Name of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Print Name of Musician

Signature of Musician

Date