



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 1991 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 Hogue 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](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 **LSYO2324** when prompted.

## **General Information**

### **Membership in LSYO**

- Membership in the LSYO is by audition only. Auditions for positions will be held in the Spring at the end of the season and in the Fall 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 [jamie.farber@loudounsymphony.org](mailto:jamie.farber@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 for the Symphonic and Philharmonic Orchestras.
- Musicians may be asked to participate in ensembles other than their own orchestra group.
- Mentoring younger musicians is highly encouraged; please reach out to the conductors or managers to coordinate.

## Illness Protocols During Rehearsals and Concerts

Musicians should not attend rehearsal or concerts if they:

- Test positive for COVID-19 or flu
- Exhibit any symptoms of COVID-19 or Flu (including congestion, cough, chills)
- 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.
- Students will bring their own pencils, tuners, and music to rehearsal.
- Students may be asked to bring a music stand. The General Manager or Conductor will specify this requirement prior to or during the season as needed.
- 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 to String 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 sit in the back of their section to avoid interruption during rehearsal.

## Rehearsal Locations

Rehearsals will be held in Ashburn. Unless noted, rehearsals will be held at the following schools:

- **Prelude to Strings, String and Symphonic Orchestras**
  - **Trailside Middle School:** 20325 Claiborne Pkwy, Ashburn VA 20147
- **Philharmonic Orchestra**
  - **Stone Bridge High School:** 43100 Hay Rd, Ashburn VA 20176
- Please note that there will be some rehearsals that need to be held at different locations due to the host school's own events. Change of location will be sent in advance via email.

## Tuition

Tuition includes weekly rehearsals, sectionals, performances, masterclasses, 2 complimentary tickets to each LSYO concert and volunteer opportunities as they arise.

**Spring Auditions:** The first half of tuition is due within **14 days of acceptance**. The remainder is due **August 31, 2023**. Non-payment after the 14 days of acceptance will result in forfeiture of placement in the LSYO Orchestra.

**Fall Auditions:** Full tuition is due by **September 9, 2023**.

A payment schedule may be arranged, but full tuition must be received by November 1, 2023.

**Prelude Strings\*:** \$450

**String Orchestra\*:** \$500

**Symphonic Orchestra\*:** \$600

**Philharmonic Orchestra\*:** \$650

\*Tuition is prorated for those joining later in the season.

The Loudoun Symphony offers scholarships for LSYO participants who have financial need. The LSYO Scholarship Committee will consider completed scholarship applications on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the General Manager at [jamie.farber@loudounsymphony.org](mailto:jamie.farber@loudounsymphony.org) for more information.

By paying tuition, you are agreeing to the policies and expectations outlined in this handbook. ***All payments are non-refundable.***

## Concerts

LSYO will present three concerts per season. Concerts will be held at 2 PM on the following dates: **November 18, 2023, February 17, 2024, and May 11, 2024**. Concert venues can change due to school need and will be provided prior to each concert cycle.

## Ticket Information

- Included in tuition, LSYO families will receive **two tickets** for each LSYO concert
- General Admission for concerts is \$10 per ticket, 12 years old and younger are free
- An Eventbrite link will be provided in the weeks prior to each concert

## Performance Dress

### Prelude to 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.

## **Musician Responsibilities**

### **General Responsibilities**

- Musicians or parents must notify the LSYO General Manager at [jamie.farber@loudounsymphony.org](mailto:jamie.farber@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 will 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. 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 [jamie.farber@loudounsymphony.org](mailto:jamie.farber@loudounsymphony.org) with **at least 24 hours' notice** unless it is a sudden or an emergency.

LSYO allows 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

Mrs. Samantha Oakley  
Interim Conductor  
Symphonic Orchestra

Mr. Robby Carroll  
Conductor  
String Orchestra

Ms. Sarah Geiger  
Conductor  
Prelude to Strings

Jamie Farber  
General Manager  
[jamie.farber@loudounsymphony.org](mailto:jamie.farber@loudounsymphony.org)

Dr. Laurie Hudicek  
Director, Educational Programming and Outreach  
[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)

## 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 and understand the information contained in the LSYO 2023-2024 Musicians' Handbook.

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Print Name of Parent/Guardian

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Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

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Print Name of Musician

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Signature of Musician

Date