



Schaumburg
Youth
Orchestra



2018-2019 REFERENCE GUIDE

The mission of the Schaumburg Youth Orchestra is to promote the continuing growth of the cultural arts in the community by providing area students with an outlet to perform challenging ensemble and orchestral music, and by presenting youth orchestra performances to the community and outlying areas through concerts, recordings and tours.



Dear SYO Members and Parents:

Welcome to the 2018-19 season of the Schaumburg Youth Orchestra!

In addition to our winter and spring season performances, we're delighted to once again offer members unique musical opportunities, including our chamber program open to members in all four ensembles. What's more, be assured that the program provides training of the highest standards under the direction of Joseph Malmquist (Symphony Orchestra), Ron Polomchak (Concert Orchestra), Tobin Langridge (Sinfonia Strings), Dung Pham (String Ensemble) and Stephanie Preucil (Chamber Ensemble).

This reference guide will provide members and their families a comprehensive resource for the Schaumburg Youth Orchestra. Included are rehearsal and performance schedules, rules and regulations, general guidelines and other pertinent information. Should you have questions or issues that are not addressed in this book, please don't hesitate to contact me at (847) 923-3607 or Orchestra Assistant Cassandra Herman at (847) 923-3604. Our office not only operates with an open door policy, but, knowing that an organization's success relies on member and family support, we truly enjoy becoming acquainted with everyone affiliated with the program.

Also, keep in mind that up-to-the-minute information is always available on our website at schaumburgyouthorchestra.org. We're thrilled to have you as a valued member of the organization and look forward to an exciting season.

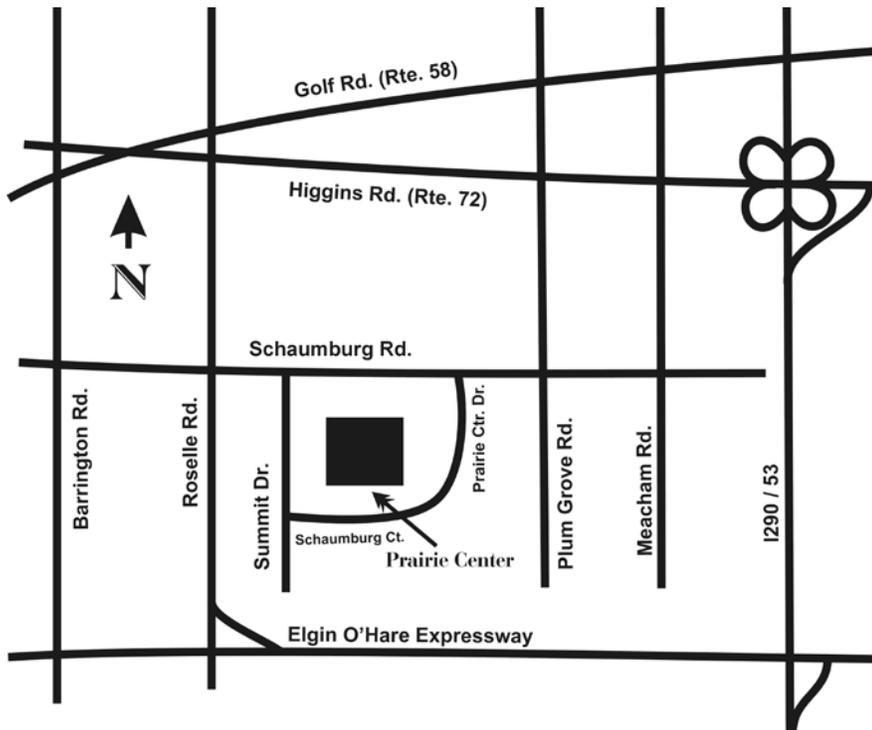
Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Pileckis", is written over the "Best Regards," text.

Rob Pileckis
Orchestra Manager

Contact Information

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SYO Website - www.schaumburgyouthorchestra.org
(Visit website weekly for rehearsal info and updates!)

Schaumburg Youth Orchestra

The SYO (Schaumburg Youth Orchestra) was founded in 1989 as a recreational and educational outlet for young advanced musicians in the Schaumburg area. Originating as a string ensemble with 16 members, the orchestra made its public debut with a concert performance at Schaumburg's 1989 Prairie Arts Festival.

Over the next two seasons, wind and brass musicians were added to the ensemble, increasing membership to 30 students. In the fall, 1991, the offshoot Schaumburg Youth String Orchestra was formed to serve as a training group for the advanced Symphony Orchestra. The program expanded further in 1996 when the String Orchestra branched into two groups: the intermediate-level Schaumburg Youth Chamber Orchestra; and the Schaumburg Youth String Ensemble, geared for beginning grade school musicians. In the spring, 2002, the orchestra program initiated a fourth ensemble to again meet the demands of growing enrollment numbers and more recently initiated a chamber ensemble program with over 100 students participating over fall and spring sessions. Current registration is over 180, with members from Schaumburg and over thirty outlying communities.

The program enrolls new and returning members by audition at the beginning summer. The orchestras exist to supplement the students' curricular training, as all members participate in their school orchestra or band program (where available). Each of the orchestras performs two concerts annually at the Prairie Center for the Arts. In addition to these performances, the ensembles have played for the public throughout the community, including: Schaumburg Mayoral Ball; Friendship Village; and the District 211 Honors Choir concert. The Schaumburg Youth Symphony Orchestra also presents its annual *Presto!* Holiday Concert featuring classical and contemporary seasonal works.

The Symphony Orchestra has performed not only locally, but also abroad with concert tours of Germany, Austria, Prague and Budapest, Japan, Italy, and most recently, London and Paris. The Symphony Orchestra has recorded three compact disc recordings: *Birth of a Millennium*, which was distributed in 2000 to newborn infants at area hospitals as part of the Village of Schaumburg's millennium celebration; *Songs of Good Cheer*, a collection of classical and popular holiday music released in 2002; and *Prairie Music*, featuring works by American composers. The SYO also hosts the *Chamber Live!* series, featuring small ensembles videotaped live and broadcast on Schaumburg's local cable channel. *Chamber Live!* has earned two national awards, including first place in the Performing Arts Category of the 1999 Hometown Video Festival, sponsored by the Alliance for Community Media, and second place in the Performing Arts Category in the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA) 1999 Programming Awards. The Schaumburg Youth Orchestra was also cited with an Honorable Mention at the 1998 U.S. Conference of Mayor's Livability Awards Program and has received the 2001 and 2008 Youth Orchestra of the Year award by the Illinois Council of Orchestras. In March, 2011, the SYSO presented a special concert narrated by radio host Bill McGlaughlin, funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. Symphony Orchestra director Joseph Malmquist was awarded the 2014 Youth Orchestra Conductor of the Year by the Illinois Council of Orchestras, and the Symphony performed at the ILMEA conference in January 2016.

On July 10, 2009, the program celebrated its 20th anniversary with a gala concert at Chicago's Symphony Center and performed there again in 2014 for its 25th anniversary.



SYO MEMBERSHIP

We are happy to have you as a member of the Schaumburg Youth Orchestra program! You have been accepted into one of four ensembles that best fits your needs as well as the needs of the SYO. **The SYO expects that you will take this membership very seriously, following the guidelines outlined in this handbook. By participating in the Schaumburg Youth Orchestra program, you agree to the policies and rules set forth by this guide.**

The SYO is an extracurricular program for those students wishing to be challenged outside of their school music program.

All members of the Schaumburg Youth Orchestra must abide by the participation policy of the program: The Musician (SYO member) agrees to participate in his/her school music program. Alternatively, the Musician may request that his/her school music educator provide information to the SYO that would justify a waiver of this requirement by the SYO. The Schaumburg Youth Orchestra grants waivers infrequently and only in extraordinary circumstances.

This policy will help to continue your growth as a musician on a daily basis and give you opportunities within the school music program such as tours, festivals, and musicals. The SYO has also established relationships with many area school music teachers who have helped recruit many of our current SYO members.

Private lessons are not required to be an SYO member, but are strongly encouraged as they, too, help with your growth as a musician. If you are in search of a private teacher, please contact Cassandra for a list of area teachers.

FUNDRAISERS

Fundraising is integral to the success of the program. Funds earned through SYO activities such as popcorn and concession sales, raffles, and outside performance contributions help support sectional coaching, music purchases, and many other expenses. Participation in fundraising events is strongly encouraged for all members and, where possible, their families.

TUITION AND PAYMENT

The SYO's annual registration fees are one of the lowest in the Chicago area. A \$25 Prairie Center Arts Foundation contribution is included in tuition (families with more than one child in the program need to pay for only one \$25 contribution). Payment is due by August 1. Families with more than one student in the SYO receive a \$25 discount for each additional student after one student is paid in full. **Tuition is non-refundable.**

To pay by check:

Check payable to the *Village of Schaumburg* for the amount appropriate for your level (see below):

\$325 - String Ensemble

\$350 - Sinfonia Strings

\$375 - Concert Orchestra

\$400 - Symphony Orchestra

To pay by online by credit card:

Tuition payment in full for one student can be paid [here](#). (link appears when viewing document on computer)

Tuition payment in full for multiple students can be paid [here](#).

Policy and General Information

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents are an integral part of the SYO, whether it be to volunteer for fundraisers, chaperone for outside performances, or usher at concerts. The SYO also relies on parental support and encouragement when it comes to student's involvement with the program. While it is the student's obligation to be at rehearsal and practice the music, we also consider the parents responsible for making sure their child follows through with his or her commitment. Please go over the rehearsal schedule with your children so that all schedule details are clearly communicated.

REHEARSALS

An attendance sign-in sheet will be located outside the door of the rehearsal room. **BE SURE TO CHECK OFF YOUR NAME** or you will be marked absent. Tardiness is disruptive to rehearsal -- please arrive 10 minutes early to tune and warm up, and be in your seat at the start of rehearsal.

Rehearsal Reminders

- Bring your own music and pencils - do not rely on your stand partner.
- Come musically prepared. Orchestra rehearsal is not your personal rehearsal time.
- If you have misplaced music, please call ahead and a copy will be waiting for you in the office. If you are in the middle of rehearsal, please use your stand partner's music and obtain another copy after rehearsal.
- If you are absent or tardy for rehearsal, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed. Please obtain all new music markings from your stand partner.
- Social conversation should be limited to breaks (if one) and after rehearsal.
- No food, gum, or drinks are allowed in the rehearsal room.
- All string players should have an extra set of strings in their instrument case.
- All woodwind players should have extra reeds in their instrument case.

SECTIONALS

Sectionals for the Concert and Symphony Orchestras are four times per year and are listed in your rehearsal schedule. Professional musicians are hired to help with the growth and development of each individual section in preparation for upcoming concerts. These rehearsals are **MANDATORY**- if you are unable to attend due to a school concert, at least two weeks notice should be given.

DRESS REHEARSAL

All SYO members must be present for dress rehearsals and concerts. Dress rehearsals usually take place one regular rehearsal before the concert and involve a run-through of the concert program. You will find these dates listed on your rehearsal schedule. **You do not need to wear concert attire to the dress rehearsal.**

CONCERTS

All concerts are listed on the rehearsal schedules. The String Ensemble, Sinfonia Strings, and Concert Orchestra perform two concerts (one Winter and one Spring) at the Prairie Center for the Arts. The Symphony Orchestra will perform two weekend Holiday Concerts, a special young person's concert in March and a spring concert. Additional information will be handed out closer to each concert with details such as call times.

Concert attire for SYSE and SYSS - White shirt/blouse, black pants/skirt, black shoes.

Concert attire for SYCO - Black shirt/blouse (no t-shirts), black pants/skirt, black shoes.

Concert attire for SYSO - Black shirt/blouse, black pants/skirt, black shoes. MALES: Tuxedo if you have one.

All attire should be respectable. Skirts should be at least knee length, shirts should have sleeves, and clothing should not be tight-fitting.

Concert Tickets - Tickets for Winter and Spring Concerts are general seating and cost \$7/adults and \$3/ages 18 and under in advance (\$9 / \$5 at the door). SYSO Holiday Concert (\$20 / \$12 students and seniors) and young person's concert tickets (\$10 / \$5 students and seniors) will go on sale with the Prairie Center's 2018-19 season of entertainment on June 18.

MUSIC

All students will receive a folder with music at the first rehearsal. This folder will have your name on it and you are responsible for this folder at all times. If your folder is lost, there will be a \$5 charge to replace it and the music (\$10 charge for Symphony members).

ATTENDANCE

The productivity of an orchestra's rehearsal depends on the attendance of its members. Being a responsible member of the SYO requires your total commitment, starting with your presence at all rehearsals and concerts.

Absences - only two absences will be allowed per semester. A third absence may result in a conference with the appropriate director, student and parents and possible dismissal from the group.

Pre-excused absences must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the rehearsal date to be missed. Pre-excuses may be submitted through the orchestra's website (www.schaumburgyouthorchestra.org) or by contacting Orchestra Assistant Cassandra Herman at cherman@villageofschaumburg.com or 847-923-3604. **There is absolutely no excuse for not providing timely notice to the orchestra assistant prior to an absence.** Unexcused absences include (but are not limited to) birthday or family parties, homework, and forgetting to attend rehearsal (please refer to the schedule often!).

Tardiness - **It is very important for students to arrive 10 minutes early to rehearsal and be seated at the start of rehearsal.** Your tardiness can be very disruptive to the rehearsal. If you are late, please check in at the office so you are not marked absent. Two tardies will count as one absence.

School conflicts - The SYO realizes that many of our students have other activities at school, and measures have been taken to avoid schedule conflicts. If you become aware of a conflict with the rehearsal schedule, please inform the SYO staff immediately so that the issue can be addressed.

Unable to play - If you are unable to play your instrument for any reason, you are still expected to come to rehearsal, take notes and stay "in tune" with what's going on in your section.

WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

Rehearsal or performance cancellations due to inclement weather will be announced no less than 3 hours prior to the scheduled event. Announcements will be made on the youth orchestra's member page (schaumburgyouthorchestra.org, Members).

UNSUPERVISED CHILDREN AT REHEARSAL

Please bear in mind that the Prairie Center, in addition to hosting the Schaumburg Youth Orchestra, also holds government meetings, business seminars, and other functions, often during rehearsal hours. Parents are welcome to remain at the Prairie Center while their children are in rehearsal. However, **children not in the orchestra program who are at rehearsal (i.e. members' siblings) must be supervised by an adult at all times** while at the Prairie Center.

PHOTOGRAPHY, IMAGE, AND RECORDING RIGHTS

The Village of Schaumburg reserves the right to take photographs and audio or video recordings of members during rehearsals and performances. Images and recordings may be used for (but not limited to) distribution to press, advertising, direct marketing, and the general promotion of the Schaumburg Youth Orchestra, programs at the Prairie Center, and the Village of Schaumburg.



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