

Missouri Youth Orchestra

2008-2009 Handbook

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Missouri Youth Orchestra is to promote and inspire excellence in orchestral performance in an educational setting for young musicians from the Mid-Missouri area.

Goals:

The goals of the MYO are to:

- Encourage young musicians to develop their musical abilities.
- Provide a variety of performance opportunities to cultivate excellence in performance.
- Develop greater interest in music and performance among a broad base of area youth.
- Encourage a collaborative atmosphere between peers to enrich their cultural development.

Administration:

The MYO is a part of the University of Missouri School of Music.

MYO Staff:

Ms. Carrie Turner, Music Director,
Conductor
Ms. Tonya Fuller, Graduate Teaching
Assistant

MYO Parent and Faculty Board:

Mrs. Lisa Schaffer, Board President
Dr. Julie Melnyk
Mr. Wei Du
Ms. Leslie Perna
Mr. Rodney Ackmann

MU School of Music Staff:

Dr. Robert Shay, Director
Mrs. Glenna Burkett, Fiscal Officer

History:

This is the inaugural year for the MYO. This ensemble was formed at the request of students and parents to have an educational symphony orchestra under the oversight by the University of Missouri School of Music. The Junior MYO is a new organization for children aged 13 and under as a response to the rising need for younger children to have a musical home. The Junior MYO works in collaboration with the Missouri String Project.

Tuition:

The Senior MYO is supported in part by a \$224 tuition paid by each member on a yearly basis. Tuition payment is due no later than the second rehearsal, unless you choose to utilize the payment plan option -- \$75 in September; \$75 in October and \$75 in November. Tuition is non-refundable if a musician decides to leave before the end of the year. Checks should be made out to the MU School of Music.

The Junior MYO tuition is \$150 for the year. This tuition may be paid in two semester payments of \$75. Checks should be made payable to the MU School of Music.

Auditions and Placement:

Auditions are held at the beginning of each academic year for proper placement of each musician. Factors that determine placement are:

- Performance quality
- Musical ability (tone quality, intonation, rhythm, technique and posture)
- Sight-reading ability
- Experience level, maturity, and leadership ability
- Enrollment in private lessons
- Enrollment in public school music program

Placement in the Junior and Senior MYO is based both on age and ability level. All children under the age of 14 are automatically placed in the Junior MYO upon audition. The conductor reserves the right to invite a younger player to the Senior MYO based on ability level of the musician as demonstrated in an audition.

Students interested in auditioning for principal chairs for their section will be given an excerpt of music to prepare. Seating audition dates will be announced on the rehearsal schedule. The conductor may adjust seating at any time.

Concerto Competition

Our annual concerto competition for the Senior MYO is not co-sponsored with the MMAMTA to gain state-wide visibility and raise the level of competition for our local players. Please see the attached information regarding the competition. There is not a concerto competition for Junior MYO players at this time.

Attendance:

As with all musical ensembles, MYO depends upon having its members present for **all** rehearsals and performances. Therefore, all absences must be reported in advance to Tonya Fuller by telephone 1.870.834.4597 or email (tonya_fuller2000@yahoo.com). A pattern of absences and/or late arrivals may result in disciplinary action ranging from reduction in section placement to dismissal from the orchestra.

The Senior MYO Ensemble:

MYO seeks motivated students who are able to pursue excellence through personal practice and who wish to perform frequently. This orchestra explores possibilities for additional performance opportunities through quartets, other chamber compositions, masterclasses and concerto competitions. Rehearsals will stress competence in the musical elements of phrasing, tone color, technique and orchestral discipline. The ensemble will use challenging orchestral literature.

Instruments: violin, viola, cello, bass, flute/piccolo, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, French horn, trumpet, trombone, tuba, percussion, timpani

***Prerequisites:* The musician should participate in his or her school music program if it is one available and be enrolled in private lessons.**

Rehearsals: Sunday, 4:45 – 7:00 pm at Loeb Hall, unless otherwise announced. Please refer to the Conflict Calendar for exact dates and times of rehearsals.

Sectionals: To enhance the students' performance abilities, sectionals are offered on a weekly rotating basis. Depending on need, strings, winds, and brass alternate sectionals each week in order to concentrate on difficult techniques, intonation and execution of challenging passages. These rehearsals will be held from 3:45 until 4:45. We will provide a comprehensive schedule of which days each section will meet as soon as possible. Please refer to your schedule.

Performances: Typically two to four concerts per year. **Dress requirements for the performances will be black tuxedos for men and long black dresses or pants with long sleeved black tops for women.**

Email Updates: You will receive a weekly email update. Watch your email for important changes and information about upcoming rehearsals and performances.

The Junior MYO Ensemble:

The Junior MYO seeks energetic and enthusiastic musicians who want to develop their ensemble skills. We frequently work on music reading skills, communication between the conductor and the musicians, and ensemble integrity. Repertoire is mostly abridged repertoire of orchestral classics and modern works composed specifically for young ensembles. Sectionals will be held on occasion to focus on particular instrumental needs. Opportunities for chamber music and community outreach will be available throughout the year.

Instruments: violin, viola, cello, bass, flute/piccolo, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, French horn, trumpet, trombone, tuba, percussion, timpani

Performances: Three concerts will take place this year. **Dress requirements for the performances will be black pants and white shirt for boys, and black pants or skirt with white shirt for girls.**

Email Updates: You will receive a weekly email update. Watch your email for important changes and information about upcoming rehearsals and performances.

Relationship with the public schools:

All youth orchestra members who attend public or private schools must be a member of the band, orchestra, or other music ensemble in their school to be eligible to audition for membership in the orchestra.

Exceptions to this rule are as follows:

1. Unsolvable conflict--in those instances wherein an unsolvable course conflict with band or orchestra prevents a student from participating in that ensemble for a semester but no more than two semesters, then the student must present a letter from the band or orchestra director, co-signed by the principal or guidance counselor, giving approval for that student to participate in the youth orchestra.
2. No school band or orchestra--if the public or private school does not have a band or orchestra, as appropriate to the student's instrument.
3. The student is home-schooled.

**Senior MYO Rehearsal and Sectional Schedule:
(Sectionals take place from 3:45-4:45pm)**

9/7	First Rehearsal	1/18	Break NO REHEARSAL
9/14	Violins	1/25	Violas/Cellos
9/21	Violas/Cellos (First JMYO Rehearsal)	2/1	Winds/Brass/Percussion
9/28	Winds/Brass/Percussion	2/9	Violins
10/5	Seating Auditions	2/15	Violas/Cellos
10/12	Violins	2/22	Winds/Brass/Percussion
10/19	Violas/Cellos	3/1	NO SECTIONAL
10/26	Winds/Brass/Percussion		Concerto Competition Auditions
11/2	Violins		Whitmore Recital Hall 11-3pm
11/9	<i>Dress Rehearsal and Concert Location</i>	<u>3/7-8</u>	<u>Mark O'Connor Festival!!!</u>
TBA		3/15	Seating Auditions
11/16	Seating Auditions	3/22	Break NO REHEARSAL
11/23	NO REHEARSAL	3/29	Violins
12/7	Violins	4/5	Violas/Cellos
12/14	Violas/Cellos	4/12	No Sectional
12/21-12/28	NO REHEARSAL	4/19	Dress Rehearsal 4-5:30pm
1/4	Winds/Brass/Percussion		Concert 7pm
1/11	Violins		Rockbridge Performing Arts Center

Junior MYO Schedule

(each rehearsal meets in Loeb Hall Rm. 201 from 2:00-3:15)

Rehearsals for first concert: 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2

First Concert: 11/9 location and time TBA

Rehearsals for second concert: 11/6, 12/7, 12/14, 1/4, 1/11, 1/25, 2/1, 2/9, 2/15

Second Concert: 2/21 location and time TBA

Rehearsals for third concert: 2/22, **3/1 Meets at 3:30**, 3/8, 3/15, 3/29, 4/5, 4/12,

Third Concert: 4/19, Dress Rehearsal 3:00-4:00, Concert at 7pm