



2017-2018 Season Handbook

Website:

<http://www.mpyo.org>

Facebook Page:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Michigan-Philharmonic-Youth-Orchestra/79567603837>

(updated 6/16/17)

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC YOUTH ORCHESTRA ENSEMBLES:

The Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (MPYO) is supported by the Michigan Philharmonic under the direction of Hektor Qyteti, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor. The MPYO is dedicated to challenging and inspiring students through high level ensemble training and the performance of original repertoire. All ensembles are open by audition.

STRINGS: This ensemble is designed for less experienced string players who wish to learn ensemble playing skills such as playing in a section and listening and following a conductor. Students must have at least one year of playing experience and be able to read music.

SINFONIA: This ensemble is designed for intermediate-level string students who have begun shifting (violin/viola 3rd position; cello 2nd position) and who have at least two year of ensemble playing experience

YOUTH ORCHESTRA: This orchestra is for advanced students in winds, brass, percussion and strings. Challenging and exciting standard and contemporary repertoire is selected for performance. At least three years of ensemble playing experience is recommended for entrance into this ensemble.

FLUTE CHOIR: Open to intermediate and advanced flute students. The unique ensemble also includes piccolo, alto and bass flutes.

WIND ENSEMBLE: This ensemble is designed to give woodwind and brass players pre-orchestral performance skills and experience playing as a wind section. Students must have at least two years of playing experience and know a minimum of four scales.

AUDITIONS

Annual auditions are held in May and August at Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex (PARC). Students are asked to prepare a major and a minor scale and a piece of their choice under two minutes in length. Sight-reading selected by the conductor is also included. Students may also audition to join MPYO for 2nd semester by scheduling an audition time with MPYO Manager Jane Libbing

REHEARSALS:

All rehearsals, unless otherwise noted, will be held at
Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex (PARC) in the Annex Gym (through door 16)
650 Church Street
Plymouth, MI 48170

Rehearsals take place weekly on Tuesday evenings at the following times:

Strings: 5:00- 6:00 pm
Wind Ensemble: 5:00- 6:00 pm (Room 220)
Sinfonia: 6:00- 7:15 pm
Flute Choir: 6:00- 7:15 pm (Room 220)
Youth Orchestra: 7:30 - 9:00 pm

When you come to rehearsal, please be aware that another ensemble will be finishing their rehearsal, and please remain in the hallway until the other ensemble has left the rehearsal space. Remember that we are renting from PARC, so please treat it with respect and keep our rehearsal space clean by picking up any and all pop bottles, pencils, etc., even if they are not yours.

Students are not allowed to leave PARC once they have signed in before rehearsal begins, or during rehearsal breaks. Once students sign out when rehearsal has ended, they may leave. Parents, please discuss with your student(s) whether or not they have your permission to leave campus after rehearsal without you.

For dress rehearsals at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, Canton: Students, please enter through the rear door of the theater for rehearsals and performances. Parents and guests will enter through the front doors for the concert. Please do not arrive at the theater until the time specified by the conductor.

All dress rehearsals are mandatory. If a student has an unexcused absence on one of these rehearsals, he or she will not be allowed to perform in the next day's concert. Please let Hektor Qyteti and Jane Libbing know by Tuesday, October 17th if there is a conflict with either of the scheduled dress rehearsals. Excused absences for a dress rehearsal include school performances in which the MPYO student is involved.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance at each rehearsal is imperative to the success of each ensemble and is required. Attendance will be promptly taken at the beginning of each rehearsal — 5:00 pm, 6:15 pm, and 7:30 pm. Make sure to sign in as you enter the building and sign out as you leave rehearsal. Students who are 11 years or older may sign themselves in and out with parent approval. Each ensemble will have its own sign-in clipboard. Please make sure to check behind your ensemble's clipboard when you sign in and out for envelopes, handouts, etc., that are meant for you to take home, especially materials with that are labeled with each student's name.

Please arrive no later than 15 minutes before the start of each rehearsal and 30 minutes before a concert or as determined by the conductor. If a student needs to miss a rehearsal due to illness or a family emergency please contact:

Jane Libbing, MPYO Manager, by email jane@michiganphil.org or by phone 734-451-2112 (office) (or 734-718-1552, Jane's cell phone—but only use this number during MPYO events, rehearsals, concerts, etc. Do not leave messages on this phone)

Please contact Jane Libbing by 4:00 pm on or before the day to be missed. After 4:00pm on Tuesdays, only call on Jane's cell phone (and do not leave a message on this phone). If a future absence is anticipated due to a school concert, function, or sports activity please let Jane Libbing and Hektor Qyteti know as soon as possible and notate the future absence at the bottom of the sign-in sheet.

Students who miss three or more rehearsals (excused or unexcused) may be asked to re-audition to perform in that semester's concert on repertoire that is being prepared for the current concert.

Excused absences include the following: a school function or performance where grades are given, or family illness or emergencies.

An unexcused absence occurs when no prior notice is given to Jane Libbing or Hektor Qyteti. Please make sure to contact Jane Libbing if a rehearsal is going to be missed.

Late Arrival: A late arrival consists of walking into rehearsal on or after the start of each ensemble time. Attendance will be taken and late arrivals will be noted. Two unexcused late arrivals will equal a missed rehearsal. To avoid being penalized for a late arrival Jane Libbing should receive an email or phone call no later than 4:00 pm on the day that the student will be late.

REHEARSAL CANCELATIONS

In the event that the Plymouth-Canton school district has cancelled school due to weather, the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra will also be cancelled for that evening. Please tune in to your local TV/radio stations for school closures. In the event of an emergency cancellation of rehearsal for reasons other than weather, please make sure Jane Libbing knows at which one phone number you can be reached or where she can leave a message that will be received. This information needs to be on you EMERGENCY FORMS.

PERFORMANCES at:
Village Theater at Cherry Hill
50400 Cherry Hill Rd.
Canton, MI 48187

We are guests of the Theater and will follow their guidelines for use of these facilities. *Parents and/or students will need to sign students in and out before and after each rehearsal and concert at the Village Theater as it is their rule.*

MATERIALS

Please have the following items at EVERY rehearsal and concert unless otherwise noted:

- Your instrument
- Your OWN stand—do not rely on your stand partner to supply this!
- Your OWN music—always mark notes in your own music!
- #1 PENCIL—Keep one in your case or in your folder. These are as important as your instrument and your music.

MUSIC POLICY

- Every MPYO member will be given music for practice and rehearsal purposes.
- It is the responsibility of every member to bring his/her music, a pencil, and an eraser to each rehearsal. Do not depend on a stand partner to bring music.
- You will need your own music for markings.
- All music given to MPYO members is the property of the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and must be returned immediately after each concert.
- It is expected that MPYO members will keep music given to them in a reasonably good condition and in keep it in the MPYO music folder. Any markings must be made in 1 pencil only. Jane has these pencils for sale for 25¢ each.
- Fines for lost music are as follows: \$10.00 for original parts; \$5.00 for each photocopy
- All music must be turned in at the conclusion of each concert unless specified by the conductor.
- All instructions above apply to all practice photocopies of music as well.
- **NOTE: Any student forgetting their music folder will have to sit through the rehearsal without playing unless they can look on with another musician. At our current rehearsal space, we do NOT have access to either our music library (upstairs) or our copier (way on the other side of the building).**

PRACTICE

Practice your MPYO music daily. It is expected that each member will practice his/her own parts at home during the course of each week. Rehearsals are designed to work on ensemble playing and are not for individual practice. The success of an ensemble is based upon the commitment to the music of each individual player. Each week specific sections of the music will be assigned for practice; please mark these spots with your pencil. This is to help you organize your practice time. If you ever have a question please make sure to ask the conductor before you leave rehearsal. Your private music teacher will also be able to help you on your MPYO music.

CHAIRS

Each member of each orchestra is essential to the success of the overall rehearsal and performance. Seating and parts assignments will be determined by the conductors based on the students' auditions and performance experience level. There will also be some rotation of chairs and sections throughout the year as students can gain valuable experience performing in different sections/areas of the orchestra.

SIDE-BY-SIDE CONCERTS

The side-by-side concerts are an opportunity for the students in the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and MPYO Sinfonia to play a portion of a concert with the Michigan Philharmonic. In the 17-18 season, the Youth Orchestra will be performing with the Michigan Philharmonic on Sunday, March 18, 2018 at 2:00pm at the First United Methodist Church, Plymouth. There will be a special rehearsal also on Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 10:00AM in the F.U.M. Church. The Sinfonia will be performing with the Michigan Philharmonic on Friday, November 10, 2017 at 8:00pm at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Plymouth. There will be a special rehearsal on Friday, November 10, 2017 at 5:30pm at O.L.G.C. Church. Please note that in order to participate in the side-by-side concerts you must attend any and all specified rehearsals for these concerts.

SPECIAL WORKSHOPS

These workshops are given by guest composers/guest artists of the Michigan Philharmonic and are designed to educate students on the art of composition as well as expose them to composers living today. Students are invited to attend not only these workshops but also the concerts given by the Michigan Philharmonic to hear the performances of the music by these guest composers. This program is unique to the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and serves to enhance the music education of our students. Past workshops have included specialists in jazz improvisation, composition, violin performance, Chinese erhu, Indian sitar and Latin percussion.

CONCERT DRESS

STRINGS:

- *Gentlemen:* White long- sleeved dress shirt, black pants, black socks, and black shoes
- *Ladies:* White blouse (long or 3/4 length sleeves), black pants or ankle length black skirt, black stockings, black shoes

SINFONIA:

- *Gentlemen:* White long- sleeved dress shirt, black tie, black pants, black socks, black shoes
- *Ladies:* White blouse (long or 3/4 length sleeves), black pants or ankle length black skirt, black stockings, black shoes

YOUTH ORCHESTRA AND FLUTE CHOIR:

- *Gentlemen-* Black long- sleeved dress shirt, black tie, black pants, black socks, black shoes
- *Ladies-* Black blouse (long or 3/4 length sleeves), black pants or long skirt, black stockings, black shoes

Students who do not have the appropriate concert dress may not be allowed to perform in the concert. If you are having trouble finding any of the above clothing items please let Jane Libbing or Hektor Qyteti know by Tuesday, October 20th!

STUDENT PORTRAITS

Students may have the opportunity to have group and individual portraits taken with their instruments. These pictures will be taken on September 19 during regular rehearsal. **Please make sure to wear your concert dress on this day.** We will let you know about how to place photo orders once we know the photo date.

GALA EVENT

Once a year, in the Fall, MPYO hosts a "Gala" that is intended to give the students an additional chance to perform for an audience on music they are still preparing. It also provides a fun time for students and their families to get to know each other and to do a bit of MPYO fundraising. This year it will be on October 17th in the large gym at the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex (PARC).

MPYO T-SHIRTS

Every student is required to purchase a MPYO T-Shirt when he/she joins the organization. This a way for all the students to have a “uniform” for our more casual concerts and events.

MPYO CONCERT TICKETS

Tickets to all MPYO concerts are \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students (preschoolers are free) and can be purchased online through the Michigan Philharmonic, through Jane at MPYO or at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill on the night of the concert. There is a \$2 handling fee for online purchases.

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC TICKETS

All MPYO students and families are strongly encouraged to attend MiPhil concerts—at least one per season. Whenever possible, the MiPhil organization will try to make discounted tickets available to interested MPYO families.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Taking private lessons is encouraged and highly recommended for all MPYO students. We do maintain a list of qualified private teachers (many of them professional musicians in the Michigan Philharmonic) that we'd be happy to recommend. Please contact Jane Libbing for more information.

PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAMS

MPYO strongly encourages all students to participate in their own school music program and ensembles. Being a member of MPYO is not intended to replace school programs but rather enhance and augment a young musician's music education by providing additional performance opportunities of challenging repertoire with professional conductors and instructors.

ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

MPYO students may also have the opportunity to play for a number of other events throughout the community. These include performances such as street fairs, receptions and service club meetings. MPYO students are also encouraged to participate in the MPYO Ambassadors, a program for our students interested in performing at events. Interested students should contact Jane. Some performance opportunities may be based on the student's MPYO audition and their experience.

TUITION

\$250/year for Strings, Sinfonia, Flute Choir and Wind Ensemble, \$300/year Youth Orchestra, \$100/year for a second ensemble, \$500 maximum per family. Financial aid is available to students on a limited basis. Tuition is due on or before the first rehearsal in September, unless other arrangements have been made. For those requiring financial assistance, contact Jane Libbing. *Tuition rates are subject to change.*

MPYO WEBSITE

The MPYO has its own website at <http://www.mpyo.org> This site contains the rehearsal schedule for the year, upcoming events, community-wide performance opportunities, as well as the current season's handbook and downloadable brochure with audition information. In an effort to better communicate with our MPYO families, all the MPYO updates and current details and important announcements will be posted on the “News” section of the MPYO website. Email reminders will also be sent as necessary. Parents please make sure Jane Libbing always has your most current email address and check the website regularly for MPYO updates.

MPYO ON FACEBOOK

MYPO also has a Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Michigan-Philharmonic-Youth-Orchestra-79567603837/>

Photos and announcements are regularly posted there. We welcome everyone to “like” our page and join the fun.

MPYO YOUTUBE CHANNEL

<https://www.youtube.com/user/CYOmichigan>

(yes, still from our old Celebration Youth Orchestra days!)

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Jane Libbing , MPYO Manager

jane@michiganphil.org

Telephone: 734-451-2112

(or 734-718-1552, Jane’s cell phone—but only use this number during MPYO events (rehearsals, concerts, etc. Do not leave messages on this phone)

Mailing Address:

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