



LOUISVILLE YOUTH ORCHESTRA

2023-2024 STUDENT HANDBOOK

Rehearsal Locations

LYO rehearsals take place at the Youth Performing Arts School (YPAS) or St Matthews Pavilion, as well as some alternate locations when scheduling conflicts arise with venues.

Youth Performing Arts School

1517 South 2nd Street Louisville, Kentucky 40208

Site Manager: Denver Pascua, denver@lyo.org

Ensembles: Horizons Winds, Flute Ensemble, Horizons Brass, Repertory Orchestra and Symphony Orchestra

St. Matthews Pavilion

4121 Shelbyville Road Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Site Manager: Loren Pascua, loren@lyo.org

Ensembles: Serenade Orchestra, Concert Orchestra, Percussion Ensemble

Mission

The Louisville Youth Orchestra fuels the passion and growth of young musicians through extraordinary musical experiences.

Membership

The LYO invites all musicians ages 7–20 to participate.

LYO members are required to participate in their school instrumental music program on their instrument (orchestra or band) if such programs are available in their school and the student is eligible to participate.

All members are required to enroll in private lessons after joining LYO. LYO members are eligible to apply for LYO's generous Private Lesson Subsidy program (awarded on a financial need basis). If you need assistance finding a private teacher, please contact us at info@lyo.org.

Community Expectations

All LYO participants (students, staff, parents, guests and volunteers) will demonstrate respect and kindness toward one another. Such respect and kindness is necessary to foster personal and musical growth in the ensemble setting. LYO will, at all levels of participation, take serious instances where participants report examples of disrespect.

Student Expectations

- A. All music (in your folder) and a pencil should be brought to all rehearsals and performances.
- B. Besides tuning, use of phones is not permitted during rehearsal or performance.
- C. Serenade and Concert Orchestra students must bring a wire stand to all rehearsals at St. Matthews Pavilion.
- D. Students should arrive on location 15-minutes prior to rehearsal start time.
- E. Students are expected to be seated and ready to play at the beginning of the stated rehearsal time.
- F. Attendance is taken at the beginning of rehearsal. If you are late, check in with the Site Manager immediately upon arrival.
- A. Email your Site Manager at least ONE WEEK in advance of any known future absence. For day-of rehearsal emergencies or illness, email the Site Manager ASAP.
- B. Food and drink are not permitted in the rehearsal or performance space.
- C. No member is allowed to leave the area during breaks. Students rehearsing at YPAS may go outside during breaks; stay within the YPAS parking lot.
- D. Sheet music is the responsibility of the player. Report missing music to your Site Manager. Repeated loss of music will result in being charged \$1.50 per page for lost copies.

Parent/Guardian Rules and Responsibilities

Excluding students who drive, parents/guardians are expected to pick their students up on-time at the end of rehearsals. LYO Staff and various facility representatives are not equipped to supervise students after rehearsals are finished.

Attendance Policy

Ensemble music-making is a shared responsibility. Expectations include:

- A. attending all rehearsals and performances
- B. being in seats ready to play at the beginning of rehearsal
- C. personal practice and preparation between each rehearsal
- D. report known absences in a timely manner

Ensemble success is a shared responsibility. When you miss rehearsal, not only do you miss valuable rehearsal time, your ensemble misses your unique contribution to the group. We understand that other important Sunday afternoon conflicts occasionally happen. Regardless, your commitment to your fellow musicians should be among your top priorities. With that in mind, the following expectations apply:

1. Every LYO member is permitted no more than FOUR (4) ABSENCES per season. Students with more than four (4) absences will lose their placement without refund. Mandatory school band/orchestra performances that conflict with Sunday LYO rehearsals will not count. A school performance absence form must be turned in to your Site Manager at least ONE week in advance for this exemption to be honored. You may not use an absence during an LYO dress rehearsal.
2. If a member has at least one excused school performance absence, the maximum total number of absences they can have for the entire LYO season is five (5).
3. Every LYO member is allowed a maximum of two (2) absences per November and March concert cycles. Each member is allowed a maximum of one (1) absence in the December or April concert cycles. If you exceed those limits, you will not be permitted to play in the upcoming concert. You will still be able to participate in the remainder of the season.
4. Dress rehearsals are mandatory.
5. Known absences must be reported to your Site Manager at least one week in advance via email. Day-of emergencies or illness should be reported to your Site Manager no later than 11 AM on the day of the missed rehearsal.
6. Two tardies count as one absence. A tardy means you are not in your seat by the written start time of your rehearsal OR you leave early. You need to commit to a full rehearsal to maintain a good attendance record. An absence or tardy will still go on your record even if you inform your Site Manager of the circumstances.

Each student should participate in every concert. If you know you will not be able to adhere to #3 or #4 for a particular concert, please let us know as early as possible so that we can make arrangements to cover your part if necessary.

Tours and Associated Costs

The LYO occasionally plans tours/retreats/educational activities for its members. Members involved will be assessed additional fees above the usual membership fees. Limited scholarships may be offered for those members in need of assistance.

Percussion Ensemble Rules

Percussionists are required to have their folder and all music with them at all rehearsals and performances. Moving percussion equipment is a shared responsibility and all students are required to assist in moving and setting up necessary equipment. Any member who does not actively participate may be dismissed from LYO.

Concert Dress

The LYO follows a standard formal concert black dress code for concerts. Attire which detracts from the music is considered unacceptable. Students will be required to correct any violations before being allowed to take the stage for performance. Deviation may result in a player not being allowed to participate in that performance. Decisions in this regard are at the discretion of LYO staff. Please refrain from perfume, cologne, or scented aftershave. Concert dress is expected to be worn at all dress rehearsals. This is a time when the LYO frequently takes professional photos or videos.

Formal Dress (Concert Black) for all ensembles:

- A. Nice black top – short/long sleeved shirts or collared dress shirts.
- B. Black dress pants or skirt. If worn, a dress or skirt must be at least knee-length when seated.
- C. Black dress shoes.
- D. No revealing attire will be permitted. No ripped/damaged clothing. No large words or symbols.
- E. No excessive jewelry or visually distracting accessories (unless requested by your conductor).
- F. Informal Dress (only as requested): Designated LYO t-shirt and jeans, or as directed. No shorts or flip-flops.

Questions? Please contact Loren Pascua (Student Enrollment Coordinator) at loren@lyo.org.

LOUISVILLE YOUTH ORCHESTRA
P.O. Box 997 Louisville, KY 40201-0997
info@lyo.org 502-896-1851

I have read the LYO 2022-2023 Student Handbook and I am committed to participating as outlined in the handbook.

Student Signature: _____

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____