

Membership

Handbook

2022-2023

Welcome to our 2022-2023 Season!

**Lubbock Youth Orchestra’s Mission:**

* **To provide an exceptional music education experience to the members of the orchestras**
* **To provide artistic performances that enrich the lives of developing musicians, our community, and our region**
* **To work cooperatively with the public and private schools, and independent music teachers in a continuing effort to provide musical development for youth**

*Congratulations on becoming a member of the Lubbock Youth Orchestras! We are so happy to have you with us. Please take the time to read this handbook completely. The following information will be of great help to you and will make your involvement in the program much more successful. Members and parents should always feel free to discuss ideas, ask questions, or express concerns with the LSO Education Director and Education Coordinator.*

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**LYO Ensembles**

LYO currently has 3 ensembles: Prelude, Philharmonic and Symphony. Each ensemble is valuable and provides a high-quality musical education for all students. Auditions are required for all 3 orchestras. All students will perform for the Fall and Spring Concert. There will also be opportunities to participate in outreach concerts throughout the community.

**Prelude Strings**

Designed for beginning to intermediate string players, this orchestra serves to develop essential technique for students who have been playing for at least one year. Students who have not yet participated in orchestra will learn all the fundamentals of performing in an ensemble. There is no minimum age required, but all students must be able to read music and be attentive for rehearsals.

Natalie Rosales, Conductor

**Philharmonic Orchestra**

Designed for the intermediate to advanced strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion players. This orchestra builds upon essential technique learned in the early stages of musical study. Students gain the experience of a full orchestra and are introduced to more challenging repertoire.

Dr. Joshua Allen, Conductor

**Symphony Orchestra**

Designed for the most advanced players for strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion. This orchestra challenges students to learn more complex music from the standard repertoire. Members of Symphony are eligible to participate in the annual Concerto Competition.

Alejos Anaya, Conductor

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**Communication & Contact Info**

**LYO Program information will be shared via email.** You must keep the LYO Staff informed of changes in student or parent contact information, including address, phone number, email address and school.

**In Case of Emergency**

On rare occasions, rehearsals or concerts may be canceled due to emergencies such as inclement weather. Any decision to cancel an event will NOT be made until the day of the event. The following guidelines will help you determine if a rehearsal or concert has been canceled:

* Check your Email. The LYO Staff will send out an email as soon as a decision is reached regarding canceling said events.
* Check the LYO Facebook page. The LYO Staff will also make a posting on the LYO Facebook page to alert of any event cancelations and or changes.
* Call the Lubbock Symphony Office at **806-762-1688**; You can talk to the LYO staff directly.
* Finally, use your discretion. If you feel that road conditions in your area are unsafe, stay at home. You must notify the LYO personnel if you will be missing rehearsal due to inclement weather. Missed rehearsals due to seriously inclement weather will be excused.

**Rehearsal and Concert Schedules**

The LYO Program determines the season schedules for the entire year. We ask that you mark your calendar with these dates. Rehearsal schedules will be sent out through email. Schedules are subject to change, but you will be notified of any changes as much in advance as possible.

Students may not leave the campus during LYO events without the express permission of the LYO staff and their Guardians.

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**Communication & Contact Info**

Below you will find all contact information for LYO Staff. For all questions and concerns, please contact the Education Director or Education Coordinator first.

**LYO Staff**

Kea Beasley, Education Director Mason Webb, Education Coordinator

[education@lubbocksymphony.org](mailto:education@lubbocksymphony.org) [boxoffice@lubbocksymphony.org](mailto:boxoffice@lubbocksymphony.org)

806-762-1688, ext. 1006 806-762-1688, ext. 1001

**LYO Conductors**

Natalie Rosales, Prelude Conductor

[natalie.rosales@lubbockisd.org](mailto:natalie.rosales@lubbockisd.org)

Dr. Joshua Allen, Philharmonic Conductor

[joshua.allen@lubbockisd.org](mailto:joshua.allen@lubbockisd.org)

Alejos Anaya, Symphony Conductor

[alejos.anaya@lubbockisd.org](mailto:alejos.anaya@lubbockisd.org)

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**Communication & Contact Info**

Each group has two **Orchestra Managers**. They must be notified in advance if a student will be late or absent from rehearsal. Any absence must be approved in advance by the Education Director.

**Orchestra Managers**

Iris Britton, Prelude Angelica Vasquez, Prelude

[unclechiens@hotmail.com](mailto:unclechiens@hotmail.com) [angel.vasquez76@yahoo.com](mailto:angel.vasquez76@yahoo.com)

806-543-9164 806-782-7571

Rosa Salazar, Philharmonic Jamie Shipp, Philharmonic

[rosa.salazar40@gmail.com](mailto:rosa.salazar40@gmail.com) [jlbutterfly00@yahoo.com](mailto:jlbutterfly00@yahoo.com)

806-790-4114 806-535-6207

Kerry Robins, Symphony Peter Martens, Symphony

[timandkerryrobins@msn.com](mailto:timandkerryrobins@msn.com) [peter.martens@ttu.edu](mailto:peter.martens@ttu.edu)

806-773-8852 806-401-2476

**LYO Administration**

Galen Wixson, CEO and President

Kea Beasley, Education Director

Mason Webb, Box Office Manager/Education Coordinator

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Description automatically generated with low confidenceSuzanne Rasco, Accounting Director

Amelia Jameison, Graphic Designer

Emily Gavaghan, Marketing Director

**Health and Safety**

**Rehearsals**

All rehearsals at Coronado High School will have a security guard on site. Students will be required to check-in at the front information table and with the Orchestra Managers.

**Concerts**

Concerts at the Civic Center will have a security team on site.

**COVID-19**

The LYO Staff will continue to monitor health and safety guidelines from local health authorities. Every decision we make will prioritize the health and safety of LYO musicians and their families. If you are experiencing COVID symptoms, please stay home and notify the Education Director immediately.

**Other Health Concerns**

If you are not well for any reason and believe that it could impact your ability in rehearsal or make others ill, **please stay home**. Absences due to illness will be excused. For any absences, please notify your Orchestra Manager and the Education Director in advance of rehearsal.

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**Membership Guidelines**

**Admissions Procedure**

All musicians must audition annually, including current members. Admission and orchestra placement are determined solely based on the annual audition. Should there be a vacancy in an orchestra during the season, the position will be filled as deemed appropriate by the conductors and the Education Director if necessary.

**Loss of Membership**

Repeated absences, tardiness, missing a concert, or problems with attitude or behavior are all grounds for dismissal from the LYO program. In such cases, there will be no refund of tuition. The Conductor, Sectional Coach, or Orchestra Manager will report all problems to the Education Director. One report results in a warning; more than one results in dismissal. If tuition is not paid in full by the deadline, your LYO membership is at risk of suspension.

**Withdrawal**

Members of LYO are expected to make a commitment for the duration of the school year. If a student needs to withdraw during the year, the student must give the Education Director a written notification as soon as possible. The student must receive permission from the Education Director to rejoin the program after their withdrawal. If allowed to rejoin, the student may be restricted from holding positions that are limited availability or leadership roles. The tuition payment is non-refundable in cases of withdrawal.

**Participation in School Music Programs**

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Description automatically generated with low confidenceLYO is committed to the support of public and private school music programs, therefore members must be enrolled in LISD or area school bands/orchestras where they exist. If you are not in your school program, you must have the school music director sign the School Exemption Form (found online). Home school students are encouraged and welcome to audition. If a student wants to play a different instrument in an LYO orchestra, they must receive written permission from their school band/orchestra director. Temporary schedule conflicts which prevent participation in your school ensemble must be approved by your school band/orchestra conductor. A school exemption form is available upon request.

**Membership Guidelines**

**Private Lessons**

Every LYO musician is **strongly encouraged** to study with a private teacher. Private lessons will greatly enhance and accelerate a student’s musical progress. For more information about private teachers in the area, contact your conductor or the Education Director.

**Seating Policies**

**Strings** placement will be determined at the string chair auditions held before each concert. A temporary seating chart will be used for rehearsals and the Fall Workshop. Chair auditions for **Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion** will be held at the discretion of the orchestra’s conductor. Decisions regarding the assignment of parts and any auditions necessary for season repertoire solos will be arranged by the sectional coaches and conductors. Musical ability and leadership potential are the primary basis for selecting principal players. **Note: Your placement in the orchestra is not always reflective of how well you perform in auditions, but what is in the best interest of the orchestra.** The orchestra is a team, and every member of the team is valuable. No matter where you sit, you are expected to be prepared and do your best. **Parents, please trust the decisions of the conductors and LYO Staff regarding all chair and orchestra placements**.

**Responsibility for Music**

Music will be in PDF format and will be available on the LYO website. All students are responsible for printing their music. If assistance is needed, please contact the LYO staff. Each member is responsible for their music. **MAKE SURE TO BRING A PENCIL WITH AN ERASER TO EACH REHEARSAL.** Only mark your music in pencil.  **NEVER USE A PEN TO MARK MUSIC.**

**Equipment & Supplies**

* **A pencil is required at every rehearsal.** Keep one in your folder.
* Violin and Viola players should bring an extra set of strings to rehearsals and concerts.
* Reed players should always have at least two good reeds with them.
* Percussionists must arrive early to rehearsals and concerts for equipment setup
* Percussionists are required to bring the following to all rehearsals and concerts:
  + 1 pair of Timpani Mallets
  + 1 pair of Drumsticks (concert style)
  + 1 pair of Yarn Mallets
  + 1 pair of Hard Plastic Mallets
  + Mallet Bag

**Fall Workshop & Other Performance Opportunities**

**LYO Fall Workshop**

Members of all three orchestras will participate in an exciting and invaluable musical workshop each year. This workshop provides students with the opportunity to meet the conductors, LYO Staff and the musicians of each orchestra. The workshop will be held at the beginning of the school year.

**Concerto Competition**

There will be an annual concerto competition for members of the Symphony Orchestra. One or more winners will be announced and will have the opportunity to perform with the Symphony Orchestra in the Spring Concert. The competition will occur in the fall. Information will be given to all Symphony Orchestra members as well as posted on the Facebook page.

**Annual Awards**

Awards, based on the conductors’ recommendations, will be given to all three orchestras at the LYO Spring Concert each season. Award policies are determined each season by the conductors and LYO Staff. Criteria are not limited to a musician’s skill, but also include attitude, work ethic, attendance, etc.

**Additional Opportunities**

Once each semester, students will have the opportunity to gain additional performance experience and share their talents within the community. Performances will take place at the Heartland House in Lubbock. Students preparing solo and ensemble repertoire are welcome to perform. Performance dates will be scheduled after each concert is completed. Please check email and LYO website for more information.

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**Tuition, Fees, and Financial Aid**

**Tuition and Registration Fees**

The cost of tuition is $350 for the year. The registration fee is $30 and is required to audition. Tuition and registration fees apply for every student. All payments are due in full on or by the date of the Fall Workshop.

Cash and check payments are accepted. Please make checks payable to Lubbock Symphony. If mailing a check payment, please send to:

Lubbock Symphony

601 Ave K

Lubbock, TX 79401

Payments are also acceptable via PayPal at accounting@lubbocksymphony.org.

**Financial Aid**

LYO is a non-profit organization that is dependent on donations as well as student fees. The LYO is also supported by community, civic, and private sponsors. It is the expressed intent of the LYO Staff to keep student tuition at a reasonable rate. In addition, it is the desire of the LYO program that no student be denied participation due to financial need.

Partial and full scholarships are available for students that qualify but are limited. Applications for financial assistance are available on the LYO website and will be reviewed by LYO Staff.

**Orchestra Managers**

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Description automatically generated with low confidenceEach orchestra has two Orchestra Managers. These are parent volunteers who are responsible for various tasks, such as rehearsal set up, attendance etc. Parents who can commit to this position for the school year will receive one full tuition scholarship for their child. Please contact the Education Director for more information.

**Attendance and Rehearsals**

**Rehearsals**

Rehearsals are as important as concerts. You will perform no better than you rehearse, and you will rehearse no better than you practice. Consistent practice at home will prepare you for better rehearsals which will make for successful concerts. When you join the LYO program, you are making a commitment to your fellow musicians to work together and create a quality ensemble. Success depends on the full participation of each musician. When you are prepared, you show respect and consideration for your orchestra, your fellow musicians, and your conductor.

**Please review your schedule carefully**! If you have a job or are involved in other extra-curricular activities, please plan accordingly to avoid potential conflicts with rehearsals.

The use of cell phones is prohibited during rehearsal. Avoid chewing gum and please do not bring food or drinks to rehearsal. Bottled water is acceptable. Snacks and water will be provided for students at every rehearsal.

**Dress Rehearsal**

The dress rehearsal occurs on the Sunday directly before each concert. If this rehearsal must be rescheduled, it will be changed to the Saturday before the concert. Musicians may not miss either of the last **two** rehearsals and expect to maintain their position in their section. You may also lose the privilege to participate in the concert.

**Absences**

Arriving on time, staying through rehearsals, and attending all scheduled activities are how you demonstrate your commitment and consideration to fellow musicians. Therefore:

* Absences **must** be approved by the Education Director in advance of scheduled rehearsals and concert dates.
* If you are absent for more than two rehearsals per semester (*excused or unexcused*), your attendance record will be reviewed by the LYO Staff and conductors. If found to be unacceptable, participation in the upcoming concert may be jeopardized.
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  Description automatically generated with low confidence**Missing a concert constitutes grounds for immediate dismissal from the LYO program.**

**Attendance and Rehearsals**

**Excused Absences**

Absences will be excused for illness and family emergencies. Consideration is also given for students who have visitation scheduled with another parent outside of Lubbock. Authorized school functions will also be excused. You must give advanced notice for any absence, and it must be approved by the Education Director.

If a student must leave rehearsal early or arrive late, the Orchestra Managers and the Education Director must be notified.

**Facilities**

All rehearsals will be held at **Coronado High School** from 2pm-4:30 pm. LYO Members are guests at all facilities and are expected to help maintain the cleanliness of their surroundings. **Please respect your surroundings by leaving them as clean as you found them.**

**Arrival and Departure**

Musicians should plan to arrive early for all rehearsals. Orchestra Managers will be taking attendance. Please make every effort to arrive at rehearsal at **1:45pm**. If you are not in your seat by the time the tuning note begins, **you will be considered tardy**. Guardians are always welcome to observe rehearsals. Rehearsals end at 4:30 pm. Guardians should be no later than 4:30 pm to pick up their students. The LYO Program is not responsible for any student left at the rehearsal site more than **fifteen minutes** after the end of rehearsal.

**Announcements**

Announcements are made at the beginning of each rehearsal or after the break. It is the responsibility of any member missing announcements to get the information from their Orchestra Manager following the end of rehearsal. It is also the responsibility of members to relay all information to their parents or guardian.

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**Concerts and Performances**

­­­­**Concerts**

All three orchestras will perform two concerts per year at the Civic Center. Tentative rehearsal schedules will be emailed out at the beginning of each semester. Schedules are always subject to change. Members and parents will receive notice of any changes or additions to the schedule as far in advance as possible. All students are expected to perform in all concerts.

**Concert Attire**

* Gentleman: Black tuxedo (or black coat and slacks), white shirt, black socks, black shoes, and black bow tie.
* Ladies: LONG black skirt (no slits) or dress slacks. This may be worn with a black long-sleeved or ¾ length sleeved blouse. A LONG black dress may also be worn (no low necklines). If you have a long dress with short sleeves, you must wear with a black jacket or sweater. Dresses or skirts at or above the knee are unacceptable. Please wear with black hose or tights and black shoes. Keep jewelry to a minimum. No colognes or perfumes out of respect for those who might be allergic.

Final decisions regarding attire will be at the discretion of the conductors and Education Director. Concerts are a special event and therefore, students must dress as professionally as possible. Concert attire is required for pictures. Inappropriate attire may jeopardize a musician’s participation in a concert. If a student has outgrown their concert attire, please consider donating it to the LYO program. If you need help selecting appropriate attire, please contact the Education Director or the Orchestra Managers.

**LYO Concerts**

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Description automatically generated with low confidenceLYO members are required to stay for the entire concert. This is an important part of the student’s musical education and will fuel their aspirations to become a member of a more advanced orchestra! Unless there is a family emergency, and a parent/guardian speaks with the Education Director prior to the concert, the LYO member is not to leave the concert until the Symphony Orchestra has completed their program. **You show your support and consideration for your fellow musicians by listening to their performance!**

**Concerts and Performances**

**LYO Post-Concert Receptions**

A reception will be held after concerts to honor performers. Everyone is welcome to attend and show their support by congratulating the musicians and thanking all LYO Staff for their work.

**LYO Concert Tickets**

LYO concerts are free of charge to everyone. We ask that you help promote the program by encouraging people to come to hear our wonderful musicians.

**Student Social Events**

The LYO Staff wishes to help create a healthy and positive learning environment for our students. To further accomplish this, we will have student social events throughout the season. These might take place at Adventure Park, Main Event etc. We highly encourage all students to participate and get to know each other better. Please check emails and the LYO website for more information.

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**Lubbock Symphony Orchestra Concerts**

Members of LYO are strongly encouraged to support LSO by attending as many concerts as possible. Comp tickets will be available for LYO students. Hearing accomplished musicians perform is a part of your growth and development as a musician. Education is an integral part of the LYO program.

**Concert Etiquette**

* When the house lights dim, please do not whisper. The musicians need absolute silence to give their best performance. We ask that you refrain from talking, singing, whispering, or humming during the performance. Please remember that food and drinks are not allowed in the concert hall.
* When the music begins, please listen closely. An audience shows appreciation with careful listening and watching during the performance and applauding once the performance has ended. If you are wondering when to applaud, simply watch the conductor. When the conductor’s hands are lowered and he turns around to face the audience, you may clap! It is important to listen to the music and whenever someone is speaking.
* Use your imagination. Music always tells a story. As you listen to the concert, let your imagination take you wherever it wants to go. Watch the performance, look at the different instruments, observe the musicians, and listen to the different sounds coming from the orchestra.
* Children of all ages are encouraged to participate, explore, and enjoy performances. All these performances are recorded. Therefore, use good judgment if your child becomes fussy and loud by moving to the lobby. The audience members and musicians will greatly appreciate it.

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**Volunteer Opportunities**

*LYO wants your help and welcomes your participation.*

Volunteers are needed as:

* Orchestra Managers
* Workshop Chaperones
* Special Event Chaperones
* Concert Day Volunteers

Please contact the Education Director for more information.

**Thank you for your cooperation!**

**We look forward to an exciting season!**

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Email: education@lubbocksymphony.org

Phone: (806) 762-1688