



WICHITA SYMPHONY
YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

2021-2022 Policy Handbook



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Mission and History

The Wichita Symphony Youth Orchestras Program (WSYO) brings classical music to life for young people in South Central Kansas. This program is a key educational outreach arm of the Wichita Symphony and shares in its mission to enrich, educate, and entertain diverse audiences of all ages in our region through performances of orchestral music, thereby enhancing the vibrancy and vitality of Wichita.

Founded in 1947, WSYO's Youth Symphony is a charter member of the Youth Symphony Orchestra Division of the League of American Orchestras. Today, the Wichita Symphony Youth Orchestras Program is made up of four ensembles that serve over 250 students from 22 cities and towns in central Kansas and northern Oklahoma. WSYO ensembles include the Youth Symphony, Repertory Orchestra, Youth Chamber Players, and Youth Wind Ensemble.

Wichita Symphony Youth Orchestras activities are made possible with the generous support provided by:

**The Sam and Rie
Bloomfield Foundation**



WSYO Staff

CONDUCTORS

Dr. Mark Laycock – Youth Orchestras Program Director and Youth Symphony Conductor

Fred and Mary Koch Foundation Endowed Chair

Dr. Mark Laycock is a Professor of Music at Wichita State University, where he holds the Ann Walenta Faculty of Distinction Endowed Professorship. He serves as Director of Orchestras and Coordinator of Strings. A member of the Board of Directors of the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic, he is also Conductor of the Wichita Youth Symphony. His work as guest conductor, clinician, or adjudicator spans 34 states. Dr. Laycock has served the National Orchestra Festival as adjudicator, clinician, and chair. He has presented clinic sessions for numerous state and national education conventions. A frequent visitor to Australia, he was a Keynote Speaker for the 2021 Australian National Band and Orchestra Conference. Dr. Laycock is a four-time invited music education panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts, a chapter author for the fourth volume of *Teaching Music through Performance in Orchestra* and a frequent contributor to the *American String Teacher* journal.

Dr. Wesley DeSpain - Repertory Orchestra Conductor

Delmar and Mary Klocke Endowed Chair

Dr. Wesley DeSpain began directing the high school and middle school orchestras of the Derby Public Schools in the Fall of 2010. He conducted the Friends University Community Orchestra from 2010 – 2014. He began conducting the Wichita Symphony Repertory Youth Orchestra in the Fall of 2014 and is currently in his tenth season as Music Director and Conductor of the Delano Chamber Orchestra. He conducted Ballet Wichita's productions of "The Nutcracker" in 2017, 2018, and 2019. His summer activities include leading orchestras at Camp Allegro and directing a youth program sponsored by the Delano Chamber Players that includes three orchestras. Dr. DeSpain holds degrees from Baptist Bible College (B.A.), Wichita State University (B.M.E., M.M.E., M.M.), and the University of Oklahoma (D.M.A.). He served as Chair of the Kansas Music Educators Association All-State Orchestra from 2015 – 2017 and is the current All-State Full Orchestra chair until 2023.

Eric Crawford - Youth Chamber Players Conductor

Mr. Crawford is Director of Orchestras at Wichita High School East and is the Orchestra Curriculum Coach for USD 259, Wichita Public Schools. A native of Dayton, Ohio, he has made Wichita his home, playing in the Wichita Symphony bass section for over seasons. The recipient of numerous awards including the Wichita Public Schools' Good Apple Award, Wichita Arts Council's Burton Pell Award and the Wichita Symphony's Sevart Award, he served as President of the Kansas String Teacher's Association from 2013-2015. He has also served as Chair of the Wichita Symphony Orchestra Committee, and as President of Wichita Musician's Association.

Dr. Timothy Shade – Youth Wind Ensemble Conductor

Dr. Timothy Shade is the Director of Bands at Wichita State University. Previous appointments include Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Alhambra Orchestra (FL), Visiting Director of Orchestras at Florida Atlantic University, and Director of Instrumental Music at Bethel College (KS). Equally comfortable in the orchestral and wind realms, Shade has worked with Greater Miami Symphonic Band, The New River Orchestra, The Naples Philharmonic, The Frost Wind Ensemble, The Florida Youth Symphony, The Wichita Wind Ensemble, The Newton Mid-Kansas Symphony Orchestra, and the Delano Chamber Orchestra.

COACHES

YOUTH SYMPHONY AND REPERTORY ORCHESTRA

Valerie Sullivan, 1 st violin	Guillermo Mireles, cello	Dr. Jeb Wallace, brass
Linette Gordon, 2 nd violin	Renea Abdallah, double bass	Andréa Banke, woodwinds
Dr. Elizabeth Wallace, viola	Andrew Slater, percussion	

YOUTH CHAMBER PLAYERS

Rosemarie Barney, Youth Chamber Players Rehearsal Assistant

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Tiffany Bell Rhodes – Manager of Education and Community Partnerships

Office Phone: (316) 267-5259, ext. 105

Email: trhodes@wso.org

Erica Schneider – Youth Orchestras Coordinator

Office Phone: (316) 267-5259, ext. 107

Email: eschneider@wso.org

Dr. Mark Laycock – Director of Youth Orchestras Program

Office Phone: (316) 978-6202

Email: mark.laycock@wichita.edu

Meet the Ensembles

YOUTH SYMPHONY

Founded in 1947, the Youth Symphony is recognized as the foremost youth orchestra in central Kansas and features top student musicians from throughout central Kansas and northern Oklahoma. Members perform a wide variety of standard and emerging orchestral masterpieces, including full symphonies and works by living composers. The Youth Symphony performs two concerts at Century II Concert Hall each season and tours regionally and nationally. Members meet in regular sectionals with professional community musicians and members of the Wichita Symphony Orchestra. The Youth Symphony is open to students entering grades seven through twelve.

YOUTH WIND ENSEMBLE

The Wind Ensemble is comprised of a small group of elite wind, brass, and percussion players, and focuses on a “one-to-a-part” model. Repertoire performed by the Wind Ensemble is drawn from the pillars of the wind band literature, as well as newer works by living composers. The Wind Ensemble performs two concerts at Century II Concert Hall each season, and is open to students entering grades seven through twelve.

REPERTORY ORCHESTRA

Repertory Orchestra provides members with the opportunity to perform orchestral masterpieces and contemporary music. This intermediate orchestra prepares its members for musical participation in the Youth Symphony, and members also meet in regular sectionals with professional community musicians and members of the Wichita Symphony Orchestra. They perform two concerts at Century II Concert Hall each season. The Repertory Orchestra is open to students entering grades seven through twelve. High School students in Repertory Orchestra have the opportunity to join Youth Symphony on regional and national tours.

YOUTH CHAMBER PLAYERS

Our youngest orchestra, Youth Chamber Players is WSYO's only string orchestra, and it prepares young musicians to advance into the Repertory Orchestra and Youth Symphony as they grow and develop their skills. Members improve individual playing technique, develop ensemble skills, and gain valuable performing experience. They perform two concerts at Century II Concert Hall each season. The Youth Chamber Players is open to students entering grades four through ten.

Stay Informed

- Our main method of communication is email. Check your email regularly for notices, updates, and reminders from The Education Manager and WSYO Coordinator. We will notify you as soon as possible with any schedule changes or important information.
 - All WSYO documents, forms, and signups can be found online on the Student Information Portal: WichitaSymphony.org/WSYOStudentInfo. Bookmark this page for quick access - you'll need to visit it regularly.
-

Membership Requirements

- Membership is by audition only (see the Membership Audition Policy p. 12) and, as a member, **you must maintain active membership in your school's band or orchestra program on the instrument you are playing in WSYO.**
 - You must also have the recommendation of your orchestra and/or band instructor. Exceptions are made for students from schools that have no orchestra or band program. Those students must be recommended by their school official and their private teacher and remain active in private lessons throughout the school year.
 - **Dropping out of the school orchestra or band program at any time means forfeiture of WSYO membership.**
-

Behavior & Conduct

FOR WSYO MEMBERS:

BE PRESENT

- Attend all rehearsals and performances (see Attendance Policies on p. 8-10 for complete details).
- Turn off and put away cell phones during rehearsals, sectionals, and performances. Cell phones may only be used at the request of the music director or sectional coach (i.e. for a tuner or metronome app, if applicable).
- **Arrive at least ten minutes before rehearsals** and sit in the appropriate chair with the necessary instrument and music.
- Bring a pencil, your music, and music stand to every rehearsal.

BUILD AND SERVE THE WSYO AUDIENCE

- Tell your friends and family about your WSYO experience.
- Invite people to WSYO concerts.
- Complete any WSYO questionnaires or forms and return them to WSYO staff by the deadline.
- Stay in touch! Let WSYO staff know if you are not receiving emails or if your contact information changes throughout the year.

KEEP IT CLEAN

- Do not bring food, gum, or beverages into rehearsal or concert areas. These items are not allowed by the facilities we use.
- Leave rehearsal and performance spaces in the same or better condition than when WSYO members arrived. As guests of Wichita State University and Century II Concert Hall, WSYO members are responsible for picking up after themselves.
- Damage to or destruction of property is strictly prohibited.

SHOW RESPECT

- Show respect to fellow musicians and WSYO staff at all times.
- Refrain from distracting or demeaning communication of any kind (such as hand or facial gestures, note passing, texting, etc...) or disruptive behavior.
- Foul language is unacceptable.

STAY SAFE

- **Bullying will not be tolerated.** Any bullying situation must be reported to the nearest WSYO staff member immediately.
- Unruly behavior can become dangerous and/or damaging to property and will not be tolerated.
- Possession or use of any item which might inflict personal injury or property damage is prohibited.
- Report any suspicious activity at WSYO events to the nearest staff member.
- Verbal or physical assaults, any act or words that show threat of harm, or any verbal or physical behavior that endangers the safety of others will not be tolerated. Report dangerous behavior to the nearest WSYO staff member and to law enforcement immediately.

FOR WSYO MEMBERS, PARENTS, AND AUDIENCES:

- WSYO staff's supervisory responsibility for student musicians extends only to the scheduled times of all functions. **Students are expected to remain in specified areas at all times.** WSYO cannot assume responsibility for students leaving specified areas.
- Federal law prohibits smoking on or around public school property and Century II Performing Arts Center. The consumption of alcoholic beverages by anyone under the age of 21, the purchase, sale, or use of illegal drugs or controlled substances is not permitted during any WSYO activity.
- Failure to abide by any WSYO regulation will result in disciplinary action, such as expulsion from the WSYO program, and forfeiture of any tuition and fees paid.

Tuition & Fees

- Fall and Full Year Payments are due on or before Friday, August 6, 2021
 - Spring Payments are due on or before Friday, January 7, 2022
 - **Total Due Per Student = Tuition + Music Library Fee**
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Tuition:

- **Youth Chamber Players, Repertory Orchestra, Wind Ensemble: \$295 (Full Year); \$160 (Semester)**
- **Youth Symphony: \$375 (Full Year); \$215 (Semester)**

Second Ensemble Discount (For students participating in both Orchestra and Wind Ensemble)

- Second Ensemble Tuition (in addition to full tuition for YS or Rep): \$225 (Full Year); \$125 (Semester)

Family Tuition Discount (Applies only to additional students from the same household. One student per household must pay full tuition.)

- \$265 (Full Year); \$144 (Semester)

Music Library Fee:

(Covers purchase/rental of music, photocopying, librarian work, and cost of music folder. Music Library fee to be added to tuition for every student.)

- **Youth Chamber Players: \$30 (Full Year); \$15 (Semester)**
- **Repertory Orchestra: \$40 (Full Year); \$20 (Semester)**
- **Wind Ensemble: \$50 (Full Year); \$25 (Semester)**
- **Youth Symphony: \$50 (Full Year); \$25 (Semester)**

Financial Assistance:

A limited amount of need-based financial assistance is available. Contact the Education Manager for information on how to apply for financial assistance.

Refund Policy:

No refunds of first semester fees after Labor Day. A \$35 surcharge will be deducted for any requested refunds prior to Labor Day. If a student pays for the full year, and requests a refund of 2nd semester fees after Labor Day and before January 15, a \$40 surcharge will be withheld.

Please note: Tuition, fees, and ticket sales cover a small portion of the WSYO budget. Donations are appreciated and encouraged

Attendance Policies

Attendance at all rehearsals and concerts is expected. Please weigh all other commitments (ACT/SAT testing schedule, clubs, educational activities, family vacations, sports, etc.) to assess possible conflicts before the WSYO season begins.

- **WSYO musicians must arrange to be picked up immediately following any event.** Please be considerate and arrange alternate transportation if you are unable to pick up your WSYO student at the end of a rehearsal or concert.
- Attendance is recorded at each regular rehearsal, dress rehearsal, and performance.
- **Students may have up to 2 absences during regular rehearsals each semester if prior notification is given.** Students who have 3 or more absences may be required to re-audition at the semester to maintain active WSYO membership and may not be allowed to play the concert.
- All scheduled absences must be reported at least one week prior to the anticipated absence. Dress rehearsal and seating audition absences must be reported at least two weeks prior.
- To report absences, complete the Student Absence Form, which can be found on the WSYO Student Information Portal: WichitaSymphony.org/WSYOStudentInfo.
- Failure to abide by these attendance policies may result in the loss of a chair position or forfeiture of membership in WSYO at the discretion of the conductor and WSYO staff committee.

ABSENCES DUE TO ILLNESS OR EMERGENCY:

- **If you are sick, stay home!**
- Complete the Student Absence Form, located on the WSYO Student Information Portal. (WichitaSymphony.org/WSYOStudentInfo) to notify WSYO staff of absences due to illness or emergency.
- For an illness or emergency that occurs after a WSYO member has arrived at a WSYO event, contact WSYO staff in person, if possible.
- WSYO musicians absent more than twice in any semester may be required to re-audition for membership for the following year and may not be allowed to play the concert. (See the Audition Policies on pp. 12-13 for complete details.)

EXCUSED ABSENCES:

- Only events that are required by the student's music program at school will be excused absences and not count towards their total number of absences each semester. **Written confirmation from the teacher is required one week in advance for these absences.** Have your school music teacher contact the Education Manager at trhodes@wso.org with details about school music-related absences.

Tardiness:

- All WSYO musicians must plan to arrive at least ten minutes prior to the start of rehearsal.
- Musicians are considered tardy if they are not in their seats with their instrument out and the correct music on the stand by the beginning of the rehearsal or sectional. **Arriving late or leaving early is counted as one half (1/2) of an absence.**
- Late arrivals will sit in the back or at the end of the section during that portion of the rehearsal or sectional.

DRESS REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance at all Dress Rehearsals within the week prior to the concert is mandatory in order to perform in the concert. If a WSYO member fails to attend, he/she may not be allowed to perform in the concert, at the discretion of the conductor.

- Any request for an absence from a Dress Rehearsal must be delivered no later than two weeks prior to the concert.
- Dress Rehearsal absence requests will be considered on an individual basis.
- **School-Related Dress Rehearsal Absence Requests:** Have your school music teacher contact the Education Manager directly at trhodes@wso.org to address school music-related conflicts with WSYO Dress Rehearsals. WSYO staff and teachers will work together to reach a solution and notify you of the outcome.
- **Illness or Medical Emergency Dress Rehearsal Absence Requests:** WSYO members are required to provide a doctor's written notice that an illness or medical emergency necessitates that they miss a Dress Rehearsal and also that they may be permitted to perform in the concert. (This could apply to situations where the musician is prescribed an antibiotic and is deemed non-infectious after 24 hours, recovery from a concussion, etc.). If a student has already missed two rehearsals in a semester they may not be allowed to play the concert if a dress rehearsal is missed due to illness.
- Final absence request decisions will be made by a committee consisting of the WSYO conductors and staff.
- Missing a Dress Rehearsal may disqualify the WSYO member from performing in the concert at the discretion of the WSYO staff and conductors. All WSYO staff decisions are final.

CONCERT ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- Concert attendance and participation is mandatory for membership in WSYO.
- Concert absence may forfeit WSYO membership at the discretion of the conductor and WSYO staff committee.
- All WSYO musicians must plan to arrive in their seats with the proper music and instrument *before* call time for the concert. Conductors set the call time for their orchestra.

LOCATIONS OF REHEARSALS AND CONCERTS:

- The majority of WSYO rehearsals will take place at Duerksen Fine Arts Center at Wichita State University.
Address: 1845 Fairmount St. Wichita, KS 67260

- All dress rehearsals, performances, and some regular rehearsals are held at Century II Concert Hall and other rooms as posted. Address: 225 W. Douglas, Wichita, KS 67202
- Specific rehearsal and concert dates are listed in the ensemble schedules, which can be found on the Student Information Portal. Any changes from the printed schedule will be announced at rehearsals, posted on the Student Information Portal, and emailed.
- Parents and guardians are invited to attend all rehearsals; the conductor reserves the right to ask anyone who is causing a distraction to leave.
- Rehearsal and Concert facilities prohibit the consumption or sale of outside food and drink at WSYO events.

WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY:

In the event that weather conditions force the cancellation of a rehearsal, dress rehearsal, or concert, an email will be sent from the Education Manager with the earliest possible notice. An announcement will also be made on WSYO social media channels.

Instruments – Music – Music Stands

- WSYO members must attend rehearsals and concerts with their instrument and all necessary equipment (strings, reeds, mallets, etc.). It is the responsibility of WSYO members to keep instruments they own in excellent condition.
- Any WSYO member that plays an instrument owned by the WSO is responsible for signing it in/out and treating that instrument with proper care. It is required that any instrument repairs or replacements necessary due to improper care or loss must be preapproved by the Education Manager. The WSYO member responsible for the care of the instrument will be billed for the full amount of the repair or replacement. Contact WSYO staff for preapproval confirmation regarding any WSO instrument repair or replacement. If a WSO instrument is stolen please file a police report and notify WSYO staff immediately.
- **Percussionists** must assist in setting up, moving, dismantling, and putting away all percussion equipment used during rehearsals and concerts. The equipment must be handled with care and stored neatly. Percussionists must also supply their own sticks and mallets. Plan to arrive at least 15 minutes early to set up the section and stay late until all percussion equipment is put away.
- **All WSYO members must bring a folding music stand to each rehearsal.** Names should be marked clearly on stands for proper identification.
- Music will be issued to every WSYO member at or prior to the first rehearsal of each semester. Each musician is responsible for the set of music checked out at that time and will be charged for any music not returned following the concert.
- A music folder will be issued to every member at the first rehearsal of the season and must be returned following the final concert of the year.

Auditions

WSYO MEMBERSHIP AUDITIONS:

Auditions for all four ensembles are held in the late spring prior to the fall season. Audition announcements are provided to all returning members and instrumental directors in the local public and private middle schools and high schools.

- Audition information will be announced in advance of the audition date and listed on the WSYO website. WSYO applications are made available on the WSYO website at WichitaSymphony.org/WSYO, or you may call the office for a printed copy.

(Please Note: audition music changes from year to year.)

- Acceptance into WSYO is based solely upon the quality of the audition performed and will be evaluated on technical proficiency, tone quality, dynamic range, musicality, rhythmic accuracy, and intonation. Audition materials will include scales, orchestral excerpts, and solo material.
- **Audition Process:** Auditions will be heard by a WSYO conductor, sectional coach, and/or a professional musician from the community. Within two weeks following the close of auditions, all auditionees will be notified if they have been accepted, placed on an alternate list, or not accepted. Those who are accepted as alternates may be offered a position if a vacancy occurs in the appropriate section.
- Repertory Orchestra and Youth Symphony membership is open to orchestral instrumental musicians who will be in grades seven through twelve at the start of the fall concert season.
- Youth Chamber Players membership is open to string players who will be in grades four through ten at the start of the fall concert season.
- Wind Ensemble is open to woodwind, brass, and percussion players who will be in grades seven through twelve at the start of the fall concert season.
- **Current members of WSYO are required to audition every year to maintain membership.**

SEATING AUDITIONS:

- All Youth Chamber Players, Repertory Orchestra and Youth Symphony string players will be required to audition for seating at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters. The spring auditions will also take into account the student's behavior and attendance in WSYO sectionals, rehearsals, and concerts (as determined by WSYO staff and conductors).
- Woodwind, brass, and percussion players in Youth Symphony, Wind Ensemble, and Repertory Orchestra will be seated in the fall semester based on membership audition results, and may be asked to re-audition for seating at the start of the spring semester.
- Dates for seating auditions are listed in the rehearsal schedule. Music selections for the auditions will be announced by the section coach and distributed at rehearsal and via email. Members will receive the results of the seating auditions via email during the week after the audition.

****Audition procedures and polices are subject to change.****

PRINCIPAL PLAYERS' RESPONSIBILITIES:

Acceptance of a Principal position in a WSYO ensemble includes a higher level of accountability for attendance and performance. Principal players should bring a positive and helpful mindset to rehearsals. Make it a goal to praise other members of your section for their hard work and encourage those around you.

- Principals who miss a third rehearsal (regular or dress rehearsal) will be subject to removal from that position and rotated to a section position.
- Failure to abide by WSYO attendance policies may result in the loss of a chair position or forfeiture of membership in WSYO at the discretion of the conductor and WSYO staff committee.

Principal players will have the opportunity to play in one of the WSYO Principals Chamber Ensembles. These ensembles rehearse for one hour per week outside of the WSYO rehearsal schedule. They may represent WSYO at performances before Wichita Symphony concerts and at various locations in the Wichita community. They will also perform on the Sunday afternoon Fall and Spring Youth Orchestras Concerts. Each ensemble coach will set the rehearsal schedule in collaboration with the ensemble members.

- **Paul A. Stephens String Quartet** – featuring Youth Symphony principal string players
- **Mitchell A. Berman String Quartet** – featuring Repertory Orchestra principal string players
- **Jay Decker Brass Quintet** – featuring Youth Symphony principal brass players
- **Youth Symphony Woodwind Quintet** – featuring Youth Symphony principal woodwind players

WICHITA SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRAS STRING ENSEMBLE:

- Featuring string players from Youth Symphony, Repertory Orchestra, and Youth Chamber Players. This volunteer ensemble performs at the Wichita Symphony Holiday Pops Concert.

WSYO USHER PROGRAM:

The WSYO Usher Program has been established to provide a meaningful educational and musical experience for WSYO members, while providing a needed service at Wichita Symphony performances.

- **All WSYO members in grades nine through twelve are encouraged to usher for at least one Wichita Symphony concert each semester.** Ushering is open to students in grades seven and above. Each WSYO student usher may receive up to two complimentary tickets for the WSO concert for which they usher, subject to availability. Additional information will be sent to ushers the Monday preceding the concert weekend for which they are signed up to usher.
- **WSYO Usher Directors:** Two or three high school seniors are selected as Directors of the WSYO Usher Program to assist with the running of this program. Directors are outstanding members of the Youth Orchestras and the Usher Program. They are chosen among students who have been active as ushers during their time in WSYO and act as usher supervisors during all Wichita Symphony concerts.

WSYO STAGE ASSISTANTS:

Two stage assistants will assist the stage manager with the physical set-up and tear-down of all rehearsals at Wichita State University. WSYO Stage Assistants are chosen based on excellent attendance, attitude, and reliability. Other duties may be assigned as necessary.

YOUTH TALENT AUDITIONS:

Youth Talent Auditions will be held on Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 1:00 pm in Duerksen Fine Arts Center at Wichita State University. WSYO seniors are eligible to audition for the Youth Talent Award, and all WSYO members are eligible to audition for the Stephen Paul Wunsch Foundation for Young Musicians Award. Each audition must be performed from memory and with piano accompaniment. Accompanists must be furnished by the auditionee. Those chosen for an award must comply with the WSYO Membership Responsibilities or they may forfeit the award.

❖ Youth Talent Award

Open to all high school seniors in the WSYO Program. The first place winner will perform with the Youth Symphony in the spring concert and is awarded an honorarium. A second place winner will perform with the Repertory Orchestra and is awarded an honorarium. Each auditionee must audition with the musical selection to be performed with the orchestra.

❖ Stephen Paul Wunsch Foundation for Young Musicians Award

Open to all members of the WSYO Program. This award provides a partial scholarship to attend the Interlochen Music Camp, Aspen Music School, Brevard Music Festival, or other comparable music camp.

WSYO HONORS AND AWARDS

❖ James P. Robertson Award

This award will be presented during the spring concert to a graduating senior who has been an exemplary member of the Youth Orchestras Program. Selection of a recipient is based on artistic excellence, potential, attitude, and overall involvement in the Youth Orchestras Program.

❖ Janice Hupp Memorial Fund Award

The Janice Hupp Memorial Fund was established in 1999 to recognize her dedication and service to music and music education in South Central Kansas. A product of the Wichita Public School system herself, Ms. Hupp was a member of the Wichita Youth Orchestras as a student. From 1978-1988, she served as Manager of the Youth Orchestras program.

❖ Eldon Lipp Memorial Viola Award

This award was established in 2002 by his family to recognize his decades of service and dedication to the string students of our region. The student winning this prize is given the opportunity to perform for a year on the beautiful memorial viola bearing the Eldon Lipp memorial inscription.

❖ Paul Conrad Woolwine "Rising Star" String Scholarship

A scholarship will be awarded annually to a graduating senior who will be enrolled as a music major in college.

❖ **Paul Conrad Woolwine Violin Award**

This award was established in 2012 by his family as a tribute to his years as a member of the Youth Orchestras program. A student winning this prize is given the opportunity to perform for a year on this wonderful violin.

❖ **M. Helen Allen Violin Award**

The M. Helen Allen Violin Award is made possible by Mrs. Allen to benefit a student in the Youth Orchestras program. A student will have use of the violin during membership in the Youth Orchestras program.

❖ **McHugh Violins Scholarship**

The McHugh Violins Scholarship is presented to an outstanding senior from the Youth Orchestras program. The scholarship is provided by McHugh Violins.

**Additional awards may also be presented in the spring to high school seniors. Scholarships are awarded to members in the WSYO Program who have exemplified excellence in the program. Recommendations for these awards are made by the WSYO artistic and administrative staff.

Parent Information

VOLUNTEER:

WSYO relies on the help of parent volunteers to make our program a success, and we need your help! If you are able to volunteer your time and would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities, please sign up to volunteer as your schedule allows. Information on how to volunteer will be sent at the start of each semester.

FUNDRAISING:

The Fundraising Committee encourages every WSYO parent to participate in fundraising in some way. The fundraising efforts of this committee help to keep tuition costs low and provide opportunities for students to fundraise for their tour fees. You can help by spreading the word about WSYO fundraising activities, contacting local businesses to buy program book ads, and many other ways. Contact the Education Manager at trhodes@wso.org if you are interested in joining the Fundraising Committee.

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The WSYO Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) is a group of parent volunteers who hold key positions in the organization. They provide essential support for the Youth Orchestras by managing volunteers, fundraising, and securing funding for needed financial assistance. PAC members are chosen from among the WSYO parent volunteers.

WSYO COMMUNICATION/PHOTO/PRIVACY POLICY:

The Wichita Symphony Youth Orchestras (WSYO) reserve the right to record audio and/or video and photograph any and all WSYO activities for later use, which may include printed or electronic materials and radio/tv/film/online broadcast. WSYO member and/or parent likeness, including print, electronic, audio, or video recordings may be used for any purpose, with or without the use of name, school, grade and other pertinent information, and without remuneration by WSYO and its assigns for the purpose of internal and external communications.

WSYO may distribute information to members and their families regarding WSYO events, WSYO schedule changes, Wichita Symphony events, and unique musical or educational opportunities.

- A WSYO Membership List, including name, address, phone number, and email, will be released to WSYO members for the purpose of facilitating communication between WSYO members and their families at the discretion of the Education and Community Engagement Manager.
- Contact Information (name, address, phone number, and email) may be released to other organizations representing unique musical or educational opportunities for WSYO members and their families at the discretion of the Education and Community Engagement Manager.
- Contact Information for WSYO members and parents is never sold to third parties.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY:

Wichita Symphony Youth Orchestras Program (WSYO) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, age, religion or religious creed, disability or handicap, sex or gender, gender identity and/or expression, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal, state or local law. Retaliation is also prohibited.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY:

Wichita Symphony Youth Orchestras Program (WSYO) does not tolerate sexual harassment as defined: an uninvited and unwelcomed verbal or physical behavior of a sexual nature, especially by a person in authority toward a subordinate (as an employee or student) or student to student.

BULLYING POLICY:

Wichita Symphony Youth Orchestras Program (WSYO) does not tolerate bullying as defined: any intentional gesture or any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act or threat either by any student, staff member, or parent towards a student or by any student, staff member or parent towards a staff member that is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that such gesture, act or threat creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment that a reasonable person, under the circumstances, knows or should know will have the effect of: harming a student or staff member, whether physically or mentally; damaging a student's or staff member's property; placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of harm to the student or staff member; or placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of damage to the student's or staff member's property; or cyberbullying.

WSYO Concert Dress

Each WSYO ensemble has a required dress code for each concert. Our members belong to a great team and each WSYO ensemble must present a unified appearance.

- All attire should be wrinkle-free.
- **Ladies:** No sleeveless, short sleeve, strapless, spaghetti strap, halter, see-through or backless dresses or blouses, short skirts or skirts with side slits higher than the knee, jeans, skinny pants, crop pants, cargo pants, flip-flops, tennis shoes, hats, head bands, or low-cut tops or dresses on stage. Socks, tights, or nylons must be solid black.
- **Gentlemen:** No t-shirts, jeans, cargo pants, flip-flops, tennis shoes, hats, or head bands on stage. Socks must be dark.
- Musicians in violation of the dress code will be instructed to contact a parent to ask for appropriate concert dress prior to concert time. If a musician is not in compliance with the dress code, he/she may not be allowed to perform with the ensemble and may forfeit membership.

YOUTH CHAMBER PLAYERS:

- **Ladies** – Long, street-length solid black skirt or black dress pants (loose or classic fit, not skinny) with a white blouse with $\frac{3}{4}$ length sleeves or longer, black dress shoes, and black socks or nylons.
- **Gentlemen** – Dark dress slacks, white, long-sleeve shirt with a collar and long dark tie, black dress shoes, and dark socks (Dark means black is greatly preferred, but a very dark navy or gray is acceptable.)

REPERTORY ORCHESTRA, WIND ENSEMBLE, & YOUTH SYMPHONY:

- **Ladies** – Long, street-length solid black dress, or a long, street-length solid black skirt or black dress pants (loose or classic fit, not skinny) with a solid black long sleeve or $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeve blouse, and black dress shoes with solid black socks, tights, or nylons.
- **Gentlemen** - Dark suit or sport coat with dark slacks, white shirt with a collar and long dark tie, black dress shoes, and dark socks (Dark means black is greatly preferred, but a very dark navy or gray is acceptable.)

Some concert dress clothing is available to borrow at the WSO office. Contact the Education Manager at trhodes@wso.org if you need assistance acquiring appropriate concert dress.

WSYO Concert Information

WSYO will present two Fall Concerts on **Saturday, November 20 and Sunday, November 21, 2021** and two Spring Concerts on **Saturday, March 5 and Sunday, March 6, 2020**. Saturday concerts will begin at 7:30 pm and will feature Youth Symphony and Wind Ensemble. Sunday concerts will begin at 3:00 pm and will feature Youth Chamber Players, Repertory Orchestra, and the WSYO Principals Chamber Ensembles. Purchase of one ticket for the Fall Concerts grants you admission to both the Saturday and Sunday performances; likewise in the spring.

- A CD recording by each ensemble including both the fall and spring concerts will be available for purchase at the end of the season.
- If you wish to record video of the concert please do not set up in areas that will obstruct the view of others nearby or obstruct access to seats or exits.
- Flash photography is not allowed, as it may distract the performers.
- Reserved seating is unavailable prior to the opening of the house doors for audience members. Any items left on seats prior to the house doors opening will be removed by Century II or WSYO staff.

WSYO concert tickets may be purchased online at WichitaSymphony.org or over the phone at 316.267.7658

Wichita Symphony Concerts

Attending concerts and experiencing live musical performance is a vital part of your musical education, and WSYO members and their families are encouraged to attend as many Wichita Symphony concerts as possible during the season. Youth Orchestras families receive an exclusive offer on tickets to the Wichita Symphony. WSYO students attend Wichita Symphony Masterworks performances for FREE with the purchase of an adult ticket.

To Purchase:

Call the Symphony Box Office at 316.267.7658, Monday–Thursday, 10 am–4 pm and mention the Youth Orchestras Exclusive Offer. All concert attendees must have a ticket. Tickets must be claimed by 4:00 pm the Friday before your selected Masterworks concert. Offer only valid for current WSYO members. Student tickets are available for non-WSYO siblings.

Youth Orchestras Tour

The Youth Orchestras will be embarking on a tour to Chicago, IL the second week of June, 2022. The tour is open to high school students in Repertory Orchestra and Youth Symphony who choose to participate. The tour will include WSYO performances, attending a concert by the Chicago Symphony, workshops, and sightseeing. Our Parent Advisory Committee is hard at work planning fundraisers for the tour, and every student will have the opportunity to raise funds for the tour. Tour fees are paid separately from tuition. A separate rehearsal schedule will be provided for those who choose to participate.

Fundraising materials, payment schedules, and tour itineraries will be provided to help you plan for the tour.

TOUR ACCOUNTS:

Individual tour accounts will be established for each member who signs up to go on the tour. As you participate in fundraisers, money will be credited to your tour account, which will defray the cost of the tour. The more you participate, the lower the cost of your tour will be!

Funds raised for your tour account are non-transferable and non-refundable. Any amount raised exceeding the cost of the tour will be carried over to your tour account for future tours, or you may choose to donate it to the WSYO Financial Assistance Fund.