

WISCONSIN YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS



2020-2021



MEMBER
HANDBOOK

Enriching Lives by Providing Transformational Musical Experiences and Opportunities

2020-2021 Season Calendar Overview



The Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras performance calendar for the 2020-2021 season will include the Steenbock Fall Concerts, Diane Ballweg Winterfest Concerts, and the Eugene Mayer Bolz Spring Concerts. Official dates, times, and locations will be announced at a later date.

Performances, at this time, will not have a live audience and will be recorded for online viewing.

Additional ensemble concerts and recitals will also be announced at a later date.

There will be no In-State Outreach Tours during the 2020-2021 season. Additionally, Endangered Instrument Workshops will not take place.

Wind and Brass rehearsals will take place on Saturdays and Sundays for the Fall Concert Cycle. Rehearsals will take place between Saturday, September 5, 2020 through Sunday, October 25, 2020. Virtual learning will start on Saturday, November 14, 2020. Outdoor rehearsals will begin again on Saturday, May 8, 2021. Rehearsals may move inside and in-person sooner pending any updated PHMDC orders.

String, Percussion, and Harp rehearsals will begin in-person rehearsals starting Saturday, October 17. Rehearsals will take place on Saturdays and Sundays in groups of no more than 15 people.

Groups will continue to remain in small groups, and the full orchestral experience will only take place pending any updated PHMDC orders.

All outdoor and indoor rehearsals will take place at McFarland High School (5103 Farwell St, McFarland, WI, 53558).

For the most up to date information, please visit our website.



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WELCOME TO THE 55TH SEASON OF WYSO!

Dear WYSO Members and Families,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 WYSO season, a season unlike any other! After many weeks of planning and in consultation with PHMDC and the McFarland School District, we are excited to announce a fall semester plan that will mark a safe return to in-person music making.

The McFarland School District anticipates a return to hybrid in-person instruction, beginning with younger grades as early as mid-September, and for older students at some point later in the fall. Further, WYSO has been in close contact with PHMDC regarding their recent County Order #9. We have confirmed with them that, given the Youth Settings category we fall under, and since our programming is designed specifically around their safe practices protocols (e.g. small groups sizes, mask wearing, social distancing, sanitation practices, etc.), that WYSO's customized plan is permitted for the fall semester.

Studies suggest that while any in-person experience carries some risk, keeping group sizes small, preventing members and staff from overlapping between groups, and assuring that groups remain strictly separated from one another are the most effective ways to keep people safe. In accordance with this approach, rather than meeting as usual (all at once on a Saturday morning), WYSO will instead break its five orchestras into separate pods that will meet at staggered times over the course of a weekend. Each of these separate pods will be in the 70 to 120-person range, meaning this is the total number of students and staff that will be using the building at any one time.

The orchestras will be further separated into medium-sized cohorts of 9 to 15 students and a conductor/leader. For wind and brass players, these groups will meet as wind ensembles in tents outdoors beginning on September 5th while the weather is still warm. For percussionists, the cohorts will be percussion ensembles. For strings the cohorts will be 15-member (or smaller) string orchestras led by our artistic staff. Each of these cohorts will follow staggered start and end times, meaning they will enter the building at different times, will walk the hallways at different times, and will remain in their music rooms rehearsing their repertoire until the conclusion of their rehearsals. Everyone will wear masks and maintain social-distancing. In addition, the WYSO Chamber Music program will also start up as usual this fall. This will be another wonderful opportunity for in-person music making with even smaller groups of 3-6 members.

We plan to follow our normal three cycles, completing the 20-21 season a bit later than usual in early June. The fall performances will most likely be video captured without a live audience—and live-streamed or video-presented later. We are hopeful that we can return to live audience performances in 2021. You might be wondering why WYSO has gone to such great lengths to bring our members back to in-person learning. Music Director Kyle Knox sums it up most eloquently:

"Getting good at music is a lot like getting good at playing basketball. Half of the work is done at home — lifting weights, doing strength and conditioning drills, shooting baskets in the driveway; these are like playing scales, practicing with a metronome, and taking private lessons. They are an essential part of the process. However, we don't get good at playing basketball by doing these things only. The other half of it is playing basketball, and that requires other people. Music study works the same way. We prepare at home, but the circle is not completed until we make music with others. The moment the music begins you will have that special exhilarating feeling you've always gotten from WYSO. Ultimately, a satisfying musical experience requires two things: 1) a congregation of like-minded peers to form an ensemble, and 2) great artistic leadership. WYSO, as it always has, will provide both."

There are still uncertainties ahead. If there are changes in health within our community, we will pivot to yet smaller chamber-sized groups or to a fully virtual format. Significant improvements to last spring's virtual offering are planned, including more frequent sectional meetings, special guest artist masterclasses, and a variety of music academic subjects. We do not anticipate having to go virtual this fall. However, if it comes to that, you will not be disappointed. And if the health of our community improves, we will pivot to playing again in full orchestras!

We hope that you are as excited as we are about the WYSO possibilities for this Fall. If you have questions, or if you are uncomfortable returning to in-person learning this fall, please give us a call at our new number (608)733-6283. Otherwise, the September 8th deadline fast approaches so if you have not already, please fill out the registration form now. As usual, tuition will be due by the first rehearsal however payment plans are always available, as is generous scholarship support for those in need.

Thank you so much for your patience and flexibility. We can't tell you how much we look forward to seeing you and hearing your beautiful rehearsals and performances. This is the essence of WYSO, our reason for existence...to provide you with transformative opportunities to make beautiful music.

With our best regards,



Bridget Fraser
Executive Director



Kyle Knox
Music Director

**For more information regarding
WYSO's fall plans, please visit
[https://www.wysomusic.org/wyso-
plan-for-fall-2020/](https://www.wysomusic.org/wyso-plan-for-fall-2020/)**

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

The following expectations are for all members, all rehearsals:

**PLEASE SEE
ADDENDUM FOR
2020-2021
REHEARSAL
DETAILS**

What do members need to bring to every rehearsal?

1. It is expected all members will come to rehearsal knowing their part. Individual practice at home prior to rehearsal is essential! Rehearsals are not practice time, but time for ensemble development and musical growth. Every member knowing their part at rehearsal is the musical minimum.
 2. Members should arrive at least 15 minutes before rehearsal starting time. Percussionists are required to arrive 30 minutes before rehearsal due to extensive setting up, warming up, and Tai Chi Movement. *"To be early is to be on time!"*
 3. For the safety of all WYSO members, signing in with the attendance taker at your assigned room is required at EVERY rehearsal and performance.
 4. Members are responsible for reading all posted announcements and handouts, and for understanding announcements made during rehearsal.
- A dedicated WYSO bag which contains:
 - Music in a folder labeled with member's name and orchestra
 - Pencil to write down information from the conductor and WYSO staff
 - Emergency repair accessories, including an extra set of strings
 - Instrument(s) with proper accessories (i.e. mutes, reeds, rock stops, etc.).
 - Percussionists refer to supply lists provided with audition results.
 - Folding music stand in a carrying case with member's name labeled on all parts

If WYSO has emergency strings available, members will be invoiced for the cost of the string(s), or a new string(s) may be reimbursed to WYSO.

Extra folding stands are available if a member forgets to bring one.



WYSO CODE OF CONDUCT

Every member agrees to the following Code of Conduct as a basic condition of membership.

WYSO members are ambassadors for the organization and the behavior of each member reflects upon the entire group. Each member is expected to use good manners, display common courtesy and show consideration for others. A successful WYSO experience requires a cohesive group wherein each individual accepts and follows the same standards of behavior.

1. Members will respect the guidance and authority of the WYSO staff at all times.
2. There will be no use of drugs, no smoking and no drinking alcoholic beverages at any time during WYSO activities. Members may not participate in any WYSO activities under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
3. It is a privilege for WYSO to use McFarland High School and its Performing Arts Center. Members will respect and follow these guidelines:
 - a. Food and drink (except bottled water) in the rehearsal rooms is prohibited.
 - b. The placement of anything on top of pianos is forbidden.
 - c. During rehearsal breaks: running, shouting, playing in lockers, or playing instruments in the halls is not allowed.
 - d. Percussion equipment should only be handled by members and staff who have been instructed how to properly do so.
4. The use of cell phones or other electronic devices for texting, calling, playing games, or any other use, during rehearsal is prohibited. Members are free to use cell phones and other electronics as they wish before rehearsal, after rehearsal, and while on break. Cell phone use is distracting to members of the orchestra. Repeated reminders will result in the phone being confiscated until the end of rehearsal. Continued violations of this rule will result in a meeting with your conductor and the executive director.
5. It is the policy of Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras, in keeping with efforts to establish an environment in which the dignity and worth of all members of the WYSO community are respected, that inappropriate verbal or physical behavior or sexual harassment of or by WYSO members and staff is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Overt sexual behavior will not be permitted while members are involved in a WYSO-related activity. Good judgment and restraint are expected.
6. Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras is dedicated to educating a diverse and changing student body. WYSO affirms its commitment to a community in which all members and staff are accepted and judged as individuals, independent of ancestry, social background, race, gender, disability, sexual orientation, physical characteristics or personal beliefs.

MEMBERS WHO DO NOT OBSERVE THE CODE OF CONDUCT ARE SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY ACTION INCLUDING: CONFERENCE WITH PARENTS, REMOVAL FROM A WYSO ACTIVITY OR TOUR, AND EXPULSION FROM MEMBERSHIP.

REHEARSALS

Orchestra rehearsals take place most Saturdays and Sundays. Rehearsals occur in the Performing Arts Center, Band Room, Choir Room, Black Box, Orchestra Room, and additional classrooms at McFarland High School.

Occasionally, WYSO institutes a special rehearsal schedule due to facility conflicts or special events. Please consult the schedules on the website for the most up to date information: <https://www.wysomusic.org/members/schedule/>.

Specific schedules, room assignments and announcements will be sent via email each Thursday in weekly emails and posted each Saturday on the WYSO announcement board outside the WYSO office at the PAC Ticket Office. Forms or payments may be dropped off at the WYSO office with a staff member.

REHEARSAL DRESS CODE

Members are to be thoughtful in how they dress for rehearsals. Clothing should not be distracting to others, nor should it inhibit playing during rehearsal.

NO midriff-baring shirts
NO visible undergarments

NO waist-revealing pants
NO bare feet

NO hats
NO gum-chewing

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CONCERTS AND TOURS

CONCERTS

All WYSO concerts are the result of individual practice and weekly rehearsals. WYSO Tour/Enrichment programs expand and augment the WYSO concert season by providing experiences for all members through travel, performance, cultural and educational opportunities.

Most regular season WYSO concerts occur in the McFarland Performing Arts Center, McFarland High School, 5103 Farwell Street. Special concerts will be held in other Madison facilities or surrounding communities. Members are required to attend all of their orchestra's performances and concerts. If a member misses a concert, they must meet with their



**PLEASE SEE
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2020-2021
CONCERT
DETAILS**

conductor and the Executive Director. Members who miss two concerts will be dismissed from WYSO. Members anticipating a conflict with a concert or tour should inform the office as soon as possible.

CONCERT ETIQUETTE

WYSO aims to provide the best possible concert experience for both the performers and the audience. Certain behaviors can distract the performers, conductor, and the audience from enjoying the final product of weeks of rehearsals. In general, please adhere to the following rules:

- No food or drink is allowed at the concert venue.
- Please remove loud or disruptive children outside the concert hall.
- When recording or taking photos, please be courteous to those around you. (See Photo Policy below).
- Please stay until the end of your child's concert, regardless of whether or not they are finished performing. Pick a meeting spot to reunite *after* the concert is finished.
- Please enter and exit only during applause. Ushers will indicate appropriate times to find a seat.

PHOTO POLICY

While you are welcome to capture WYSO performances with your own equipment, we also want to make you aware that WYSO has a very talented Photo Team with professional equipment that will capture great photos of your children.

To ensure that the quality and integrity of WYSO's concerts are preserved to the highest standard, please ensure that you adhere to the following guidelines:

- Video recordings must be made in designated "recording spaces." This is to minimize disruptions to audience members caused by obstructed views and glowing screens.
- Please turn the sound of your recording device off. Beeps, clicks, and buzzes will interfere with the sound quality of other recordings. Those noises are also a distraction for other audience members.
- If you would like to photograph the concert, please be mindful of the people around you. Please do not stand up, block other audience members' view, or disturb your neighbors.
- Please turn off your flash. It is distracting to the audience, the conductor, and the performers.

CONCERTS AND TOURS (CONT.)

EXTENDED TOURS/ TRAVEL

An extended tour entails substantial expense and detailed planning over a multi-year period. In partial fulfillment of its mission of “enriching lives by providing transformational musical experiences and opportunities,” the Board of Directors Tour Committee and WYSO staff will strive to continually seek travel/exchange/performance opportunities that meet a majority of the following WYSO Touring Objectives:

- Interaction with youth peers
- Interaction with other musicians and/or musical performances
- Great music making experiences by WYSO members
- Multiple performances
- Significant interaction with WYSO member peers
- Itineraries that are appealing to students
- Educationally elevating experiences
- A safe and secure travel environment
- Financially feasible travel experiences
- Experiences that might also benefit non-traveling WYSO members

In the past, extended tours have included trips to Italy, England, Scotland, Taiwan, Japan, Spain, France, Canada, Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic, Argentina, and Peru.

IN-STATE OUTREACH TOURS

For the 2020-2021 season, there will be no In-State Outreach Tours.

The WYSO Board and staff believe members can experience significant individual growth in a setting apart from the daily support network of home and school. The WYSO touring experience offers an opportunity for members to grow independently, increase teamwork skills, build on the strengths of the family/school network while outside of that environment, and learn the importance of serving as positive role models for their peers.

Every WYSO season, each orchestra performs concerts in Madison and throughout the state. Concert Orchestra, Sinfonietta, and Opus One will perform scheduled one-day tours to schools or for school-based cultural events.

WYSO pays most of the tour fees, but may ask members to pay for meals and other special events while on the tour (e.g., museum visits, a professional orchestra concert, etc.)

Members are to be advised that the in-state tours require at least one missed day of school per year. An absence from tour will count as a rehearsal absence. In addition, members who miss their tour are required to meet with their conductor and the executive director. Members anticipating a conflict with a concert or tour should inform the office as soon as possible. On occasion, schools may count tour performances as community service hours. Tour dates should be entered into personal calendars as soon as possible.



CONCERT DRESS CODES

Students present a professional and uniform appearance at concerts appropriate to the occasion. Attire requirements are designed to minimize attention on individuals and encourage audiences to focus on the music performed, not wardrobe choices. If you are not properly dressed for your concert, you will be given apparel from the WYSO office to wear.

If you have doubts about whether a piece of clothing is appropriate, the best choice is not to wear it.

FOR OPUS ONE, SINFONIETTA, AND CONCERT ORCHESTRA:

Option 1: White collared shirt and black dress pants

Top: clean and pressed, solid-colored, bright white, long sleeve (to the wrist) shirt with collar, tucked in.

Tie: straight tie, conservatively colored and patterned.

Bottom: solid (not faded) black, floor-length dress pants and black belt.

Socks/Hose: solid black socks (no skin should be visible between bottom hem and shoes when seated).

Shoes: solid black, closed-toe dress shoes with black laces.

No: short-sleeved or sleeveless shirts. **No** off-white, ivory or cream colored shirts. **No** jackets, or vests. **No** untucked shirts. **No** wrinkles or stains.

No: bow ties, brightly-colored ties or ties with distracting patterns.

No: jeans, corduroys, shorts.

No: ankle socks or patterned socks.

No: athletic shoes, sandals, boots, or colored shoe laces.

Option 2: White blouse and black skirt or black pants

Top: clean and pressed, bright white blouse with long or $\frac{3}{4}$ length sleeves and conservative neck line.

Bottom: solid black ankle-length to floor-length skirt OR black dress pants that are ankle length or longer.

Socks/Hose: solid-colored and black (no skin should be visible between bottom hem and shoes when seated).

Shoes: black closed-toe dress shoes with flat sole or conservative heel.

No: short-sleeved, sleeveless, or midriff-baring shirts. **No** off-white, ivory or cream colored shirts. **No** wrinkles or stains.

No: capris, leggings, jeggings, jeans, shorts, spandex, corduroys, athletic.

No: ankle socks, flesh-colored tights, bare legs, prints or patterns.

No: athletic shoes, sandals, boots, or colored shoe laces.

No: hats, brightly colored accessories, embellishments, or distracting hair adornments.

CONCERT DRESS CODES (CONT.)

FOR PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

<p>Option 1: Black collared shirt and black dress pants</p>	<p>Top: clean and pressed, long sleeve (to the wrist), solid-colored black collared shirt, tucked in.</p> <p>Bottom: solid black, dress pants (ankle length or longer) and black belt.</p> <p>Socks/Hose: solid black socks (no skin should be visible between bottom hem and shoes when seated).</p> <p>Shoes: solid black, closed-toe dress shoes with black laces.</p>	<p>No: short-sleeved or sleeveless shirts, jackets, or vests. No untucked shirts. No wrinkles or stains.</p> <p>No: faded fabrics. No jeans, shorts, corduroys.</p> <p>No: ankle socks or patterned socks.</p> <p>No: athletic shoes, sandals, boots, or colored shoe laces.</p> <p>No: hats, brightly colored accessories, embellishments, or distracting hair adornments.</p> <p>Option 2: Black blouse and black skirt or dress pants</p>
	<p>Top: long-sleeved (to the wrist) black blouse with discreet neck line.</p> <p>Bottom: solid black ankle-length to floor-length skirt OR black dress pants that are ankle length or longer.</p> <p>Socks/Hose: solid-colored and black (no skin should be visible between bottom hem and shoes when seated).</p> <p>Shoes: black closed-toe dress shoes with flat sole or conservative heel.</p>	<p>No: short-sleeved, sleeveless, or midriff-baring shirts. No wrinkles or stains.</p> <p>No: capris, leggings, jeggings, jeans, shorts, spandex, corduroys, athletic.</p> <p>No: flesh-colored tights, bare legs, prints or patterns.</p> <p>No: athletic shoes, sandals, boots, colored shoe laces.</p> <p>No: hats, brightly colored accessories, embellishments, or distracting hair adornments.</p>
<p>Option 3: Black dress</p>	<p>Dress: solid black ankle-length to floor-length dress with long sleeves (to the wrist) and discreet neckline.</p> <p>Socks/Hose: solid-colored and black (no skin should be visible between bottom hem and shoes when seated).</p> <p>Shoes: black closed-toe dress shoes with flat sole or conservative heel.</p>	<p>No: short-sleeved or sleeveless dresses.</p> <p>No: flesh-colored tights, bare legs, prints or patterns.</p> <p>No: athletic shoes, sandals, boots, colored shoe laces.</p> <p>No: hats, brightly colored accessories, embellishments, or distracting hair adornments.</p>

CONCERT DRESS CODES (CONT.)

FOR YOUTH ORCHESTRA

<p>Option one: Black suit</p>	<p>Top: black suit jacket. Bright white collared (oxford) shirt, tucked in.</p> <p>Tie: black bow tie.</p> <p>Bottom: solid black dress pants (ankle length or longer) and black belt.</p> <p>Socks/Hose: solid black socks or hosiery (no skin should be visible between bottom hem and shoes when seated).</p> <p>Shoes: solid black, closed-toe dress shoes with black laces.</p> <p><i>All dress for Youth Orchestra should be formal and comparable to a tuxedo.</i></p>	<p>No: dark blue or gray suit jackets or pants. No faded fabrics. No wrinkles or stains.</p> <p>No: straight (long) ties or colored/patterned ties.</p> <p>No: jeans, corduroys, athletic.</p> <p>No: ankle socks or patterned socks.</p> <p>No: athletic shoes, sandals, boots, colored shoe laces.</p> <p>No: hats, brightly colored accessories, embellishments, or distracting hair adornments.</p>
<p>Option two: Long-sleeved black blouse and black skirt or dress pants</p>	<p>Top: long-sleeved (to the wrist) black blouse with discreet neck line.</p> <p>Bottom: solid black ankle-length to floor-length skirt OR black dress pants that are ankle length or longer.</p> <p>Socks/Hose: solid-colored and black (no skin should be visible between bottom hem and shoes when seated).</p> <p>Shoes: black closed-toe dress shoes with flat sole or conservative heel.</p> <p><i>All dress for Youth Orchestra should be formal and comparable to a tuxedo.</i></p>	<p>No: short-sleeved, sleeveless, or midriff-baring shirts. No sweaters. No see-through fabrics. No wrinkles or stains.</p> <p>No: capris, leggings, jeggings, jeans, shorts, spandex, corduroys, athletic.</p> <p>No: flesh-colored tights, bare legs, prints or patterns.</p> <p>No: athletic shoes, sandals, boots, or colored shoe laces.</p> <p>No: hats, brightly colored accessories, embellishments, or distracting hair adornments.</p>

CONCERT DRESS CODES (CONT.)

FOR YOUTH ORCHESTRA (CONT.)

<p>Option three: Long-sleeved white blouse, long-sleeved black blazer, black dress pants or skirt</p>	<p>Top: long-sleeved (to the wrist) bright white blouse and long-sleeved (to the wrist) black blazer.</p> <p>Bottom: solid black floor-length skirt OR black dress pants (ankle length or longer).</p> <p>Socks/Hose: solid-colored and black (no skin should be visible between bottom hem and shoes when seated).</p> <p>Shoes: black closed-toe dress shoes with flat sole or conservative heel.</p> <p><i>All dress for Youth Orchestra should be formal and comparable to a tuxedo.</i></p>	<p>No: short-sleeved, sleeveless, or midriff-baring shirts. No off-white, ivory or cream colored shirts.</p> <p>No: capris, leggings, jeggings, jeans, shorts, spandex, corduroys, athletic.</p> <p>No: flesh-colored tights, bare legs, prints, or patterns.</p> <p>No: athletic shoes, sandals, boots, or colored shoe laces.</p> <p>No: hats, brightly colored accessories, embellishments, or distracting hair adornments.</p>
<p>Option four: Black dress</p>	<p>Dress: solid black, floor-length dress with long sleeves (to the wrist) and discreet neckline.</p> <p>Socks/Hose: solid-colored and black (no skin should be visible between bottom hem and shoes when seated).</p> <p>Shoes: black closed-toe dress shoes with flat sole or conservative heel.</p> <p><i>All dress for Youth Orchestra should be formal and comparable to a tuxedo.</i></p>	<p>No: short-sleeved or sleeveless dresses.</p> <p>No: flesh-colored tights, bare legs, prints or patterns.</p> <p>No: athletic shoes, sandals, boots, colored shoe laces.</p> <p>No: hats, brightly colored accessories, embellishments, or distracting hair adornments.</p>

Ralph Rabin
&
Carol Willett

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Please call for appointment

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5302 Fairway Dr.
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rabinwillettviolins@charter.net

CONCERT TICKETS

FOR MCFARLAND PAC PERFORMANCES

At this time, there will be no ticket sales for 2020-2021 concerts and performances

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

WYSO is committed to providing all members with the highest quality musical and educational experience possible and requires a serious commitment from all members and their families. The very nature of the orchestral experience requires that all members are present to rehearse together. Any member's absence, regardless of how well they know their part, is detrimental to the orchestra. By accepting membership in WYSO, members have agreed to fulfill the obligations associated with all rehearsals, performances, tours, and special events. By choosing to participate in WYSO, members have made WYSO a priority.

ABSENCE NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

1. To assist with rehearsal planning for the orchestras and smaller ensembles, members should report planned absences no later than one week before the affected rehearsal. Absences may be reported via absence cards (located in the WYSO office) or by using the following link: <http://www.wysomusic.org/members/report-an-absence/>
2. Last-minute absences due to illness or other unexpected conflicts should be called in to the WYSO office, (608) 733-6283, ext. 7, or sent in an email to wyo@wysomusic.org. Whenever possible, members should call *before* the rehearsal begins.
3. An absence card should also be used to report planned tardiness and early departure from rehearsals. Members must sign in/out with the WYSO office if arriving at rehearsal more than 15 minutes late or leaving before rehearsal ends.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The administrative and artistic staffs recognize that members may occasionally have other obligations or unexpected conflicts on Saturday mornings and/or Sunday afternoons; however, they firmly believe it is detrimental to the educational experience of WYSO to have different members missing each week.

Allowed rehearsal absences for all orchestras:

- Steenbock Fall Concerts: Two
- Ballweg Winterfest Concerts: Three
- Bolz Spring Concerts: Two

If allowed absences are exceeded, members are still expected to attend all remaining rehearsals, *with the exception of concert days*. Failure to do so will be grounds for removal from WYSO. Whenever possible, members should avoid consecutive absences. Members must attend the full rehearsal prior to each concert. At the discretion of the orchestra conductor, members who do not attend the dress rehearsal may not play the concert.

**PLEASE SEE
ADDENDUM FOR
2020-2021
ATTENDANCE
POLICY**

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE (CONT)

ATTENDANCE POLICY (CONT.)

Being more than 15 minutes tardy or departing more than 15 minutes early will count as a half rehearsal absence. Missing two separate half rehearsals during a concert cycle will count as one full absence.

Because orchestra is a team activity, it is important to attend every rehearsal. If you anticipate an absence, it is your responsibility to inform members of your section prior to the missed rehearsal. This way, members of your section can discuss how to cover your part during your absence.

Planned absences should be kept to a minimum to allow for unexpected conflicts. Members are encouraged to work as a family at the beginning of the year to set priorities regarding extracurricular activities, college visits, school music activities and scheduling required college exams. This is possible with some effort and advance planning. For example, members may consider waiting to take the ACT or SAT until another concert cycle if they already have too many other conflicts. These tests are scheduled multiple times throughout the year and in different locations (www.collegeboard.com or www.act.org). For those with conflicts, conductors request attendance at any part of the rehearsal they are able to make. It is better for members to attend some of a rehearsal than none.

The WYSO office carefully tracks absences, tardiness, and early departures from rehearsals to ensure everyone's safety and to ensure that WYSO's absence policies are consistently and fairly enforced. Each member is responsible for checking in with the attendance taker at EVERY rehearsal! Late arrivals and early departures must check in/out with the hall monitor or the main WYSO office. **Parent volunteers or WYSO staff will call the homes of members who have failed to check in.**

**PLEASE SEE
ADDENDUM FOR
2020-2021
ATTENDANCE
POLICY**

CONCERT ATTENDANCE



Attendance is required at all WYSO orchestra and ensemble concerts for members who are expected to perform. This includes in-state tours, which require a full school-day commitment. An absence from a concert without reasonable excuse is probable cause for dismissal from the WYSO program. All members who miss a concert must meet with the Executive Director and conductor. Members who miss two concerts will be dismissed from WYSO. Final decisions on continued program participation will be made by the conductor and Executive Director. Members anticipating a conflict with a concert or tour should inform the office as soon as possible.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

WYSO does not grant leaves of absence for any reason. Prospective members who cannot commit to the entire season are discouraged from joining WYSO. Medical leave, as outlined below, is the only exception for a prolonged WYSO absence.

MEDICAL LEAVE

Medical leave may be implemented for members with a serious medical problem and a signed doctor's note indicating the problem. Medical leave is determined on a case-by-case basis. If the amount of time needed to recover requires the member to miss too many rehearsals for a concert, they will not perform in that concert. The health and safety of all WYSO members is of paramount importance.

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE (CONT)

PUNCTUALITY

• All members should arrive 15 MINUTES before their rehearsal starting time. At starting time, members should be checked in, in their seat with music ready, warmed up and ready to tune and focus. Members are expected to be in place on time after scheduled breaks. Members with chronic tardiness or early departures will be required to meet with the conductor and the Executive Director.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

• Members who need to miss a rehearsal or concert for a religious holiday must fill out an attendance card stating this fact. Every effort should be made to avoid exceeding the number of permitted absences for a concert cycle; however, religious holidays will be granted exception upon the conductor's review of attendance record. Religious retreats and parties are not considered religious holidays.

WEATHER POLICY

• Since WYSO is unable to make up a canceled rehearsal, the weather has to be particularly treacherous to cause a cancellation. Any cancellations will be stated on the WYSO voicemail system by 7:00 am. If rehearsal is not cancelled but a member decides the drive is too difficult, a voicemail message should be left on the attendance voicemail, stating absence or estimated time of arrival. Absences due to bad weather will not be considered a commitment issue, but will count toward absences for a concert cycle.

IN-STATE TOUR ATTENDANCE

For the 2020-2021 season, there will be no In-State Outreach Tours.

• Members are to be advised that the in-state tours require at least one missed day of school per year. An absence from tour will count as a rehearsal absence. In addition, members who miss their tour are required to meet with their conductor and the Executive Director. Members anticipating a conflict with a concert or tour should inform the office as soon as possible. On occasion, schools may count tour performances as community service hours. Tour dates should be entered into personal calendars as soon as possible.

TRANSFER OF CUSTODY

• WYSO Members and families will receive rehearsal location information every Thursday in the Weekly Announcements emails.

All WYSO members MUST check in with the attendance taker at their orchestra's rehearsal room door. WYSO members are not considered in the care of the WYSO program until they have checked in with their orchestra's attendance taker or with a WYSO staff member. WYSO members who arrive more than 15 minutes late must check in with a staff member in the WYSO office. Any WYSO member who leaves early must check out with a WYSO staff member in the WYSO office.

SCHOOL MUSIC ACTIVITY

• WYSO does not have an "excused or unexcused absence" attendance policy. We do, however, allow for one additional absence per concert cycle for a school ensemble obligation or school music required activity such as Solo and Ensemble. A school music activity is a performance or tour corresponding with a class taken for school credit. Involvement in school musicals, including pit orchestras, is a voluntary activity. Absences for voluntary school music activities such as school musicals will not be considered as an activity allowing an additional absence.

WYSO SCHOOL MUSIC PARTICIPATION POLICY

All WYSO members are expected, and strongly encouraged, to participate in their school orchestra, band or strings program. Members who do not meet this expectation are asked to notify the WYSO Executive Director, in writing, of their plans. Involvement in school orchestra or band, the training and experience gained there, and the support received from school music directors make WYSO members stronger leaders. In turn, school music programs benefit from the technical, musical and leadership skills WYSO members develop.

School music ensembles provide daily playing and technique/musicianship building, exposure to a wide variety of literature, the chance to learn from different music directors, additional opportunities (all-state groups, solo/ensemble festivals, tours, competitions, community events, etc.), and opportunities for leadership and to serve as role models.

Participation in scheduled school orchestra or band performances always takes precedence over WYSO. All absences exceeding the per-concert limit will be reviewed by the administrative staff and in some cases by the conductor. Performances with school music programs will receive special consideration in each member's attendance review. Members will be granted one additional absence per concert cycle for school music required activities only. Please refer to the attendance policy for more information about school music absences.

NEWSLETTERS & FAMILY COMMUNICATIONS

The *WYSO Weekly Tune Up* will be distributed via email to the entire WYSO family of members, families, alumni, donors, and community. A special Members version of the *Tune Up* will be sent to Members and families the first week of each month. Occasionally, WYSO will send mass emails containing new opportunities, special information, or schedule changes.

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TUITION FEES, PAYMENT SCHEDULES AND POLICIES

Tuition for WYSO membership is tiered by orchestra level. Tuition represents less than 30% of the total cost to support a musician in the program.

Youth Orchestra - \$725
Concert Orchestra - \$600
Opus One - \$525

Philharmonia Orchestra - \$675
Sinfonietta - \$575
Harp Ensemble - \$600

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Tuition may be paid in full by **Friday, October 2, 2020** or in two installments postmarked by **Friday, September 18, 2020** and **Friday, October 2, 2020**. WYSO will gladly set up payment plans with any families who are unable to make tuition payments as scheduled above. Please email wyso@wysomusic.org to schedule a payment plan.

A \$50 late fee will be charged for any payment postmarked after the due date. If no payment or payment plans have been arranged by the first concert, the WYSO member will not be permitted to perform.

Tuition balance must be paid in full by the Spring Concert. Failure to do so will preclude the member from performing.

FORMS OF PAYMENT

WYSO accepts cash, personal and cashier checks, money orders, VISA, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express credit cards. A \$35 fee will be charged for any returned checks.

WYSO also accepts ACH fund transfers. Please contact WYSO Administrative Assistant Aleeh Schwoerer at (608) 733-6283, ext. 7 or at aleeh@wysomusic.org to make ACH arrangements.

All credit/debit card payments will be charged a 3% convenience fee.

REFUND POLICY

If for any reason, a member is unable to continue in the program, the tuition refund schedule is as follows:

1. Dropout on or before Friday, October 16, 2020: Refund of total tuition paid minus a \$50 processing fee.*
2. Dropout on Saturday, October 17, 2020 through Friday, December 4: \$200 refund.*
3. Dropout on/after Saturday, December 5: No tuition refund.*

*Unpaid tuition will be invoiced.

SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT

The WYSO Board of Directors and staff feel very strongly that if a student and his or her family cannot afford WYSO tuition, that student should not be denied entrance. WYSO provides scholarship support for orchestra tuition as well as support for the private lesson program and special projects. WYSO scholarships are based solely on financial need and availability of funds. All scholarship recipients are expected to pay at least part of their tuition.

New to this year, WYSO is offering scholarships through the Families First Fund for families financially impacted by COVID-19. These scholarships are available all year for tuition, Chamber Music Program, Private Lessons, and musical instrument assistance. Families First Fund scholarships are open to all members, and is not a need based scholarship.

Scholarship applications will be accepted any time during the year in the case of a family emergency that affects the member's financial situation.

MUSIC LIBRARY

**PLEASE SEE
ADDENDUM FOR
2020-2021 MUSIC
AND INSTRUMENT
LENDING POLICIES**

All WYSO music should be kept separate from school music. WYSO often hands out original parts from its library and expects that members will keep track of them. Members will be instructed on how to turn in music after each concert. Replacement costs will be charged for misplaced or late original parts. Members may borrow music for a single rehearsal, or purchase a set of replacement photocopies (\$1 per piece) by going to the Operations Office.

INSTRUMENT LENDING

All students who borrow an instrument through WYSO must agree to the terms of the Instrument Lending Agreement.

WOODWINDS

Members assigned to play an auxiliary instrument such as piccolo, bass clarinet, E flat clarinet, or English horn, may borrow an instrument from WYSO at no cost. All clarinetists in Youth and Philharmonia Orchestras are assigned an A Clarinet for the year at no cost. Members are expected to provide their own reeds for all WYSO instruments.

STRINGS

WYSO has a few string instruments available for emergency use during rehearsals or concerts. Instrument lending is subject to availability.

STRING BASS

A limited number of string basses are available on a rental basis for rehearsals and concerts only. String bass players interested in renting a WYSO bass must contact Operations Assistant & Librarian Joseph Greer at greer@wysomusic.org prior to the first rehearsal.



All WYSO instruments must be returned upon the completion of assignments. Members assume full responsibility for any WYSO instrument used and will be invoiced for the cost to repair any damage above normal wear and tear.

MEMBER FUNDRAISING

Fundraising activities take place throughout the year and are carried out by the WYSO staff, board and member families. Fundraising is critically important in meeting WYSO operating costs each year and offsetting tuition paid by families. WYSO family fundraising is directed by the Family Fundraising Committee.

FAMILY FUNDRAISING REQUIREMENTS

WYSO Family Fundraising takes place during the fall and winter with the Musical Notes Campaign running approximately from October-January. WYSO expects all families to raise \$150 each year for each child in WYSO, beyond their tuition payments. In lieu of fundraising, families are welcome to make a \$150 donation directly to WYSO. Tuition represents less than 30% of the total cost to support a musician in the program. Family fundraising helps keep our tuition low for students and their families.

MUSICAL NOTES CAMPAIGN

The Musical Notes Campaign raised \$60,000 during the 2019-20 season. As participants in the campaign, WYSO families solicit donations from a variety of sources including extended family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, local businesses, etc. The Musical Notes Campaign will conclude March 2021. Learn more about the Musical Notes campaign at www.wysomusic.org/musical-notes/.

MEMBER FUNDRAISING (CONT.)

Our fundraising goal for the 2020-21 Musical Notes Campaign is \$65,000 and 100% member participation.

WYSO families may participate in the Musical Notes Campaign in the following ways:

ONLINE FUNDRAISING

The 2020-21 Musical Notes Campaign is an online fundraising option for students and their families. Classy.org is an online fundraising platform that allows members to join a team, share their story, and collect donations for their Musical Notes Campaign through email, Facebook, or other social media. Details about Classy.org and how to set up your fundraising profile can be found at www.wysomusic.org/musical-notes/.

Classy

RAFFLE TICKETS

You can also raise money for your musical notes account by selling raffle tickets. Anyone can sell raffle tickets! Find out more about raffle ticket sales at <https://www.wysomusic.org/musical-notes/>.



OTHER FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

ART OF NOTE

Spearheaded by the WYSO Board of Directors, the Art of Note Gala raised over \$100,000 in 2019. As part of this project, artists create one-of-a-kind musical works of art for a silent auction. The Art of Note Virtual Gala will take place on October 3, 2020 online via Zoom.

THE ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

The Annual Campaign is WYSO's annual direct-mail fundraising appeal to individuals, including alumni, alumni parents, current parents and businesses. Funds raised from the annual campaign help pay for conductors' and coaches' salaries, rehearsal expenses, concert production and other projects. Many families contribute to the campaign in addition to their personal fundraising efforts; parents who work at companies with matching gift programs can add support by filling out the appropriate forms and designating WYSO as a beneficiary.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS

Families with connections to companies or groups interested in sponsoring artistic or educational organizations should call the Executive Director in the WYSO office. In exchange for their support, WYSO can provide sponsors with great marketing benefits. No matter how small a connection might seem, families are encouraged to let WYSO know.

MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

R=Required O=Optional N/A=Not applicable

	Youth Orchestra	Philharmonia Orchestra	Concert Orchestra	Sinfonietta Orchestra	Opus One
Advanced String Orchestra	Suspended for this season	○	○	N/A	N/A
Brass Choir (Brass members only)	R	R	R	N/A	N/A
Chamber Ambassadors	○	○	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chamber Music Program	○	○	○	○	N/A
Chamber Orchestra	Suspended for this season	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Concerto Competition	○	○	N/A	N/A	N/A
Honors Brass Quintet	Suspended for this season	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Honors Recital	○	○	N/A	N/A	N/A
Murphy Family Interlochen Scholarship Competition	○	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Music Makers Mentor	○	○	○	N/A	N/A
National/International Tours	○	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percussion Ensemble (Percussion members only)	R	R	R	N/A	N/A
Regional (In-State) Tours	Suspended for this season	N/A	R	R	R
Scholarships	○	○	○	○	○
Thomas Buchhauser Honors Orchestra Scholarship	○	○	○	○	N/A
Honors Woodwind Quintet (Woodwind members only)	○	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

ORCHESTRAS

YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Youth Orchestra was founded in 1966 and is WYSO's premier orchestra, performing advanced orchestral literature. Members range from age 13 to 18, have several years of ensemble experience and perform individually at a pre-college or college level. The Youth Orchestra is under the direction of Music Director Kyle Knox.

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

Philharmonia Orchestra is a full orchestra that performs orchestral literature at the high school and college level. Members range from age 12 to 18, have three or more years of ensemble experience and perform individually at an advanced high school level. Michelle Kaebisch conducts the Philharmonia Orchestra.

CONCERT ORCHESTRA

Concert Orchestra is a full orchestra that performs at the advanced middle school through high school level. Members range from age 11 to 17, have two to three years of ensemble experience and perform individually at a standard high school or advanced middle school level. Christine Mata Eckel conducts the Concert Orchestra.

SINFONIETTA ORCHESTRA

Sinfonietta is a string orchestra that performs various levels of literature from standard middle school (class C) to high school (class A) level. Members range from age 10 to 15 and have at least three years of private study or school string experience, along with some ensemble playing. Geri Hamilton conducts Sinfonietta.

OPUS ONE ORCHESTRA

Opus One was formed in 2016 to meet the needs of young string players and provide an introductory ensemble experience. This orchestra has a strong emphasis on technique, incorporating instruction on fundamentals of playing string instruments as well as ensembles skills. The group will work on scales, shifting, and bowing in addition to work on blending in an ensemble, following a conductor, and working together as a section. Repertoire performed will range from early middle school through late middle school to early high school level repertoire (Class C – B). Erin Barnard conducts Opus One.

ENSEMBLES

BRASS CHOIR PROGRAM

Required for all WYSO brass players, the Brass Choir Program assists brass players in becoming great orchestral musicians. The brass sections of each of WYSO's three full orchestras rehearse most Saturdays before their orchestra rehearsals to develop techniques for playing as a cohesive unit and learn music expressly written for brass ensemble. This program allows members to become more proficient on their instrument, learn sectional teamwork, develop listening skills and explore repertoire outside the orchestral setting. The brass choirs perform concerts in the winter and spring, and occasionally at other community events.

HONORS BRASS QUINTET

The Honors Brass Quintet is an educational and performance program for advanced high school brass students. In addition to a regular rehearsal and performance schedule, the program will feature coaching from several of the finest chamber musicians and brass pedagogues in the Midwest. The group will be coached every Saturday. Additionally, the quintet will rehearse once per week outside of coachings at a time and location convenient to each of the group members. **The Honors Brass Quintet is suspended for the 2020-2021 season.**

LALITA HONORS WOODWIND QUINTET

WYSO is pleased to announce the inaugural season of the Lalita Honors Woodwind Quintet. This scholarship chamber music opportunity will be offered to 5 gifted woodwind players each season free of charge. The group will explore the vast woodwind quintet repertoire, give public performances, work with guest artists, compete in chamber music competitions, and serve as WYSO ambassadors in the Dane County area. The ensemble will be recruited each year and coached by WYSO Music Director Kyle Knox. This is an extraordinary addition to our chamber music program and a wonderful opportunity for a few of our most accomplished woodwind musicians.

WYSO is most grateful to Deepika and Rajamaran Rajesh for generously endowing this ensemble in perpetuity. The Lalita Quintet is named in memory of Rajamaran's mother who was a wind music enthusiast herself. Further, Deepika and Raj's own sons Amol and Amit are proud alumni of WYSO, deepening the Rajesh family's connection to our organization. The Rajesh's are true friends and their gift will ensure that generations of wind players will get a first rate chamber music education through WYSO. On behalf of the entire WYSO family, we offer our deepest thanks and gratitude.

CHAMBER MUSIC PROGRAM



The WYSO Chamber Music Program is designed for members interested in learning more about chamber music and performing in a small group setting. Members can choose their own group members or be assigned a group. Groups rehearse with a coach before or after their orchestra rehearsal ten times throughout each semester, and perform in at least two concerts each season. Although optional, members are highly encouraged to participate.

Chamber Ambassadors learn standard repertoire and perform as background musicians and featured musicians at community functions. Ambassador members are not required to enroll in the Chamber Music Program.

HARP ENSEMBLE



Directed by Jenny DeRoche, the WYSO Harp Ensemble Program has two components: orchestral playing and participation in the Harp Ensemble. During the school year, WYSO harpists meet on Saturday mornings to rehearse with each other and with the orchestras to prepare for orchestra concerts and harp ensemble performances each season. Harp Ensemble Program members may play with various orchestras throughout the season, depending on repertoire needs, student ability and needs, and number of harpists. Students develop orchestral skills through individual and small group coaching, orchestra rehearsals, and performances. Now in its 20th year, the harp ensemble also offers students a chance to learn chamber music skills.

ENSEMBLES (CONT.)

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE



Directed by Vicki Peterson Jenks and mandatory for all percussion members, the WYSO Percussion Ensemble is a longtime WYSO tradition. Delighting audiences at concerts and on tours, the Percussion Ensemble is a valuable supplement to the outstanding full orchestra experience accorded to the percussion members of Concert, Philharmonia, and Youth Orchestras. Rehearsals are conducted Saturday mornings before orchestra rehearsals. The Percussion Ensemble performs during regularly scheduled concerts and at the Percussion EXTRAVAGANZA.

MENTORSHIP

WYSO MUSIC MAKERS MENTORS



High school age WYSO members are invited to mentor WYSO Music Maker students by modeling proper technique, quality tone, and successful music study. WYSO Music Makers meets at Memorial United Church of Christ in Fitchburg on Saturday afternoons. This program provides equal access for Madison's children to study music and enjoy performance opportunities regardless of the family's background or resources.

COMPETITIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

CONCERTO COMPETITION

WYSO's Concerto Competition is held each season for Youth Orchestra and Philharmonia Orchestra members. The audition requires competitors to perform ten minutes of their concerto with accompaniment. WYSO recommends, although does not require, that the piece be memorized. Members who have won the concerto competition may not compete in future years with that same orchestra. The Youth Orchestra and Philharmonia Orchestra concerto winners typically perform during the spring concert in May and possibly the Winterfest concert in March. Honorable mention winners are asked to perform at the Youth Honors Recital and at the Philharmonia Honors Recital.

MURPHY FAMILY INTERLOCHEN SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Open to Youth Orchestra members, the Murphy Family Interlochen Scholarship Competition is a competition for a \$1,000 scholarship to the Interlochen Arts Academy Summer Program and a WYSO letter of recommendation to be used in the application for possible further scholarship support from Interlochen. Auditions are held in conjunction with the Youth Orchestra Concerto Competition. Previous winners and graduating seniors are ineligible for the competition.

THOMAS BUCHHAUSER HONORS ORCHESTRA SCHOLARSHIP

Open to members in high school, the Thomas Buchhauser Honors Orchestra Scholarship is a competition for a \$250 scholarship to attend the WSMA High School State Honors Orchestra Camp. To be eligible, competitors must successfully audition into the WSMA Honors Orchestra or Band and commit to playing in WYSO during the following season. The competition is held in April.

WIND/BRASS SCHEDULE

For a more detailed schedule, visit <https://www.wysomusic.org/members/schedule/> and select your orchestra/ensemble.

Steenbock Fall Concert Cycle

September 5 & 6: Rehearsal
September 12 & 13: Rehearsal
September 19 & 20: Rehearsal
September 26 & 27: Rehearsal
October 3 & 4: Rehearsal
October 10 & 11: Rehearsal
October 17 & 18: Rehearsal
October 24 & 25: Concert Day/Recording Day
October 31 & November 1: NO CLASS
November 7 & 8: NO CLASS
November 14 & 15: Virtual Learning
November 21 & 22: Virtual Learning
November 28 & 29: NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)
December 5 & 6: Virtual Learning
December 12 & 13: Virtual Learning
December 19 & 20: NO CLASS
December 26 & 27: NO CLASS (Christmas)

Ballweg Winterfest Concert Cycle

January 2 & 3: NO CLASS (New Year)
January 9 & 10: Virtual Learning
January 16 & 17: Virtual Learning
January 23 & 24: Virtual Learning
January 30 & 31: Virtual Learning
February 6 & 7: Virtual Learning
February 13 & 14: Virtual Learning
February 20 & 21: Virtual Learning
February 27 & 28: Virtual Learning
March 6 & 7: Virtual Learning
March 13 & 14: Virtual Learning
March 20 & 21: NO CLASS
March 27 & 28: NO CLASS

Bolz Spring Concert Cycle

April 3 & 4: NO CLASS (Easter)
April 10 & 11: Virtual Learning
April 17 & 18: Virtual Learning
April 24 & 25: Virtual Learning
May 1 & 2: Virtual Learning
May 8 & 9: Rehearsal
May 15 & 16: Rehearsal
May 22 & 23: Rehearsal
May 29 & 30: NO REHEARSAL (Memorial Day)
June 5 & 6: Rehearsal
June 12 & 13: Rehearsal
June 19 & 20: Rehearsal
June 26 & 27: Concert Day/Recording Day

STRING/HARP/PERCUSSION SCHEDULE

For a more detailed schedule, visit <https://www.wysomusic.org/members/schedule/> and select your orchestra/ensemble.

Steenbock Fall Concert Cycle

October 17 & 18: Rehearsal
October 24 & 25: Rehearsal
October 31 & November 1: Rehearsal
November 7 & 8: Rehearsal
November 14 & 15: Rehearsal
November 21 & 22: Rehearsal
November 28 & 29: NO REHEARSAL (Thanksgiving)
December 5 & 6: Rehearsal
December 12 & 13: Rehearsal
December 19 & 20: Concert Day/Recording Day
December 26 & 27: NO REHEARSAL (Christmas)

Ballweg Winterfest Concert Cycle

January 2 & 3: NO REHEARSAL (New Year)
January 9 & 10: Rehearsal
January 16 & 17: Rehearsal
January 23 & 24: Rehearsal
January 30 & 31: Rehearsal
February 6 & 7: Rehearsal
February 13 & 14: Rehearsal
February 20 & 21: Rehearsal
February 27 & 28: Rehearsal
March 6 & 7: Rehearsal
March 13 & 14: Concert Day/Recording Day
March 20: Percussion Ensemble ONLY
March 20 & 21: NO STRING/HARP REHEARSAL
March 27: Percussion Ensemble ONLY
March 27 & 28: NO STRING/HARP REHEARSAL

Bolz Spring Concert Cycle

April 3 & 4: NO REHEARSAL (Easter)
April 10 & 11: Rehearsal
April 10: Percussion EXTRAVAGANZA
April 17 & 18: Rehearsal
April 24 & 25: Rehearsal
May 1 & 2: Rehearsal
May 8 & 9: Rehearsal
May 15 & 16: Rehearsal
May 22 & 23: Rehearsal
May 29 & 30: NO REHEARSAL (Memorial Day)
June 5 & 6: Rehearsal
June 12 & 13: Rehearsal
June 19 & 20: Concert Day/Recording Day

WYSO STAFF



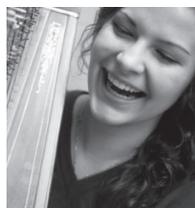
Erin Barnard, Opus One Conductor and WYSO Music Makers Program Director, is a music educator and violinist/violist who has been teaching private lessons and working with ensembles since 2002. She specializes in middle school string instruction both privately and in public schools. Erin plays viola and violin and graduated from St. Olaf College with a Bachelor of Music in 2006. She completed her Masters of Music Education

from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2017. Erin has her National Board Certification, a Wisconsin Master Teaching License and was a Kohl Fellow for 2017. She has played in several groups locally and currently plays fiddle in the band Soggy Prairie.



Tom Curry, a native of Appleton, Wisconsin, has served as Director of Brass Choirs for the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras since 2016. He is currently the tubist in the Wisconsin Brass Quintet, a faculty ensemble-in-residence at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and has performed with the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, the Madison Symphony Orchestra, the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, the Joffrey Ballet, the Chicago Philharmonic

and many other orchestras. He has commissioned, premiered and composed works for tuba in a wide variety of contexts and has been invited to perform at numerous conferences, festivals and international competitions. His first solo recording, *Alight*, features contemporary works for tuba and was released in 2018 through Summit Records. Tom was appointed Adjunct Assistant Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Mead Witter School of Music in 2014. In addition to teaching applied tuba and euphonium, Tom coaches brass chamber ensembles and co-conducts the University of Wisconsin Low Brass Ensemble. He presents master classes and clinics throughout the country and teaches tuba and euphonium at the University of Wisconsin Summer Music Clinic. Tom holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree as well as a Master of Music degree in tuba performance from Northwestern University. He also earned degrees in tuba performance and communication arts from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Jenny DeRoche, Harp Program Director, graduated with distinction from UW-Madison with a BM in instrumental and general music education. While attending UW-Madison, Jenny began and led an university chapter of a nation-wide music education organization and earned numerous awards for both harp performance and education. Since leaving UW, Jenny has taught general music

in MMSD, Stoughton School District and currently teaches in Middleton Cross Plains School District. Aside from teaching, Jenny maintains a private studio and has performed in the area with the Madison Symphony Orchestra, Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, and various other groups. In the past, she has served as faculty at Summer Music Clinic and was the harp assistant at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Michigan for multiple summers.



Christine Mata Eckel, Concert Orchestra Conductor for 19 years, is a native of Fairfield, CT, where she began studying piano at the age of 5, adding violin in fourth grade, but her heart fell in love with the sound of the clarinet in sixth grade. She is grateful for the excellent well-rounded music education she received via the Fairfield Public Schools. Ms. Eckel has fond memories playing in the Norwalk Youth Symphony, especially under the direction of Miguel Harth-Bedoya, and the opportunity to

play in New York's Carnegie Hall. Ms. Eckel holds both a Bachelor of Music (with Distinction; '97) and a Master of Music ('03) in

Education from the UW-Madison. Her primary clarinet teachers have been Richard Shillea (adjunct Fairfield Univ. & Juilliard Pre-College Div.) and Linda Bartley (UW-Madison). She has played in the Honor Band of America, under the direction of William Revellii and John P. Paynter, the All-New-England, Connecticut (CT) All-State, and CT-Regional Band and Orchestra, as well as the Fairfield University Orchestra, Madison Wind Ensemble, and Edgewood Chamber Orchestra. While attending UW, she played in Chamber Orchestra, Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonietta, and Wind Ensemble. In addition to Prof. Bartley, Ms. Eckel's primary professors at the UW were James Smith, Gerald Olson, and David Becker. In 1996, Ms. Eckel enjoyed the collaboration of world-wide perspectives with chamber and orchestral musicians at several music festivals in Switzerland and Italy. Prior to her appointment as conductor in 2000, Ms. Eckel was the woodwind sectional coach and a chamber ensemble coach for WYSO. She has been a judge/clinician for WSMA (WI School Music Association)-related events and clinic festivals. Ms. Eckel also helps as an administrative assistant each summer and has been on faculty occasionally for the UW-Madison Summer Music Clinic. Ms. Eckel has taught band/instrumental music in Madison for 22 years, primarily between Our Lady Queen of Peace School (since 1997) and Eagle School (since 1998). She performs on clarinet with the Pentissimo Woodwind Quintet and is the mother of two wonderful children! Ms. Eckel hopes to help spark a continuing interest in the fullness of the symphonic orchestra learning experience-with all the contours, textures, nuances, and depth possible of performing in such a group.



Sinfonietta conductor Geri Hamilton graduated with a Bachelor's in Music Education from the University of Wisconsin - Madison in the spring of 2004. She has extensive experience teaching beginners, middle and high school level orchestra through her work in the public schools of Waunakee, Stoughton and Oregon. In the spring of 2019 and after 15 years, Mrs. Hamilton chose to take a new path by leaving the public schools, expanding her studio and

pursuing her passion for teaching privately. In the spring of 2016, she joined the staff of the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestra (WYSO) as the conductor for their newest string ensemble, Opus One and in the fall of 2018, she took her new place as the conductor of Sinfonietta. She too is a proud six-year alumna of this wonderful organization. Not only has Mrs. Hamilton been a violinist with the Madison Symphony Orchestra since 2003, but she also enjoys singing and playing electric fiddle with her new band, Tent Show Troubadours. She makes it a top priority as a music educator to maintain her playing skills and set the best example for her students.



Vicki Peterson Jenks, WYSO Percussion Ensemble Director, is a native North Dakotan, and received her musical training at Minot State University, UW-Stevens Point, and Baylor University. In 1976, she founded the percussion program at UT-El Paso. Upon her move to Madison in 1980, she created and developed the Education Department at Ward-Brodt Music Company. For 25 years, she nurtured Jenks Music Studio, the largest percussion studio in Wisconsin.

In 2008, she was inducted into the Percussive Arts Society's Hall of Fame. Vicki's greatest teaching passion is guiding the WYSO Percussion Ensemble in this, her 40th season. Under her direction, past WYSO Percussion Ensembles have received national recognition from PAS, MENC, the National Band Association, WMEA, and the prestigious Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic. The annual Percussion EXTRAVAGANZA! has partnered with Second Harvest Foodbank, the American Red Cross, and Ronald McDonald House Charities. Vicki and her husband John, are Disaster Action Team volunteers for the Southwest Chapter of the American Red Cross. In 2008, they co-founded the HEROES Musicales held in their Wild Rose the last Saturday of April. Recently, the national Red Cross named

WYSO STAFF (CONT.)

the Musicales a “best practice” raising thousands of dollars for both local disaster relief and Service to the Armed Forces. In addition, Vicki is a Wild Rose Kiwanian, serves as church pianist for Holden Lutheran Parish, and gigs regularly as keyboard-vocalist in local nursing homes and retirement centers.



Philharmonia Orchestra Conductor Michelle Kaebisch currently teaches orchestra and music composition classes at Oregon High School. Formerly the Director of Education & Community Engagement at the Madison Symphony Orchestra (MSO), from 2006-2016, and tenured violinist with the MSO from 1993-2015, she holds a BS degree in Instrumental Music Education from the University of Wisconsin- Madison.

Her book, *HeartStrings: A Guide to Music Therapy-Informed Community Engagement for Symphony Orchestras*, published in January of 2012, has been distributed to almost 500 orchestras and healthcare facilities world-wide. She has presented at several conferences including: League of American Orchestras (LAO), Association of Wisconsin Symphony Orchestras, and Freiburg University Cancer Center. Ms. Kaebisch was co-chair of the LAO's national Education & Community Engagement Committee as well as a mentor to education directors who were new to the field of arts administration. She remains active with the Wisconsin School Music Association, is a sought after clinician and conductor for camps, festivals and honors orchestras, and a member of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Writing Committee for the new State Standards for Music Education. Ms. Kaebisch was appointed a conducting position with WYSO in 2013.



Kyle Knox took over the dual positions of Music Director of WYSO and Associate Conductor of the Madison Symphony Orchestra beginning in the 2018-2019 season. Recent past and upcoming conducting credits include his debut with the Milwaukee Symphony (on both their Family and Connections concert series), the Madison Symphony's 19-20 Bolz Final

Forte and Education series concerts, Mark Adamo's *Little Women* with Madison Opera, *Albert Herring*, *The Turn of the Screw*, and *Transformations* with UW Opera, *Die Fledermaus*,

The Gondoliers and *H.M.S. Pinafore* with Madison Savoyards, as well as UW Music Clinic's High School Honors Orchestra. Other concerts include *Carousel*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, and *Sweeney Todd* (2018) with Middleton Players Theatre, Jon Deak's *The Passion of Scrooge* with Oakwood Chamber Players, as well as regular appearances with the Middleton Community Orchestra. He was formerly a clarinetist with the Milwaukee Symphony, Santa Fe Opera, and Philadelphia Orchestras, and on faculty at UW-Milwaukee. His festival credits include Tanglewood, Spoleto (Italy), Santa Fe Chamber Music, and Bowdoin Summer Music Festivals, as well as the New York String Orchestra Seminar. He has recorded for the Koch and Naxos labels and has been featured numerous times on NPR's Performance Today. Kyle has premiered works by Osvaldo Golijov, Tan Dun, Sean Shepherd, and Huang Ruo among many others. Nico Muhly's chamber work *Service Music* (2004) was written for and dedicated to him. His debut album, a recording of Conrad Susa's chamber opera *Transformations* (the work's world premiere recording) will be released soon on iTunes. Kyle studied clarinet with Ricardo Morales and Yehuda Gilad, and conducting with James Smith. He holds degrees from Juilliard and UW-Madison.



Karl Lavine, Chamber Music Director, is Principal cellist for the Madison Symphony Orchestra and the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra. As a member of the Madison Symphony Orchestra's Heartstrings Quartet Program, Karl performs in many special needs communities throughout the Madison area. Karl appears regularly at John and Rose Mary Harbison's Token Creek Festival

in Wisconsin. He has held faculty positions at Luther College, Illinois Wesleyan University and the UW Madison Summer Music Clinics and is currently the director of the Chamber Music Program for the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras as well as a private studio. As a past member of the Milwaukee based contemporary music ensemble, Present Music, Karl has recorded recent compositions with the ensemble as well as solo repertoire. He is also a member of the Kepler Quartet, a string quartet which resulted from performances of works of American composer Ben Johnston. With the help of generous grants from the Aaron Copland Recording Foundation and support from New World Records, the Kepler Quartet is recording the complete string quartets of Ben Johnston.

ARTISTIC STAFF

Kyle Knox – WYSO Music Director & Youth Orchestra Conductor
Michelle Kaebisch – Philharmonia Orchestra Conductor
Christine Mata Eckel – Concert Orchestra Conductor
Geri Hamilton – Sinfonietta Conductor
Erin Barnard – Opus One Conductor
Tom Curry – Brass Choir Director
Jenny DeRoche – Harp Program Director
Vicki Peterson Jenks – Percussion Ensemble Director
Karl Lavine – Chamber Music Program Director

SECTIONAL COACHES

Leanne League – Violin 1
Laura Mericle – Violin 2
Melanie DeJesus – Viola
Hannah Wolkstein – Cello
Jeff Takaki – Bass
Yvonne Schwinge – Woodwinds
Dafydd Bevil – Brass
Bradley Fremder – Percussion

Chamber Coaches will be announced at the beginning of the season.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Bridget Fraser – Executive Director
Yanzel Rivera – Operations Director
Zack Robbins - Development Director
Susan Gardels – Marketing & Communications Director
Valree Casey – Membership Manager
Erin Barnard – WYSO Music Makers Program Director
Maggie Schenk – WYSO Music Makers Membership Coordinator
Aleeh Schwoerer – Administrative Assistant
Joseph Greer – Operations Assistant & Librarian
Ian Disjardin – Orchestra Assistant
Jordan DeWester – Orchestra Assistant

VOICEMAIL SYSTEM

WYSO PHONE: 608-733-6283

- x1 Bridget Fraser, Executive Director
- x2 Yanzel Rivera, Operations Director
- x3 Zachary Robbins, Development Director
- x4 Susan Gardels, Marketing & Communications Director
- x5 Valree Casey, Membership Manager
- x6 Erin Barnard, WYSO Music Makers Director
- x7 Aleeh Schwoerer, Administrative Assistant

EMAIL: wyo@wysomusic.org

WYSO OFFICE HOURS

2009 W. Beltline Hwy, Ste. 202
Madison, WI 53713

IN SEASON HOURS Tuesday-
Friday, 8:30am-5pm

SUMMER HOURS
Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5pm

WYSO MCFARLAND OFFICE HOURS

McFarland High School

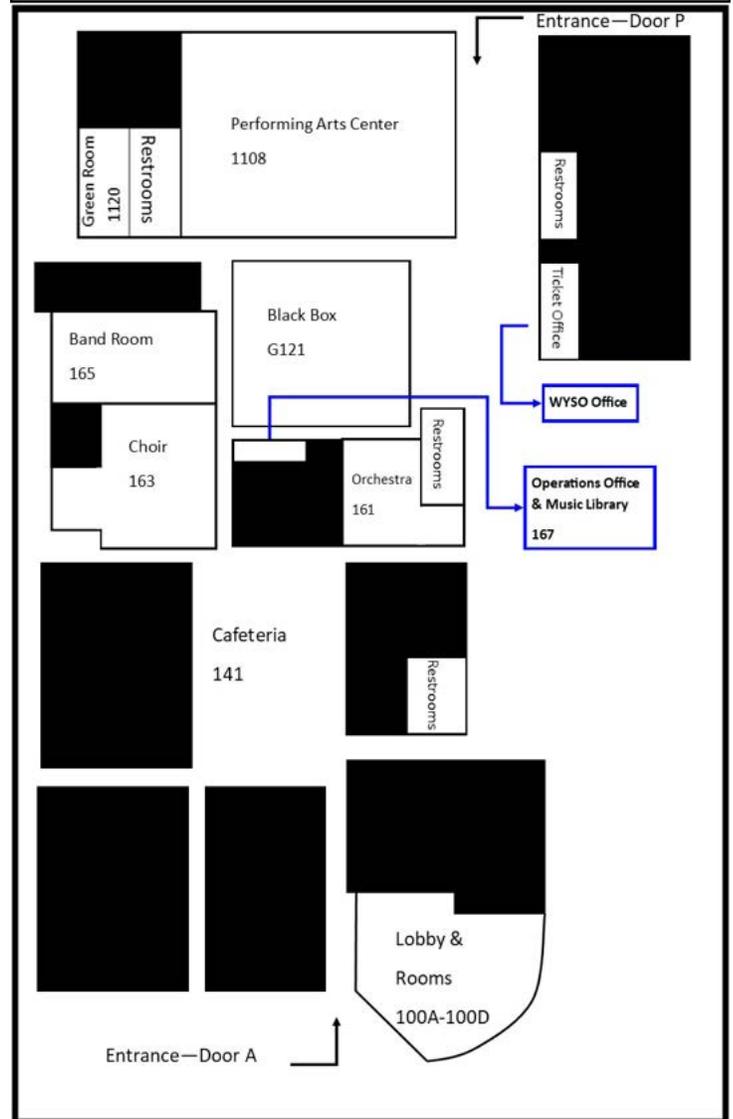
Door A: Front Entrance
5103 Farwell St, McFarland, WI 53558

Door P: Back Entrance
6204 Exchange St, McFarland, WI 53558

IN SEASON HOURS
Saturday 8:00am-2:00pm

SUMMER HOURS
None

MCFARLAND BUILDING MAP



PARKING LOT DIRECTIONS

