



Hearing is believing

Players' Handbook

Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc.
2010-2011 Season

ESYO at Proctors Theatre
432 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305
[518-382-7581](tel:518-382-7581) www.esyo.org

Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc.

Handbook

2010-2011 Season

Table of Contents

President's Message	2
Board of Directors, Administrative Staff	3
Music Programs	4
Artistic Staff	8
General Information and Conditions of Membership	
Commitment, Goals, School Music Programs, Important Phone Numbers & E-mail Addresses	9
Attendance Policy	10
Behavior	11
Concert Dress Code, Responsibilities of Percussionists and Parents, Auditions	12
Recruitment, Concert Recordings, Fees & Payment Schedules	13
Frost Valley	
Melodies of Christmas, Lois Lyman Concerto Competition	14
Music, Information Sharing	
Playathon, Principal Players, Private Lessons	15
Rehearsal Information, Scholarships	16
Tickets, Tuition Reductions, Weather Cancellations	17
Parents' Information	18
Directions to Rehearsal and Concert Sites	19
Absence Forms	23

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc., I would like to welcome you to our 2010-2011 season! We consider both students and their families integral members of the ESYO family, and we want to ensure that your experience is a memorable one. Under the masterful direction of our conductors, ESYO's musicians can expect to perform in preeminent concert halls and socialize with a diverse group of highly talented youth from eastern New York and western New England. In addition, throughout the season, students will receive training from the region's top professional musicians.

ESYO would not be successful without the volunteer efforts of its parents, and we are continuously amazed at the tremendous spirit and energy our parents bring to the organization. Throughout the season, you will receive information regarding the many volunteer opportunities that are available. In addition, I encourage you to share your desire to get involved with me or our Executive Director, Susan Brome. Working together, we can only enhance the experience of our musicians.

I look forward to greeting you at the Parents' Meeting that takes place at the start of the season. Please do not hesitate to contact me before that meeting, or at any time during the season, with any questions or concerns you may have. I look forward to a wonderful season of music making!

Truly yours,

Sarah Delaney Vero
President, Empire State Youth Orchestra

Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc.
at Proctors Theatre
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Schenectady, NY 12305
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Board of Directors and Staff

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Kathleen Ziobrowski, Secretary

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Executive Director

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*Operations Manager and
Repertory Orchestra Manager*

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*Development/Marketing
Specialist*

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Adam Epstein
Youth Orchestra Manager

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Christopher Patregnani
*Development/Marketing
Assistant*

Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc.

Music Programs

Founded in 1979 by parents and educators led by Barry Richman, the Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc. offers a program of music education and performance opportunities to talented school-age musicians from northeastern New York and western New England.

The organization comprises two full orchestras and seven ensembles plus string and brass training programs for inner-city children.

The Youth Orchestra performs regularly throughout the Capital Region, at Carnegie Hall, and at Tanglewood's Ozawa Hall. The orchestra has undertaken four European tours, most recently to Germany, the Czech Republic, and Austria in April 2008. The 95-member orchestra participates annually in "Melodies of Christmas," CBS 6/Albany's popular holiday extravaganza that has raised \$6 million for Albany Medical Center's Child Cancer Program. An annual Young People's Concert brings music to many children from schools throughout the Capital Region, and a free Seniors' Concert attracts a larger audience each year.

The Repertory Orchestra, founded as a training ensemble for the Youth Orchestra, provides intermediate-level students with challenging rehearsal and performance experiences. The orchestra has its own concert schedule and shares the stage in concerts with the Youth Orchestra at least once per season; since the 2007-08 season it has performed in Albany Pro Musica's annual choral festival in the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall. Periodically the orchestra participates in exchanges with other youth orchestras.

The Wind Orchestra and the **String Ensemble** are designed for players who have achieved a level of proficiency that allows them to participate in a large ensemble. This training lays the foundation for possible participation in the Repertory and Youth Orchestras and supplements area school orchestra and band programs.

The Youth Percussion and two Repertory Percussion Ensembles provide opportunities for young percussionists to study contemporary percussion music while developing their individual and ensemble skills.

Youth Jazz Ensemble's repertoire ranges from the nostalgic swing music of the '30s and '40s to the exciting jazz/rock fusion of the '80s. The Jazz Ensemble has had one international tour – a trip to Switzerland as part of an exchange project with a Swiss jazz ensemble. The Ensemble has performed at The College of Saint Rose, the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, and at the City of Albany's First Night Celebration. In March 2005, the ensemble performed with celebrated trombonist Conrad Herwig in a concert at the New York State Band Directors' Association Symposium in Syracuse.

Repertory Jazz Ensemble was established in 2006-07 to accommodate slightly younger, less experienced players than the Youth Jazz Ensemble. Its repertoire also covers most of the history of jazz, from the early swing of the 1920s to today's contemporary jazz.

City Strings and City Brass Training Programs are outreach projects that offer instrumental instruction to inner-city children in their schools. In Albany and Schenectady middle schools, ESYO's teachers provide free private string lessons for children whose families cannot afford them. The brass program – begun in the 2008-09 year – is offered in Troy's Doyle Middle School. These programs contribute a service to the community while preparing young musicians for possible participation in ESYO's String Ensemble or Wind Orchestra. City Strings participants share the stage in concert with the String Ensemble in May, and they give occasional recitals at area nursing homes. City Brass students also give nursing-home recitals and may perform with the Wind Orchestra.

Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc.

Artistic Staff

Helen Cha-Pyo

Music Director

Ms. Cha-Pyo served as the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Riverside Philharmonic Orchestra and Choir and Associate Director of Music at the famed Riverside Church in New York City from 1996 to 2003. Under Ms. Cha-Pyo's leadership, Music at Riverside expanded its program to include diverse styles of music; she pioneered the Riverside Music Education program, which served thousands of New York City school children. She returned to Riverside in April 2009 to conduct the Empire State Youth Orchestra, Youth Choral, and New York's Central City Chorus in a performance of William Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast*. Ms. Cha-Pyo has conducted orchestras and choruses, both in this country and in Europe and Asia. Born in Seoul, she won many competitions as a young pianist and then studied both piano and organ in the Juilliard Pre-College Division. A graduate of Oberlin College, she went on to receive Master of Music degrees in both conducting and organ performance from the Eastman School of Music. Ms. Cha-Pyo was appointed ESYO's Music Director & Conductor of the Youth Orchestra in September 2002. Her vision to have all ESYO ensembles commission new works and premiere them in a single concert was realized in ESYO's March 2008 New Music for a New Generation Festival.

David C. Beck

Conductor, Repertory Orchestra

David C. Beck has worked as a string specialist for the Bethlehem Central School District in Delmar, NY since 1991. Currently, he conducts the award-winning high school Concert Orchestra and Symphony as well as high school chamber ensembles; he also gives string lessons to children in grades 6-12. In addition to his school activities, Mr. Beck is an active solo and ensemble adjudicator for NYSSMA and has worked as a festival clinician throughout New York, Connecticut, and Florida. He has been a conductor of orchestras at the Eastern US Music Camp at Colgate University since 1995 and on the faculty of the Laurel Music Camp in Connecticut since 1987. Mr. Beck maintains an active performing career as a freelance cellist, tubist, bassist, and bass guitarist. He has been a member of many ensembles in Connecticut as well as the Glens Falls Symphony, the Capital District Wind Ensemble, and the Schenectady Light Opera Company. Mr. Beck received his Bachelor of Music degree from Ithaca College, where he was a double major on Cello and Tuba. He received his Master's degree in orchestral conducting from the Hartt School of Music. His tenure at ESYO began in March 2001.

Robert Hansbrough

Conductor, Wind Orchestra

Dr. Hansbrough received his Masters and Doctorate in music education with a concentration in wind band conducting from Florida State University. He is Music Department Chair, Associate Professor of Music, and conductor of the school's Wind and Percussion Ensembles at The College of Saint Rose. He has worked with high school and college bands in Kentucky and Florida and was recognized as the "University Teacher of the Year" by the Kentucky Music Educators Association. Dr. Hansbrough has conducted honor bands throughout the United States and Europe. He joined ESYO in September 2001.

Joseph D. Gumpper*Conductor, String Ensemble*

Joseph Gumpper joined ESYO as the String Ensemble Conductor in the 2007-08 season. He has many years of experience teaching music and conducting orchestras in Shenendehowa elementary and middle schools. Since 2006 he has been the High School Orchestra teacher in that district. He is active as a freelance violinist and plays fiddle with the Red Haired Strangers, a blues and folk band. Mr. Gumpper graduated from Crane School of Music and has a Master's degree in Music Education from The College of Saint Rose.

Richard Albagli*Conductor, Percussion Ensembles*

Richard Albagli is the principal percussionist of the Albany Symphony Orchestra, co-founder of the Adirondack Percussion Ensemble, and a member of the music faculties of the University at Albany and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in physics from RPI and his Master of Music degree in performance from the Eastman School of Music. As co-founder of Associated Solo Artists, Mr. Albagli has performed throughout the United States. He collaborated with award-winning opera singer John Cimino in designing innovative interdisciplinary programs for schools and business and creativity and leadership training seminars for government.

Mark Foster*Co-conductor, Youth Percussion Ensemble*

Mark Foster is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music, a member of the Albany Symphony Orchestra, and co-founder of the Adirondack Percussion Ensemble. He is on the faculty of Skidmore College and is a member of the Percussive Arts Society's Education and World Percussion Network Committees.

John Antonio*Co-conductor, Repertory Percussion Ensemble A*

John Antonio received his Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in music education from The College of Saint Rose. Until his retirement in June 2004, he had taught music in the Albany City School District for 33 years and was the program coordinator of the district's summer music program. Mr. Antonio has been a guest conductor at Area All-District Music Festivals and is also a percussion coach for Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc.

Felicity Cashman*Conductor, Repertory Percussion Ensemble B*

Ms. Cashman joins ESYO in fall 2010 as a percussion conductor. A graduate of The College of Saint Rose, Ms. Cashman is no stranger to ESYO; she was a percussionist in ESYO ensembles as a student and, while studying at Saint Rose, worked as a Student Manager of ESYO's Wind Orchestra. Ms. Cashman currently is a music teacher in the New Lebanon schools.

Paul Evoskevich*Conductor, Youth Jazz Ensemble*

Paul Evoskevich is Professor of Music at The College of Saint Rose, where he is the director of the College Jazz Ensemble. He holds Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Music Education degrees from the Hartt School and a Master in Jazz Studies and Contemporary Media from the Eastman School of Music. Active as both a classical and jazz saxophonist, he has performed with the Rochester, Dayton, Hudson Valley Philharmonic, and Albany Symphony Orchestras as well as with many stars of stage and screen. Mr. Evoskevich has performed and presented master classes throughout the United States and Europe. He is a former staff writer for *The Saxophone Journal* and *Jazz Player Magazine* and has written two books on saxophone technique and jazz improvisation.

Matthew Cremisio*Conductor, Repertory Jazz Ensemble*

Mr. Cremisio is currently the Director of Music Education, K-12, at Niskayuna Central Schools and has also served as an adjunct music faculty member at The College of Saint Rose. He received his Bachelors in Music Education from The Crane School of Music and a Masters of Music in Jazz Studies from The College of Saint Rose, having completed additional course work at Eastman. Mr. Cremisio has performed with numerous well-known artists and toured nationally with several Broadway shows. He has toured in Europe as a percussionist and educator. He is an active adjudicator and clinician for NYSSMA and formerly served as Vice President of the New York State Association for Jazz Educators.

Monica Wilson Roach*Teacher, City Strings Training Program*

An active cello teacher, performer, and recording artist, Ms. Roach is also proficient with violin, viola, and bass. An ESYO alumna, Ms. Roach has taught in the Music Advancement Program (an outreach division of the Pre-College Program) at the Juilliard School. She founded and leads Tutti Celli, a summer cello choir, and she is cellist and bassist with the Jazz trio Ten27.

General Information and Conditions of Membership

Note: The acronym ESYO stands for the Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc., and includes all of the orchestras, ensembles, and city training programs, not just the Youth Orchestra.

The following conditions of membership apply to *all* members of ESYO. Please read this information carefully. Your signature on the Attendance Policy and Commitment Form indicates that you agree to abide by these rules.

ESYO's Goals

The purpose of the Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc. is to develop, foster, and promote a lifelong appreciation of music. Toward that end, ESYO's nine ensembles and City Instrument Training Program, led by professional musicians, provide talented young musicians with opportunities for study, rehearsal, and performance of both standard repertoire and contemporary music. Our ensembles perform in a broad spectrum of venues for diverse public constituencies.

School Music Programs

Because youth orchestras and school music programs share a common goal of making your musical education a significant and positive influence on your life, ESYO strongly recommends and expects you to participate in your school orchestras and ensembles. If there are scheduling conflicts between ESYO and required, for-credit school music performances, school takes precedence. On the other hand, ESYO takes precedence over elective school music activities, such as pit orchestra, when there are scheduling conflicts.

Important Phone Numbers and E-mail Addresses

ESYO Office: 518-382-7581

Youth Orchestra Manager
Adam Epstein
216-407-2561 (home)
eysoyom@esy.org

Repertory Orchestra Manager
Sue Lascoe
518-489-8237 (home)
esyoom@esy.org

Wind Orchestra Manager
Mary Beth Hollinger
518-674-2263
mb@nycap.rr.com

String Ensemble Manager
Yoko Segerstrom
518-475-9304
lowerschool@doanestuart.org

Youth Jazz Ensemble Director
Paul Evoskevich
518-454-5195
evoskev@mail.strose.edu

Repertory Jazz Ensemble Director
Matthew Cremisio
518-250-4092
yamadrum@nycap.rr.com

Youth Percussion Ensemble Co-Conductors

Richard Albagli

518-272-7828

ralbagli@albany.edu

Mark Foster

518-439-1379

mfooster2@nycap.rr.com

Repertory Percussion Ensemble A Co-Conductors

Richard Albagli

518-272-7828

ralbagli@albany.edu

John Antonio

518-462-2765

johnanto49@aol.com

Repertory Percussion Ensemble B Conductor

Felicity Cashman

518-322-5475

felicash@gmail.com

Attendance

Being an orchestra member is like being a member of an athletic team, and all your fellow players and your conductor depend on your participation. Perfect attendance and punctuality are key factors in making your musical experience productive and worthwhile, and they are critical to your orchestra's successful maintenance of its recognized level of artistic excellence. A list of attendance rules follows:

Absences

You are expected to attend all rehearsals, but you are allowed a maximum of two absences per concert period if you are a member of the Youth Orchestra, Repertory Orchestra, or any of the Percussion Ensembles. If you are a member of the Wind Orchestra, String Ensemble, or either Jazz Ensemble you are allowed 3 absences per concert period. Only one of these may be in the three weeks prior to a concert. **No absences from dress rehearsals, warm-ups, or concerts are permitted.** Absences may be taken for various reasons – school concerts, college visits, illness – but there can still be no more than the maximum stated above per concert period. Exceeding this limit may jeopardize your continued participation in ESYO during the current season and/or your participation in auditions for the forthcoming season.

Exceptions to these rules **may** be made for major family, academic, or religious events, **but only if a written request** (e-mail or letter) is sent to the manager and/or conductor well in advance of the event. Decisions regarding such exceptions will be made by the conductor in consultation with the Executive Director. These decisions may be appealed to the ESYO Board's Review Committee. An unexcused absence from a dress rehearsal, warm-up, or concert **may** result in dismissal from the orchestra/ensemble or the levying of a fine. **Please check your calendar now and throughout the year for any conflicts with your orchestra's/ensemble's schedule and report them *in writing* to your manager and/or conductor immediately.** As you plan your participation in other events during the season, please remember this policy and check your ESYO schedule frequently and carefully to avoid conflicts. Unforeseen emergencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Lateness

Orchestras achieve high artistic standards when their members are warmed up and ready to tune punctually. Lateness is unprofessional and irresponsible. You should be in your seat at least 10 minutes before the down beat. Frequent lateness will result in disciplinary action.

Absence Notification

You are required to notify your manager and/or conductor by e-mail or snail mail of an anticipated absence as soon as you know about it, and **at least two weeks in advance**. It's especially important for players of a single part (wind, brass, percussion) who anticipate an absence from a rehearsal to inform the conductor and/or manager in writing well in advance so the conductor can assign another player to your part should he/she wish to.

For illness or other emergencies, make sure to notify your manager as soon as possible by phone or e-mail and bring in a signed absence form, located in the back of the Handbook, the following week.

Note: Absences for participation in the "Melodies of Christmas Chorale" will not be excused.

Behavior

ESYO members are expected to maintain a personal standard of conduct that will be a credit to themselves, their parents, schools, and communities. You are expected to contribute to the atmosphere of serious work and musical excellence that distinguishes ESYO. At all ESYO rehearsals, concerts, and events, you are expected to treat each other and the ESYO staff and audiences with respect and consideration.

- Do not eat or chew gum in rehearsal or performance areas.
- Cell phones must be turned off during rehearsals and concerts. Texting is **NOT** permitted during rehearsals or concerts.
- Smoking is not permitted at any ESYO rehearsal or performance site.
- Use of alcohol or illegal drugs is absolutely forbidden during any ESYO activity. The use of either substance will result in suspension and dismissal from the orchestra. Orchestra managers and conductors have the authority to suspend players, and, in consultation with the Executive Director and Board President, to dismiss them in cases of egregious breaches of ESYO rules. If an orchestra member is dismissed, that member, as a rule, will not be permitted to audition in June for the next season. On rare occasions, if there are extenuating circumstances, the Review Committee of the ESYO Board of Directors may permit the member in question to audition, and, if accepted, to be readmitted.

ESYO members are expected to abide by Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc.'s policy strictly prohibiting sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is defined as a form of sex discrimination that occurs in relationships of power and control (conductor/musician, staff/musician, employer/employee) or between peers (musician/musician, staff/staff).

Concert Dress Code

You will not be permitted to participate in the concert if you are improperly attired.

Youth Orchestra and Repertory Orchestra	Boys	Black suit, white shirt, black bow tie, black socks, black shoes
	Girls	<u>Ankle-length</u> black skirt (no revealing slits), black blazer or collarless jacket (no sweaters), white blouse, black stockings, black shoes
Wind Orchestra and String Ensemble	Boys	Black slacks, white shirt, black tie, black socks, black shoes
	Girls	<u>Ankle-length</u> black skirt (no revealing slits), white blouse, black stockings, black shoes
All Percussion and Jazz Ensembles	All members	Black pants, black shirts, black socks, and black shoes

Responsibilities of Percussionists and Parents of Percussionists

Percussionists play some wonderful instruments, but many are both heavy and cumbersome. Being a percussionist requires that you assist with moving these instruments. We depend on you and/or your parents to help with this moving each week at rehearsals.

For concerts, the instruments must be taken from the rehearsal venue to the performance venue and then returned to storage after the concert.

ESYO will provide a truck and driver to transport the percussion equipment. Two or three players and their parents will be assigned to help load the truck at the rehearsal venue. Usually all percussionists are asked to assist unloading the truck at the concert venue. Your manager or conductor will make every attempt to see that these jobs are evenly shared.

Auditions

Acceptance into ESYO is based solely on musical ability as demonstrated at ESYO's annual auditions, without regard to sex, race, religion, disability, or national origin. All players must audition each season for a position in any of ESYO's orchestras or ensembles. Auditions are held in June; information about auditions is distributed the preceding March; results are mailed to every participant about three weeks after auditions.

- Preparedness/Seating Auditions for Youth Orchestra, Repertory Orchestra, and String Ensemble: During each concert preparation period, auditions for string players will be held to determine whether you have adequately prepared your music and where you will sit in your section for that concert. All seating is at the discretion of the conductor, who will seat players in an order that will result in a strong and balanced section. Players will not necessarily be seated with the strongest in the front of the section and the weakest in the back.

Players who are unprepared will be expected to play for their conductor at a subsequent rehearsal and may not be permitted to play in the concert. Being unprepared more than once may jeopardize your continued participation in ESYO.

Players who miss a preparedness/seating audition for any reason will play for the conductor as soon as possible thereafter to determine preparedness.

Recruitment

Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc. is strongly committed to affirmative action. Recruitment and auditioning of musicians for all orchestras and ensembles, as well as recruitment of artistic and administrative staff, is conducted without discrimination based on race, color, sex, religion, age (except where legally permissible and in furtherance of organizational purposes), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or national origin.

Concert Recordings

You will be notified if a concert is being recorded. In those instances, each orchestra/ensemble member will be able to purchase **one** compact disc recording for study purposes.

Fees and Payment Schedule

Tuition Due Dates		Youth Orchestra	Repertory Orchestra	Wind Orchestra	String Ensemble	Jazz Ensembles	Percussion Ensembles
7/16/10	Amt. due/ Cash Price	\$205/ \$200	\$205/ \$200	\$205/ \$200	\$205/ \$200	\$205/ \$200	\$205/ \$200
8/6/10	Amt. due/ Cash Price	\$205/ \$200	\$180/ \$175	\$155/ \$150	\$155/ \$150	\$130/ \$125	\$140/ \$135
8/27/10	Amt. due/ Cash Price	\$180/ \$175	\$165/ \$160	\$150/ \$145	\$150/ \$145	\$105/ \$100	\$140/ \$135
Frost Valley Due Dates							
8/2/10	Amt. due/ Cash Price	\$155/ \$150	\$155/ \$150	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8/27/10	Amt. due/ Cash Price	\$130/ \$125	\$130/ \$125	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: If you are paying by cash or check, there is a discount of \$5 per payment.

Note: Families with more than one child in ESYO can deduct \$50 from each child's tuition. For a child in more than one ESYO ensemble, \$50 will be deducted from the tuition for each ensemble. See Page 17 for information on tuition waivers or reductions.

Frost Valley Training Weekend

At the beginning of each season, a weekend of concentrated training and rehearsal is held for the Youth and Repertory Orchestras at Frost Valley YMCA camp in the Catskill Mountains. In addition to music training, Frost Valley gives orchestra members a chance to get to know each other and the ESYO staff. All members of the Youth and Repertory Orchestras are expected to attend. Please notify the ESYO office in writing of any schedule conflicts as soon as possible.

Melodies of Christmas

“Melodies of Christmas,” an annual, televised holiday show featuring the Youth Orchestra and the Empire State Youth Chorale, is produced by CBS 6/Albany and sponsored by Freihofer’s and Price Chopper to benefit Albany Medical Center’s Melodies Center for Childhood Cancer. The program attracts an audience of over 10,000 and is taped for broadcast on Channel 6 on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Only Youth Orchestra and Youth Chorale members perform in Melodies. Melodies tickets are sold by ESYO only to Youth Orchestra families and only during the month of October - before they go on sale to the general public. Watch the Tuesday rehearsal newsletters for details.

Lois Lyman Concerto Competition

Named in memory of an area violinist, teacher, and ESYO co-founder, the Lois Lyman Concerto Competition is **open only to members of the Youth Orchestra** in good standing. The competition is held in September, and the winner performs as a soloist with the Youth Orchestra at its November concert. The runner-up **may** perform with the Repertory Orchestra.

Music

You are expected to begin working on your music as soon as you receive it. Please work with your private teacher regularly and contact the principal of your section whenever necessary. A music folder is provided for each player. ESYO members are entrusted with valuable music and are responsible for its care and prompt return. Your music must be returned to your manager or conductor immediately following the concert in which it is played.

Information Sharing

Youth and Repertory Orchestras:

At each rehearsal, you will receive a newsletter containing important information about ESYO schedules and events. Please read each newsletter carefully, share it with your parents, and then keep it in your music folder for future reference. *If you miss a rehearsal, it is your responsibility to ask your manager for the newsletter you missed.*

Note: Newsletters will be delivered via e-mail if you provide a current e-mail address.

Wind Orchestra and String Ensemble:

Players will frequently receive newsletters containing important information about ESYO schedules and events. Please read each newsletter carefully and share it with your parents. *If you miss a rehearsal, it is your responsibility to ask your manager if you missed a newsletter.* Note: Newsletters will be delivered via e-mail if you provide a current e-mail address.

Jazz and Percussion Ensembles:

Occasionally your ensemble conductors and Parent Liaisons may give hand-outs to the players, send out e-mails, or send letters by mail. These may contain important information about ESYO schedules and events and should be shared with your parents. The ESYO office may also communicate with you directly using these methods.

PARENTS: These newsletters and other communications contain information you need to know. Please get them from your child and provide us with your e-mail address so we can send them directly to you.

Playathon

Each orchestra and ensemble participates in this day-long fund-raising performance marathon at a local shopping mall. Money is raised through the sale of ESYO items, a raffle with many prizes, and from auctions to conduct the Youth, Repertory, and Wind Orchestras' performances of well-known pieces.

Principal Players

All principal players are expected to set an example of preparation, promptness, and attentiveness for the section; note trouble spots in music and notify sectional coaches; call for silence if necessary during a rehearsal; and notify section members of schedule changes. String principals are expected to be sure the section plays all bowings as marked, and convey bowing changes or additions to the entire section.

Private Lessons

Private music lessons are an essential part of a young musician's education. Because such study also supports the high quality of the ESYO program, members of the Youth and Repertory Orchestras are *required* to take *regularly scheduled* private music lessons on their primary orchestra instrument. Your teacher may be asked to verify your attendance. Although private lessons are not required for Wind Orchestra, String Ensemble, either Jazz Ensemble, or any of our Percussion Ensembles, we strongly encourage you to take private lessons on a regular basis. Private teachers are invited to attend your concerts for free.

Rehearsal Information

Ensemble	Location	Day	Time
Youth Orchestra	The Albany Academies East Campus, 140 Academy Rd., Alb.	Tuesday	7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Repertory Orchestra	The Albany Academies East Campus, 140 Academy Rd., Alb.	Tuesday	7:00 PM – 9:30 PM
Wind Orchestra	Massry Center for the Arts at The College of Saint Rose, Albany	Sunday	2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
String Ensemble	Parsons Child and Family Center 60 Academy Rd., Albany	Tuesday	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Youth Jazz Ensemble	Jack's Place, The Center for Communications and Interactive Media at The College of Saint Rose, Albany	Monday	6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Rep. Jazz Ensemble	Niskayuna High School	Thursday	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Youth Percussion	University at Albany Performing Arts Center	Tuesday	4:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Rep. Percussion A	RPI, West Hall, room 326, Troy	Sunday	6:15 PM – 8:00 PM
Rep. Percussion B	RPI, West Hall, room 326, Troy	Sunday	4:30 PM – 6:15 PM

On occasion, we must hold rehearsals in substitute venues. We will notify you of such changes by e-mail or on the ESYO web site as soon as we learn about them.

Scholarships

• ***The Barry Richman Careers in Music Scholarship*** is awarded to one or two graduating seniors who best exemplify the goals and standards of ESYO, serve as role model(s) to his/her/their peers, have made outstanding musical contributions, and plan a career in music. Applications are available in the Spring; the winner(s) of the award are announced at the last Youth Orchestra concert of the season.

• Current players who have been members of any ESYO orchestra or ensemble for at least one full season may apply for the ***Kathy Gallagher Summer Scholarships*** to help pay for summer music camp, private lessons, or purchase or repair of an instrument. Graduating seniors and players not planning to return to ESYO for the next season are not eligible. These awards are based on financial need and the player's general contribution to ESYO. Applications are available in April; award recipients are notified by mail in June.

Tickets

Your tuition includes a \$25 ticket credit, which can be used to purchase tickets to any ESYO-produced concert (it may not be used for “Melodies of Christmas”). You will receive a Ticket Card at the end of September, once your tuition has been paid in full. This card can only be used during the season in which it was issued and only when you “buy” your tickets from an ESYO representative at rehearsals or at the ESYO office. **Box office personnel at venues such as Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, Proctors Theatre, and Tanglewood will not honor an ESYO Ticket Card.** Concert tickets are available about one month before the concert date. They are sold at the ESYO Office, at rehearsals, and/or at the door. You will be notified as to how and when tickets are being sold well in advance of concerts.

• ***Bring-a-Friend:*** To help develop new audiences for ESYO and to expose more young people to the music we produce, an ESYO player can receive one complimentary student ticket to a concert in which he or she is performing to give to a friend who has never attended an ESYO concert. Contact the ESYO office for your Bring-a-Friend ticket.

• ***Complimentary tickets:*** All ESYO members may attend performances by other ESYO ensembles free of charge. Parents and non-ESYO siblings must pay for their tickets

• ***Teacher complimentary tickets:*** Please tell both your school and private music teachers that they may have two complimentary tickets for any ESYO-produced concert. To order their tickets they should call the ESYO office at least one week prior to the concert.

Note: Bring-a-Friend and complimentary tickets are not available for “Melodies of Christmas” performances or other select events.

Tuition Reductions and Waivers

ESYO is committed to ensuring that all musicians who successfully audition for membership in ESYO ensembles are able to participate, regardless of financial considerations. Thus we offer tuition waivers, reductions or special payment plans to families who demonstrate financial need.

Waivers and reductions apply to tuition only, not to the cost of Frost Valley. To apply for a tuition waiver, reduction, or alternative payment plan, please contact the ESYO office.

Players who are granted tuition assistance must assist their Managers or Conductors. They are asked to arrive 45 minutes before rehearsals and one hour before concerts and stay up to 30 minutes after rehearsals and concerts to help set up and take down chairs and stands.

Weather Cancellations

ESYO will notify you by e-mail and on our website, www.esyo.org, if a rehearsal is being cancelled for any reason. If you are unsure about a possible weather-related cancellation, call the ESYO office or check the website. Please plan to stay home if driving conditions are unsafe where you live even if the rehearsal has not been cancelled. Simply notify your manager or conductor – this won’t be counted as an absence.

Parents' Information

Parents are a tremendous asset to ESYO. The support and encouragement you give your children not only helps them achieve *their* musical goals but also helps ESYO reach *its* goal of providing an excellent music program for young musicians. We hope to provide you with a rewarding experience.

As a non-profit organization, ESYO depends on volunteer help for several important jobs, such as serving snacks and supervising at rehearsals, ushering at concerts, coordinating receptions, moving percussion instruments, raising funds, and providing clerical help. The Parent Information Form, which must be returned to ESYO by July 16 with the other registration forms, includes a section asking if you are willing to donate your skills and time.

Each family is expected to volunteer for at least one concert or event. You will also have the opportunity to sign up at parent meetings or through the Parent Liaison of your child's orchestra or ensemble. Volunteering for ESYO is a great way to be involved in your child's musical life and for you to become good friends with other parents. Your help is truly appreciated.

At every Youth, Repertory, Wind Orchestra, and String Ensemble rehearsal, two families will serve as hall monitors. Hall Monitors bring snack, help supervise when students are in the hall, and assist at the end of rehearsal as needed. Each family will do this only once during the season. You will receive a schedule and more information about this at the end of August.

You are always welcome to attend rehearsals.

Please pick up your child promptly at the end of rehearsal. Failure to do so causes great inconvenience for the ESYO staff and, *more important*, can be a safety risk for your child. **If your child has not been picked up by the time the manager is ready to leave, the police may be called for your child's protection.**

Videotaping or photographing ESYO performances violates the provisions of the contracts between ESYO and some concert venues, including the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall. Please do not film, photograph, or record any concerts or rehearsals without receiving prior permission from the ESYO office. You must make your request at least three weeks before the performance so that we can request permission from the venue.

Directions to Rehearsal and Concert Sites

The Albany Academies, East Campus

140 Academy Road, Albany

- From the east: Take I-90 to I-787 South to the end. Go straight through the light onto Hoffman Ave. At next light turn left onto Second Avenue. Continue across Delaware Avenue onto Whitehall Road for about 3 blocks. Turn right onto Marwill Street. Continue across Hackett Blvd. and go up Academy Road. The school is on your right.
- From the north: Take I-87 (Northway) South to the end at Western Avenue (Route 20 East) and turn left onto Western Avenue for approximately 2¾ miles. Turn right onto South Manning Blvd. Turn left onto New Scotland Avenue for approximately 1 mile. Turn right onto Academy Road. The school is on the left just before you reach Hackett Blvd.
- From the west: Take Western Avenue east (Route 20 East). Turn right onto South Manning Blvd (approximately 2¾ miles past I-87 junction). Turn left onto New Scotland Avenue for approximately 1 mile. Turn right onto Academy Road. The school is on the left just before you reach Hackett Blvd.
- From the south: Take the New York State Thruway to Exit 23. Turn left onto Route 9W and follow around to second light. Turn right onto Hoffman Ave. Turn left onto Second Avenue. Continue across Delaware Avenue onto Whitehall Road for about 3 blocks. Turn right onto Marwill Street. Continue across Hackett Blvd. and go up Academy Road. The school is on your right.

Proctors Theatre

432 State St., Schenectady

- From the east, south, and west: Take the NYS Thruway to Exit 25 (Schenectady), then I-890 West to Exit 5. At the end of the ramp, turn right onto Broadway. At the third light (Hamilton Street), turn left into the city parking garage and walk across Broadway to Proctor's Theatre **or** turn right onto Hamilton Street, go up the hill, through the light, and then left into Proctor's parking lot.
- From the north: Take Rt. 50 to its end in Scotia. Turn left onto Rt. 5 and cross the Western Gateway Bridge into Schenectady. From Rt. 5 (State Street), turn right onto Broadway. At the first light (Hamilton Street), turn right into the city parking garage and walk across Broadway to Proctor's Theatre **or** turn left onto Hamilton Street, go up the hill, through the light, and then left into Proctor's parking lot.

Troy Savings Bank Music Hall

Second and State Streets, Troy

- From Albany: Take I-787 North to the Troy/Bennington Exit.
- From Schenectady: Take Rt. 7 East to Troy.
- From Saratoga Springs: Take I-87 South to Exit 7, then Rt. 7 East to Troy.

From all directions, follow signs to the Downtown Troy exit after crossing the Collar City Bridge. Follow Sixth Avenue until it ends and turn right onto Congress Street. Turn right onto Second Street. Go one block to the Music Hall on the corner of State and Second Streets. Parking is available on nearby streets.

Tanglewood, Lenox, MA

- From Albany: Take I-90 East to Exit B-3, then onto Rt. 22 South. Go one-half mile, then turn left onto Rt. 102. Follow Rt. 102 to the intersection of Rt. 183 (about 5.5 miles). Turn left onto Rt. 183, heading north. Follow Rt. 183 about 3.5 miles. Tanglewood is on the right. Follow signs to Ozawa Hall.

Jack's Place, The Center for Communications and Interactive Media Picotte Recital Hall, The Massry Center for the Arts The College of Saint Rose, Madison Avenue, Albany

From all directions, use I-90, Exit 5, Everett Rd.

* From the North: take I-87 (Northway) South to I-90 East. At the end of the Exit 5 ramp, turn right onto Everett Rd.

* From the South: take the NYS Thruway to Exit 23 (I-787). Follow I-787 north to I-90 West. At the end of the Exit 5 ramp, turn left onto Everett Rd.

* From the East, take Massachusetts Turnpike to the NYS Thruway. Use Exit B-1 (I-90 West). At the end of the Exit 5 ramp, turn left onto Everett Rd.

* From the West, take the NYS Thruway to Exit 24 (I-90 East). At the end of the Exit 5 ramp, turn right onto Everett Rd.

From Everett Road, turn left onto Central Ave, then right onto North Main Ave., then left onto Madison Ave. to the first traffic light.

Both The Center for Communications and Interactive Media and The Massry Center sit back from the street at the end of the driveway on your right at this light.

Doane Stuart School

199 Washington Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144

From the North: I-87 S to I-90 E toward Alban/Boston; take exit 7 for Washington Ave toward Rensselaer; turn right at Washington Ave, the Campus will be one quarter mile ahead on your right.

From the South: Take I-87 N to exit 23 for I-787/US-9W toward Troy/Albany; follow signs for I-787 and merge onto I-787N; take exit 5 to merge onto I-90 E toward Boston; take exit 7 for Washington Ave toward Rensselaer; turn right at Washington Ave, the Campus will be one quarter mile ahead on your right.

From the West: I-90 E toward Alban/Boston; take exit 7 for Washington Ave toward Rensselaer; turn right at Washington Ave, the Campus will be one quarter mile ahead on your right.

From the East: I-90 W toward Albany; take exit 8 to merge onto NY-43/NY Hwy 43; turn left at County Rte-55/Washington Ave Ext; continue on Washington Ave., the campus will be one mile ahead on your right.

Niskayuna High School

1626 Balltown Rd., Niskayuna

From the New York State Thruway

Take exit 25 (Schenectady) from I-90 (NYS Thruway). Continue on 890 West, approximately 2 miles. Take exit 7 for Route 7 East (toward Troy). Approximately 2 miles further, turn left onto Route 146. (Route 146 is also called Balltown Road at this intersection.) About 1.5 miles further, Niskayuna High School is on the right. The entrance is at a traffic light.

From Interstate 87 (The Northway) north of Clifton Park

Take Exit 9, at Clifton Park, for Route 146 West. Go approximately 7.5 miles and turn left, which continues Rt. 146 West. Route 146 is Balltown Road once you cross the Mohawk River. Approximately 2.5 miles further, Niskayuna High School is on the left. There is a traffic light at the driveway.

From Interstate 88 (Binghamton)

Take Interstate 88 to the end. Take the NYS Thruway, Interstate 90, south towards Albany. Take Exit 25, Schenectady. Continue on 890 West approximately 2 miles. Take Exit 7 for Route 7 East (toward Troy). Approximately 2 miles further, turn left on Route 146. (Route 146 is also called Balltown Road at this intersection.) Approximately 1.5 miles further, Niskayuna High School is on the right. There is a traffic light at the driveway.

From Route 7 (Vermont)

Continue west on Route 7 through Troy, NY. Stay on Route 7 (now also called Alternate Route 7). There are three exits almost at the same junction, so be careful to take the third exit -- stay way to the left -- to continue on Route 7 Schenectady. At the light, turn right onto Route 7. Approximately 8 miles, turn right onto Route 146 (also called Balltown Road). Approximately 1.5 miles further, Niskayuna High School is on the right. The entrance is at a traffic light.

Parsons' Child and Family Center (PCF)

60 Academy Road, Albany

- From the east: Take I-90 to I-787 South to the end. Go straight through the light onto Hoffman Ave. At next light turn left onto Second Avenue. Continue across Delaware Avenue onto Whitehall Road for about 3 blocks. Turn right onto Marwill Street. Continue across Hackett Blvd. and go up Academy Road. PCF is on your right just past Congregation Beth Emeth.
- From the north: Take I-87 (Northway) South to the end at Western Avenue (Route 20 East) and turn left onto Western Avenue for approximately 2¾ miles. Turn right onto South Manning Blvd. Turn left onto New Scotland Avenue for approximately 1 mile. Turn right onto Academy Road. PCF is on the left before you reach Congregation Beth Emeth.

(continued on p. 22)

Parsons' Child and Family Center (PCF) (continued from p. 21)

- From the west: Take Western Avenue east (Route 20 East). Turn right onto South Manning Blvd (approximately 2¾ miles past I-87 junction). Turn left onto New Scotland Avenue for approximately 1 mile. Turn right onto Academy Road. PCF is on the left just before you reach Congregation Beth Emeth.
- From the south: Take the New York State Thruway to Exit 23. Turn left onto Route 9W and follow around to second light. Turn right onto Hoffman Ave. Turn left onto Second Avenue. Continue across Delaware Avenue onto Whitehall Road for about 3 blocks. Turn right onto Marwill Street. Continue across Hackett Blvd. and go up Academy Road. PCF is on your right just past Congregation Beth Emeth..

Performing Arts Center at the University at Albany

1400 Washington Ave., Albany

- From the south and west: Take the NYS Thruway to Exit 24, then I-90 East to Exit 2. Cross Washington Avenue onto the campus, bear left and follow signs for Collins Circle/Visitors' Parking.
- From the north: Take I-87 South to I-90 East to Exit 2. Cross Washington Avenue onto the campus, turn left and follow signs for Collins Circle/Visitors' Parking.
- From the east: Take I-90 West to Exit 2. At the end of the ramp, turn left onto Fuller Road, then left onto Washington Avenue. At the light, turn right onto the campus, turn left and follow signs for Collins Circle/Visitors' Parking.

The Performing Arts Center is to the left as you face the center fountains.

RPI

15th Street, Troy, NY

- From the South: Take I-87, the New York State Thruway, north to exit 23. At exit 23, get on I-787 north to route 7 east. Follow directions to campus (below).
- From the North: Take I-87, the Adirondack Northway, south to exit 7 east. Follow directions to campus (below).
- From the East: Take I-90 (Massachusetts Turnpike, Berkshire Spur of the New York Thruway) to exit B1. Continue west (14 miles) to exit for I-787 north. Take I-787 to Route 7 east. Follow directions to campus (below).
- From the West: Take I-90, the New York state Thruway, to exit 24. From exit 24, continue onto I-90 east. Exit onto I-787 north. Take I-787 north to Routh 7 east. Follow directions to campus (below).

Directions to Campus: From Route 7 east, turn right onto 15th Street. Follow 15th Street to Sage Avenue. Turn right onto Sage Ave. Follow down hill to parking lot (do not continue on Sage Ave. as it bears off to the right). West Hall is straight ahead at end of lot.

Empire State Youth Orchestra, Inc.

Absence Form

For an anticipated absence: please complete this form and give it to your orchestra manager **at least two weeks** before your absence. For an unanticipated absence, please e-mail or phone your manager and then complete this form and give it to him or her **as soon as possible**.

Student's name: _____

Date(s) of absence: _____

Reason for absence: _____

Student's signature

Date

Parent or guardian's signature

Date