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Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra Announces 2009-10 Season Auditions
Introduce your student to the classical music world and reap benefits for years to come

Elgin, IL – The 2007 Youth Orchestra of the Year and the 2008 Youth Orchestra Conductor of the Year – **the Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra, an In-Residence Ensemble in the Arts Center at Elgin Community College**, still has a few instrument openings for the 2009-10 season, the orchestra's 34th season.

Auditions will continue on Monday, June 15 or by appointment until all openings are filled. Conductors will be hearing the auditions on the main campus of Elgin Community College (ECC). Interested string, woodwind, brass, and percussion players should call the EYSO office at (847) 841-7700 to learn about possible openings for their instrument. Video auditions will also be accepted.

Audition requirements as well as an application may be found on the EYSO website at www.eyso.org, or you may request an application by calling the EYSO office. There is a \$45 audition fee.

The EYSO is looking for musicians in grades 4 through college age. The EYSO performs seven concerts per season at the Blizzard Theatre on the main campus of ECC. In addition, the Chamber Music Institute performs a concert each semester. Eligible students can also earn college credit while being an EYSO member.

Program information can be found online or by speaking with a member of the EYSO staff. Weekly rehearsals and season performances take place on Sundays at Elgin Community College in the Elgin Community Arts Center located at 1700 Spartan Drive, Elgin, Illinois

The opportunities for musicians to experience the world of classical music through their involvement with EYSO are numerous. The EYSO has performed on National Public Radio's program *From the Top*, at the Ravinia Festival, at Park West, Chicago with renowned band NYCO and the Aberdeen, Scotland International Youth Festival.

In the past years, EYSO musicians have been coached by Yo Yo Ma, the Pacifica String Quartet, percussionist Ted Atkatz, and others of Chicago's finest professional musicians. They have performed with NYCO, the Illinois Brass Quintet and mezzo-soprano opera performer Ms. Kitt Reuter-Foss.

Since 1976, the Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra has been challenging and inspiring an ever-widening circle of young musicians with rich and deep musical experiences. The focus is on a comprehensive learning environment, exploring the music beyond just performance skills, and wonderful concerts. This begins in the weekly rehearsal where the emphasis is on how the music is put together, and how it is a reflection of where and when it was written. Concert programs are imaginative, challenging and diverse, and are often created around a theme.

EYSO is more than great concerts. It's a life-changing opportunity.

About Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra

The Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra (EYSO), an In-Residence Ensemble in the Arts Center at Elgin Community College, is home to five orchestras with nearly 300 students from over 60 communities. Founded in 1976, the mission of the EYSO is to create a community of young musicians, enriching their lives and the lives of their families, schools, communities and beyond, through the study and performance of excellent music. This program is partially supported by grants from the Palmer Foundation, the Elgin Cultural Arts Commission, the Illinois Arts Council, and the JP Morgan Chase Foundation.