



ELGIN YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

2026-27 Season Calendar

Revised 2/1/2026

The current Season Calendar and Season Handbook are always available on the [Member Page](#).

ECC-Elgin Community College **YS**-Youth Symphony **PH**-Philharmonia **SF**-Sinfonia **PR**-Prelude **MO**-Primo **MOI**-Primo Intermezzo
FC-Flute Choir **BC**-Brass Choir **PE**-Percussion Ensemble **CMI**-Chamber Music Institute **EMC**-Elgin Master Chorale

MAY 2026	
MAY 28 - 31	2026-27 Season Auditions
JUNE 2026	
JUNE 8	Audition results announced, registration open
JUNE 9 & 11	Honors Chamber Ensemble Auditions
JUNE 30	Registration & Tuition Payment Deadline
JULY 2026	
JUL 20 - 24	Summer Chamber Music Camp @ Church of the Brethren Offices, Elgin
JUL 17	Sheet music & Fall Camp information mailed (MO, PR, SF, PH, YS)
AUGUST 2026	
AUG 13	Student & Parent Orientation Meeting, 7:00pm on Teams (required–check eNews for link)
AUG 26	Deadline to report absences for November concert cycle (Fall Camp - Nov 15)
AUG 28 - 30	Fall Camp Weekend (MO Fri, PR Sat, SF Sun, PH Fri-Sat, YS Sat-Sun)
SEPTEMBER 2026	
SEPT 13	First ECC Rehearsal for all ensembles including CMI Season Kick-Off Pep Rally: 5:45pm (required for all students + one parent/guardian per family)
SEPT 20	Regular rehearsals
SEPT 23	Virtual College Q&A, 7:00pm (check eNews for link)
SEPT 27	Regular rehearsals
OCTOBER 2026	
OCT 4	Regular rehearsals
OCT 10	Young Artists Concerto Competition (YS & PH; application due Sept 21)
OCT 11	Regular rehearsals
OCT 18	Regular rehearsals
TUESDAY TBA	<i>Carmina Burana</i> rehearsal: YS + EMC, 7:00-9:30pm
OCT 25	Regular rehearsals + CMI Dress Rehearsals (schedule TBA) Primo/Intermezzo Informance: 5:30pm (MO Rehearsal: 4:00)
NOVEMBER 2026	
NOV 1	Regular rehearsals + CMI Dress Rehearsals (schedule TBA)
NOV 6	<i>Carmina Burana</i> Dress Rehearsal: YS + EMC, 7:00-9:30pm
NOV 8	Regular rehearsals + CMI Concerts (schedule TBA) Carmina Burana Concert: YS + EMC, 3:30pm (YS Call Time: 2:30pm)
NOV 13	Dress Rehearsals: PH 5:30-7:00pm, YS 7:15-10:00pm
NOV 14	Dress Rehearsals: BC, SF, FC, PE, PR 7:30-3:30 (schedule TBA)
NOV 15	EYSO Concerts: 1:30, 4:30, 7:00pm

Regular Sunday Rehearsal Schedule		
SF Percussion Ens.	1:45-2:45pm	Room H212
Sinfonia	3:15-5:15pm	Room H245
Philharmonia	3:30-5:30pm	Room H123
Primo Intermezzo	5:00-6:30pm	Room H220
Primo	5:30-6:30pm	Room H220
Prelude	4:30-6:00pm	Room H122
YS Percussion Ens.	3:30-4:30pm	Room H212
Brass Choir	5:35-6:35pm	Room H245
Flute Choir	5:35-6:35pm	Room H241
PH Percussion Ens.	5:45-6:45pm	Room H212
Youth Symphony	6:15-9:00pm	Room H123

Concert Day Schedule		
Ensemble	Call Time	Concert Time
Prelude	12:30pm	1:30pm
Sinfonia	1:00pm	1:30pm
Philharmonia	3:30pm	4:30pm
Flute Choir	4:00pm	4:30pm
Brass Choir	4:00pm	4:30pm
Youth Symphony	6:00pm	7:00pm
Percussion Ensembles arrive at their orchestra call times.		
Primo & Intermezzo attend the 1:30pm concert on Nov 15, perform with YS during the 7:00pm concert on Mar 7, and perform & attend the 1:30pm concert on May 16.		

EYSO 2026-27 Season Calendar, cont.

NOV 22 & 29	No rehearsals
DECEMBER 2026	
DEC 1	Composition Contest submissions due
DEC 1 - 31	No rehearsals
JANUARY 2027	
JAN 8	Deadline to report absences for March concert cycle (Jan 10 - Mar 7)
JAN 10	Sixteenth Annual Faculty Recital: 2:00pm Regular rehearsals resume (including CMI)
JAN 17	Regular rehearsals
JAN 24	Regular rehearsals NOTES 2026 Campaign Kick-Off
JAN 31	Regular rehearsals
FEBRUARY 2027	
FEB 7	Regular rehearsals + MO/YS Side-by-Side rehearsal 6:45-7:15pm
FEB 14	Regular rehearsals + Open House
FEB 21	Regular rehearsals + MO/YS Side-by-Side rehearsal 6:45-7:15pm
FEB 28	Regular rehearsals + MO/YS Side-by-Side rehearsal 6:45-7:15pm + CMI Dress Rehearsals Dress Rehearsals: FC, PE during regular rehearsal time
MARCH 2027	
MAR 5	Dress Rehearsals: PR 6:00-7:00pm, PH 7:15-8:45pm
MAR 6	Dress Rehearsals: SF, BC, YS, MO 7:30am-3:30pm (schedule TBA)
MAR 7	EYSO Concerts: 1:30, 4:30, 7:00pm
MAR 12	Deadline to report absences for May concert cycle (Mar 14 - May 16)
MAR 14	Regular rehearsals + CMI Dress Rehearsals
MAR 21	Regular rehearsals + CMI Concerts (schedule TBA) NOTES Turn-in Day
MAR 28	No Sunday rehearsals (Easter)
APRIL 2027	
APR 4	Regular rehearsals
APR 11	Regular rehearsals
SATURDAY TBA	Guest Artist Concert, details TBA
APR 18	Regular rehearsals
APR 25	Regular rehearsals + Open House
MAY 2027	
MAY 1	Regular rehearsals
MAY 8	Regular rehearsals Dress Rehearsals: FC, PE during regular rehearsal time
MAY 14	Dress Rehearsal: PR 6:00-7:00pm
MAY 15	Dress Rehearsals: SF, BC, PH, YS, MO 7:30am-3:30pm (schedule TBA)
MAY 16	EYSO Concerts: 1:30, 4:30, 7:00pm
MAY 27 - 30	2027-28 Season Auditions
JUNE 2027	
DETAILS TBA	Youth Symphony International Tour



Attendance Policies (from Season Handbook)

The most valuable contribution musicians can make to their ensemble is their presence at rehearsal, and attendance is taken at every rehearsal and event. Membership in the EYSO is a commitment to faithful, consistent, and punctual attendance. It is expected that rehearsals will be a high priority in each musician's life since each musician is holding a valuable place in their ensemble.

TARDINESS

Because of limited rehearsal time, starting promptly is very important. Musicians should arrive at least 15 minutes before their rehearsal start time to check in and unpack. Late arrival to rehearsal (arriving to the rehearsal room after the orchestra has tuned) is considered as missing half a rehearsal.

COME ANYWAY

In instances when musicians are physically unable to play their instruments, they should still attend rehearsal, sit with their colleagues, and actively participate in rehearsal.

ABSENCES

All musicians are expected to prioritize Sunday rehearsals. Membership in EYSO requires commitment to faithful, consistent, and punctual attendance, and that absences should be taken only when unavoidable. **Musicians who miss more than two rehearsals (including any dress rehearsal or Fall Camp absences) in a concert cycle will not be permitted to play in the performance.** Late arrivals to or early departures from rehearsal are considered as missing half a rehearsal.

FALL CAMP ATTENDANCE

Attendance at Fall Camp is required, since the work of several regular rehearsals is accomplished in a very concentrated time period.

Arriving late to Fall Camp counts as missing half a rehearsal. Missing one day of Fall Camp counts as one absence. Missing two days (applies to PH or YS only) counts as two absences. Absences from Fall Camp are considered part of the November concert cycle.

ATTENDANCE COMMUNICATION

All planned absences (including dress rehearsals) must be communicated at the beginning of each concert cycle.

Review the EYSO calendar carefully along with all your other commitments, then use the "Report an Absence" form on your [Member Page](#) to report any anticipated absences, late arrivals, or early departures by the deadline:

- For the November concert cycle (Fall Camp - November 15), report by August 26, 2026.
- For the March concert cycle (January 10 - March 7), report by January 8, 2027.
- For the May concert cycle (March 14 - May 16), report by March 12, 2027.

For last-minute emergencies or conflicts that arise after the reporting deadline, musicians must call the EYSO office at 847-841-7700, extension 1, to explain (leave a voicemail if need be).

DRESS REHEARSALS

Dress rehearsals are typically scheduled for the Friday or Saturday before each concert, and dates are listed on the Season Calendar. Exact times are determined approximately 6 weeks before each concert and are shared in weekly eNews and conductor emails. **Dress rehearsals are required. To be eligible to play the concert, a musician must attend their ensemble's entire dress rehearsal.** The only exceptions are for school music performances, serious illness/injury, a family wedding, a funeral/death in the family, or religious observances.

Anticipated dress rehearsal absences must be communicated at the beginning of the concert cycle along with regular rehearsal absences. Musicians who miss the dress rehearsal for an excused reason may be asked to submit additional playing check-ins to ensure performance readiness, and/or seating may be adjusted at the discretion of the conductor.