



2017-18 SEASON HANDBOOK

The mission of the Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra 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 handbook is intended to provide quick reference for common questions. New information throughout the season will be provided via emails to parents and students. We need your help to minimize extra paperwork and unnecessary phone calls; please check here BEFORE calling the office with questions. Most of the time, the answer you need is already in this book or on EYSO.org. Thank you in advance for your help!

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ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

EYSO CONTACT INFORMATION

EYSO Administrative Office

Monday – Thursday
10:00am-4:00pm
847-841-7700
1451 Dundee Ave.
Elgin IL 60120

Mailing Address

Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra
P.O. Box 6508
Elgin, Illinois 60121-6508

EYSO Rehearsal Office

Elgin Community College Arts Center
(Building H, room H104)
1700 Spartan Drive
Elgin, IL 60123-7193
Sunday 1:00-9:00pm
Email: attendance@eyso.org
Phone: (847) 214-7302

ECC Arts Center Box Office

www.tickets.eglin.edu
847-622-0300

WEEKLY EMAIL COMMUNICATION

In an effort to save paper and resources, nearly all EYSO communication is via email. Please add EYSO email addresses (office@eyso.org and conductors' email addresses) to your address book, and set your email program so emails from the EYSO are not blocked or marked as spam.

Check for email each week with information and announcements for Sunday's rehearsal. You will receive the weekly EYSO eNews on Thursday mornings during the regular season and a message from your conductor during the week.

If you unsubscribe or opt out of the EYSO emails you will miss out on important information.

YOUR EYSO.ORG MEMBER PAGE

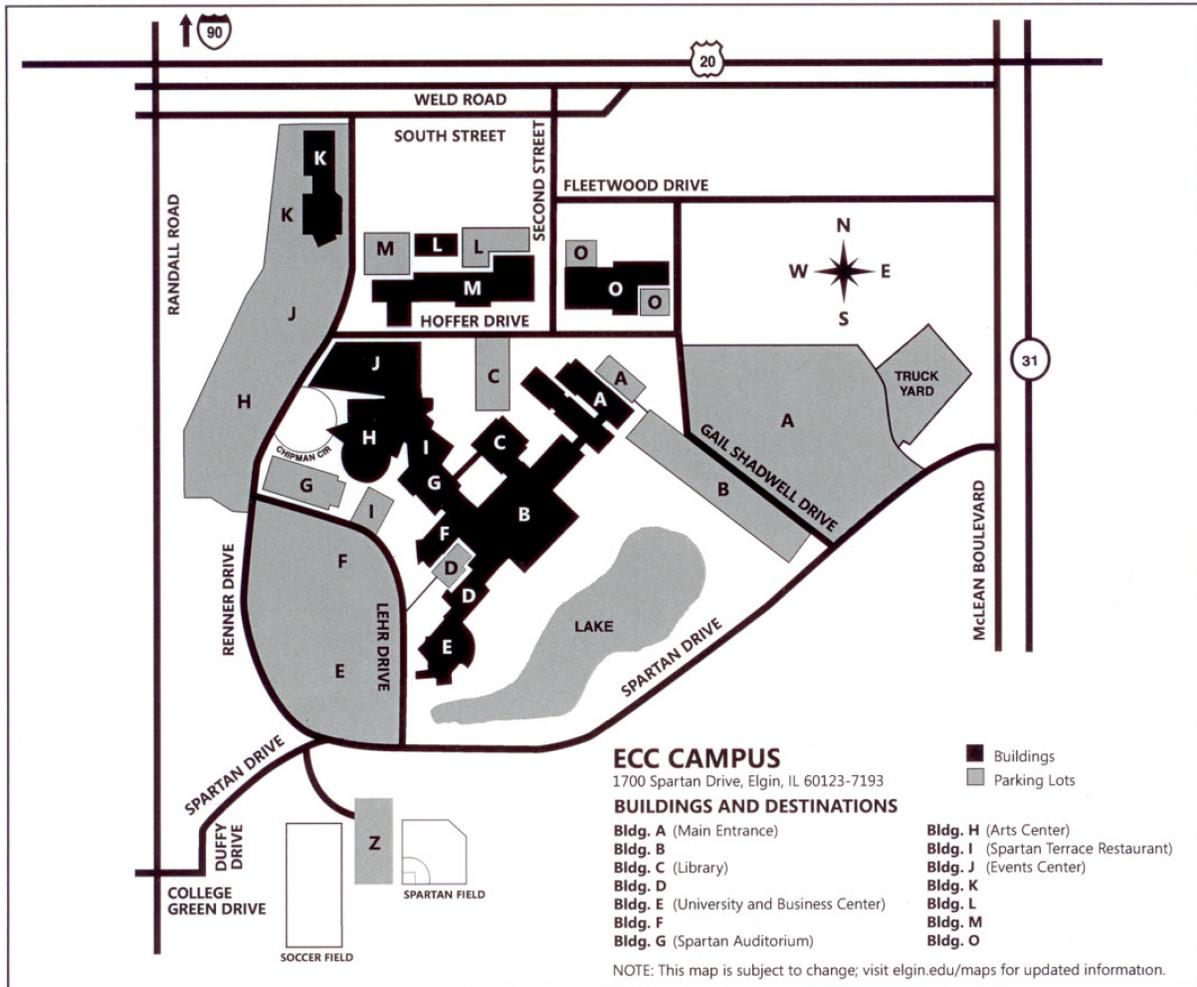
EYSO provides each student an online member profile at members.eyso.org that contains important information for both students and EYSO administration. Please make sure that there is at least one active student and one active parent/guardian email correctly entered on your member page (members.eyso.org). If your e-mail address changes, please update your member page, and notify both the EYSO office (office@eyso.org) and your conductor.

The [2017-18 Elemental season calendar](#) is available on EYSO.org.

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals take place at **Elgin Community College - ECC Arts Center (Building H)**:
1700 Spartan Drive
Elgin, IL 60123-7193

Rehearsal Office Phone: 847-214-7302



PARKING

On Sundays use lots G, H or J. Accessible parking is available in front of the ECC Arts Center and in lot G.

PICK UP AND DROP OFF

Students should enter and exit the ECC Arts Center from the main front entrance. **Please note: the circle drive in front of the Arts Center must remain clear for emergency vehicles.** Please park in one of the designated lots and wait until your student exits the building before pulling into the circle drive for pick up.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE & LOCATIONS*

Sinfonia	Philharmonia	Primo/ Primo Intermezzo	Youth Symphony	Prelude	Brass Choir	YS Percussion Ensemble	SF/PH Percussion Ensemble
Sunday 3:15-5:15pm	Sunday 3:30-5:30pm	Sunday Primo 4:00- 5:00pm Intermezzo 4:00-5:30pm	Sunday 6:15-9:00pm	Sunday 4:30-6:00pm	Sunday 5:35-6:35	Sunday 4:30-5:15pm	Sunday 5:30- 6:15pm
Room H122	Room H123	Room H220	Room H123	Room H245	Room H122	Spartan Terrace	Spartan Terrace

*Rehearsal schedule and location are subject to change by conductor

In case of bad weather, or emergencies, rehearsals may be canceled. Closing information will be posted on EYSO.org, as well as on all EYSO social media (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram). Every attempt will be made to email all the homes of students prior to the start of their rehearsals.

ATTENDANCE REPORTING

Please note: Attendance is taken at every rehearsal or event. Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled rehearsal to pick up materials, memos, any new music, and prepare for rehearsal. All musicians should be warmed up, seated, and ready to tune at the starting time.

To report an absence:

1. Communicate with your conductor about any expected absence as soon as you are aware of your conflict.
2. Log on to your EYSO.org member page (members.eyso.org) and click on the yellow "Absent?" Box in the upper right corner.
3. For absences the day of a rehearsal or event, please also call the rehearsal office: 847-214-7302.

MEMBERSHIP

The Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra is open to any qualified performer of an orchestral instrument who auditions and is accepted. EYSO is dedicated to educating a diverse group of musicians.

Membership in EYSO is for the entire season, from Fall Camp in August through the final concert in May. Musicians are expected to remain active and committed for the entire season.

AUDITIONS

General auditions for the Youth Symphony, Philharmonia, Sinfonia, Prelude, Primo Intermezzo, Primo, Brass Choir, and the Chamber Music Institute are held in the spring. Returning students who wish to advance to the next level ensembles must complete their audition by the end of the scheduled audition period in order to participate the following fall semester. In the spring, your intention to audition or remain in your current ensemble must be submitted to ensure your place for the following season.

Musicians are permitted only one audition per season. Audition fees are non-refundable. Meeting the requirements of an ensemble does not guarantee placement. Auditions may be video recorded by EYSO for internal use only. All recordings are strictly protected.

PLACEMENT PHILOSOPHY

Meeting the printed requirements of an orchestra does not guarantee placement. Striving to provide the best educational experience for students, we take a holistic look at each audition and determine the most suitable placement for cultivating growth. EYSO's orchestras offer a progressive educational path in which each ensemble builds upon the skills learned in the last. Regardless of which ensemble students perform with, they all experience the richness of EYSO's uniquely rich and meaningful [educational approach](#).

After hearing auditions, the artistic staff methodically makes placement decisions based together on age, experience, technical proficiency, and personnel needs within each section of the orchestra. Students are ranked by audition and placed in the ensemble most closely matching their musical skills, including superiority of tone, technical ability, intonation, vibrato, dynamic contrast, range, articulation, phrasing, rhythmic integrity, expressive style and overall accuracy.

MUSIC & MUSIC FOLDERS

First semester music is mailed late July or as soon as it's available contingent upon payment of tuition, tuition deposit, or submission of the EYSO tuition assistance application. Each ensemble member is assigned a black music folder at the beginning of the season. A replacement fee of \$30 will be charged for music folders not returned on the day of the May concert. All musicians are responsible for their folder and the music issued.

Please handle music carefully and return it on time. If you have a question about your music, please contact EYSO's Music Librarian, Christa Hebling: chebling@eyso.org.

SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

Although participation in school music organizations is not required, it is expected that EYSO students will participate in their school music organization, provided there is one. Exceptions are rare, but in such cases, students are expected to notify the EYSO Artistic Director and their conductor in writing if they do not participate in their school music ensemble(s) and the reason why.

Participating in a school music ensemble provides many benefits:

- Daily playing and technique/musicianship building
- Experience of a wider variety of music literature
- The chance to work with and learn from different music directors
- Opportunities for leadership, to serve as role models, to give back to school music programs and keep them vital and dynamic
- Additional opportunities (competitions, festivals, tours, musical theater, college scholarships, community events)

EYSO makes all attempts to avoid scheduling conflicts with area school events. Please discuss pending conflicts with your conductor as early as possible.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Although not required for membership, private lessons are strongly encouraged. Students who study privately routinely do better on all auditions and grow faster as musicians. The EYSO office can suggest private teachers in your area. Please contact office@eyso.org for a list.

ELGIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

EYSO is an In-Residence Ensemble at Elgin Community College. If a student has reached age 16 by the first rehearsal of Fall Camp, they will receive college credit at Elgin Community College. Please note that all students who qualify to receive credit will receive a grade for participation.

All ECC transcript requests are free and handled online directly through ECC's website: use the "accessECC" portal at www.elgin.edu. For help using the ECC website, please call the appropriate help desk at ECC.

EYSO musicians are ambassadors for the organization, and the behavior of each student reflects upon the entire ensemble. EYSO members are required to comply with Elgin Community College Policies and Procedures, which can be viewed in the current ECC [catalog](#). A successful EYSO experience requires a cohesive group in which each individual accepts and follows the same standards of behavior.

TUITION

EYSO tuition includes instruction, Fall Camp, all music, music folder rental, and the cost of ECC fees and tuition. Extended tours outside the Elgin area will be funded separately. **EYSO has made a year-long commitment to the development of each musician. Therefore, even if a student discontinues participation in his/her ensemble, unpaid tuition will still be due. All paid fees and tuition are non-refundable.**

EYSO 2017-18 Tuition Schedule

Ensemble	Single Payment	Four Payment Plan				Total for season
	Total for season due 07/01/17	Deposit due 07/01/17	Payment due 8/01/17	Payment due 9/01/17	Payment due 10/01/17	
Primo	\$330.00	\$92.50	\$92.50	\$92.50	\$92.50	\$370.00
Primo + Intermezzo	\$380.00	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$420.00
Prelude	\$605.00	\$161.25	\$161.25	\$161.25	\$161.25	\$645.00
Sinfonia	\$660.00	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$700.00
SF + Brass Choir	\$710.00	\$187.50	\$187.50	\$187.50	\$187.50	\$750.00
SF + Percussion Ensemble	\$710.00	\$187.50	\$187.50	\$187.50	\$187.50	\$750.00
Philharmonia	\$715.00	\$188.75	\$188.75	\$188.75	\$188.75	\$755.00
PH + Brass Choir	\$765.00	\$201.25	\$201.25	\$201.25	\$201.25	\$805.00
PH + Percussion Ensemble	\$765.00	\$201.25	\$201.25	\$201.25	\$201.25	\$805.00
Youth Symphony	\$770.00	\$202.50	\$202.50	\$202.50	\$202.50	\$810.00
YS + Brass Choir	\$820.00	\$215.00	\$215.00	\$215.00	\$215.00	\$860.00
YS + Percussion Ensemble	\$820.00	\$215.00	\$215.00	\$215.00	\$215.00	\$860.00
Brass Choir Only	\$630.00	\$167.50	\$167.50	\$167.50	\$167.50	\$670.00

Tuition Assistance is available to qualified students/families. Funding is limited, and is awarded on a first come, first served basis. Tuition assistance applications are available during our online registration process that begins in late June, after audition results are communicated.

EYSO offers a Sibling discount of 10% for each child after the first, and is applicable to the lesser tuition amount(s).

Tuition is Non-refundable.

TUITION SCHEDULE/TUITION ASSISTANCE

Payment is made via member pages on EYSO.org. It may be made in full for the entire season, or paid in four installments (July, August, September, and October). If you need an extended payment schedule or to request tuition reduction, please complete an [application](#) for tuition assistance. All requests are considered in the order in which they are received. Tuition assistance recipients are expected to pay part of their tuition and actively participate in the NOTES 2018 fundraising campaign.

If your financial circumstances change during the season and you need assistance, please contact EYSO's Executive Director via phone or [email](#).

Payment for the current season's tuition and fees must be paid in full by March 15, 2018. Outstanding tuition and fees must be paid in full before auditions for the following season.

Tuition credit in the form of summer music scholarships are also awarded each spring for students who will be attending summer music programs and are returning to the EYSO for the following season. Applications for Summer Music Scholarships are typically available in January for consideration during the current season.

REHEARSALS

REMINDERS:

- **Practice Time**

Students are expected to learn their music outside of rehearsal and come prepared. The amount of time needed for home practice will vary from student to student, but this individual responsibility must be taken seriously.

- **Music**

Musicians must have all their music at every rehearsal. Use **only pencil** to mark music: no ink or colored pencil. String players who are sharing music should be sure to mark both copies of their music with changed bowings, fingerings, etc. for at-home practice.

- **Folding Music Stands**

For sectionals, some rehearsals, and events away from ECC, musicians may need to occasionally bring their own folding music stand, clearly marked with their name. All CMI members are expected to bring a folding music stand to every chamber ensemble rehearsal.

- **Instruments, Cases, Accessories, and Insurance**

Please make sure all instrument cases and accessories are clearly marked with your name, as students may be asked to store cases in a nearby room during rehearsals. All EYSO students/families are responsible for their instruments. Lost, stolen, or

damaged instruments (or instrument accessories) are not the responsibility of the EYSO. **All members should have their instruments insured.** Check with your insurance agent to see what is covered under your homeowners' insurance policy. Should any damage occur to your instrument while you are participating in an EYSO activity, please notify the staff immediately.

- **Food and Beverages**

Please do not bring food or drinks into the rehearsal room. Water in a closed plastic water bottle is permitted, but no open containers or glass bottles. Please remove your empty water bottles appropriately at the end of rehearsal.

- **Cell Phones and Other Portable Electronic Devices**

There will be no cell phone use (including texting) and no use of any portable electronic communication devices during rehearsals, dress rehearsals, or concerts. All ring tones, alarms, and chimes are a distraction and must be silenced. In case of an emergency, parents should call the ECC rehearsal office number (847-214-7302) and leave a message.

- **Lost and Found**

EYSO cannot be held responsible for items left at ECC, or at any other concert or rehearsal site. To prevent loss, please label all personal items (music stands, cases, coats, etc.) with your name; check underneath and around your chair before leaving rehearsals. If a student has lost an item, please inquire first at the EYSO rehearsal office and/or leave a message with the staff. For items lost in the Blizzard Theatre, you may also check with the ECC Lost & Found (847-697-1000). Items are claimable upon description by the owner.

It is best not to bring valuables to rehearsals, but if you do, please keep them with you at all times.

WOODWIND PLAYERS

- Please have extra reeds (at least 4 playable reeds) with you at every rehearsal and concert.
- Oboe players must have an electronic tuner for orchestra tuning pitch, and all musicians should have an electronic tuner.
- Don't forget your auxiliary instruments (e.g. piccolo, Eb clarinet, English Horn, etc.).
- Borrowing an instrument from EYSO requires a student to sign it out. Visit the rehearsal office to do so before taking an instrument off campus. Wind players must provide their own mouthpiece and reeds.

BRASS PLAYERS

- All musicians must have all mutes called for in their music at every rehearsal.

STRING PLAYERS

- Please have a mute with you at your stand at every rehearsal.
- Bring accessories as needed: shoulder rest, rosin, dust cloth, and an extra set of

strings to all rehearsals and performances.

PERCUSSIONISTS

- Please provide your own sticks, timpani pitch pipe, and mallet bag.
- You will be expected to move your own equipment and facilitate your own setup before rehearsal begins. All EYSO-owned percussion instruments must be put away appropriately in the designated areas before leaving. You may also be asked to move and load equipment for tours, run-out concerts, and events away from ECC.

SEATING PHILOSOPHY

The EYSO follows a general policy of rotating seating, but specific seating procedures are at the discretion of each conductor and may change throughout the season and from orchestra to orchestra.

The EYSO seating philosophy is intended to provide fair opportunities, new perspectives, and the greatest learning experience for all players. Seating is generally based on the maturity, leadership, and rehearsal habits of the player. Wind and brass seating may rotate on a piece-by-piece basis, at the discretion of the Youth Symphony, Philharmonia, Sinfonia, and Brass Choir conductors.

String seating follows a variety of formats, but is never a strict strongest-to-weakest, front-to-back arrangement. Students are often paired as stand partners based on complementary strengths and weaknesses. For example, a player with strong rhythm might be paired with a player with weak rhythm but a strong sense of pitch. **The emphasis is on collaboration, rather than competition.**

Our goal at EYSO is to make the seating placement a learning experience, not a competition. Asking a conductor about an audition is encouraged, for the purpose of personal and musical growth, however, **questions about auditions and seating should be directed to conductors only, and should come from students themselves.**

ATTENDANCE

The most valuable contribution musicians can make to their ensemble is their presence at rehearsal. 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 his/her ensemble.

ABSENCES

Musicians in all ensembles are allowed no more than four (4) absences (2 per semester) for the entire season, regardless of reason. This includes any absence, such as illness, school or other music activities, SAT/ACT tests, family vacations, homework and tests, college visits, religious holidays, etc. An absence will not be marked excused or unexcused, but simply as an absence. If you are aware of an anticipated absence, or of a need to leave early or to come late to a rehearsal, please fill out the Absence Form

(available online on your EYSO member page.) Speak to your conductor about the absence as soon as possible. In the case of an emergency the day of the rehearsal/concert, please email your conductor and also call the EYSO Rehearsal Office at 847-214-7302 **before the rehearsal/concert begins.**

EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

Excessive absences will be addressed on a case by case basis. If a musician goes over the allowed absences, a meeting may be scheduled to discuss continued participation in the EYSO.

SCHOOL CONFLICTS

EYSO tries very hard to avoid scheduling conflicts with area schools. Please discuss any problems in this regard with your conductor. Although conflicts cannot always be avoided, clear and timely communication can minimize the tension and frustration that can develop.

TARDINESS

Because of limited rehearsal time, starting promptly is **very important**. Musicians should arrive at least 15 minutes early to receive new music and/or memos, check new seating, and warm up.

COME ANYWAY

If a musician is physically unable to play his/her instrument, s/he should still attend rehearsal, sit in his/her section, and take notes on the directions being given.

FALL CAMP ATTENDANCE

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

DRESS REHEARSALS

Dress rehearsals are required.

To be eligible to play the concert, a student must attend the full dress rehearsal. There are only two exceptions, in the case of these conflicts:

- 1) A required school music event, which counts towards a student's grade in band or orchestra.
- 2) An event of singular significance that cannot be repeated or rescheduled, such as a high profile sport or academic tournament (regional or state) where the student is competing, a family member wedding, etc. This does not include events offered on multiple dates or those that can be rescheduled, such as taking the SAT, taking a prep course, attending another performance or show, getting ready for prom, etc. Petitions for these absences will be denied.

In these cases, to be considered for an exemption from the dress rehearsal policy, the student must petition, through the online attendance report and via email to their conductor, their request to miss the dress rehearsal. ***MOST IMPORTANT: this petition must be submitted no later than 30 days before the dress rehearsal.***

The purpose of this 30-day deadline is to:

- 1) Encourage students to be responsible about their personal calendars and to plan ahead.
- 2) Encourage students to communicate their scheduling conflicts in the most responsible and mature way, as early as possible.
- 3) Allow enough time for conductors to reassign solo parts (wind, brass, and percussion) and redo string seating as necessary.

Petition Deadlines for 2017-18

October 5 (for November concert) February 8 (for March concert) April 5 (for May concert). After these deadlines, requests to miss the dress rehearsal will not be accepted. In those cases, students must choose to attend the dress rehearsal or not play the concert.

Dress rehearsals allow musicians to practice at the concert site, the Blizzard Theatre in the ECC Arts Center, where they can finalize music details and work out logistics. Attendance is required for the entire rehearsal. Dress rehearsals are typically scheduled for the Friday or Saturday before each concert. Casual clothing should be worn, *not* concert dress, unless otherwise announced.

Dress rehearsal dates and times will be announced in advance. Students must check in 15 minutes prior to the start of the dress rehearsals. Watch weekly memos/emails and the online season calendar for updates.

All students and their parents are encouraged to stay and listen to the dress rehearsals of other ensembles. The value of listening to another ensemble cannot be overstated. Please be seated quietly in the Blizzard Theatre. Unless otherwise directed, photography (no flash) and video recording is allowed during the dress rehearsal from the main floor, but it must not be a distraction to the students on stage. Guests of EYSO families are welcome to attend.

CONCERTS

CONCERT DATES AND PERFORMANCE TIMES

2017-18 Season

Elemental

What Nature Tells Us About the Orchestra

- I. Earth: Sunday November 5, 2017
- II. Water: Sunday, March 11, 2018
- III. Air: Saturday, April 7, 2018, 7:00pm
- IV. Fire: Sunday, May 6, 2018

All concerts are at 2:00, 4:30, and 7:30pm unless otherwise noted.

November, March* & May*

2:00pm concerts: Prelude, Sinfonia,

4:30pm concerts: Brass Choir, Philharmonia, Sinfonia/Philharmonia Percussion Ensemble. (*March only, Primo Intermezzo)

7:00pm concerts: Youth Symphony, Youth Symphony Percussion Ensemble. (*May only, Primo & Primo Intermezzo perform with Youth Symphony.)

April

7:00pm concert: Brass Choir and Youth Symphony.

CONCERT ATTIRE

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.

Students may choose **any of these three options** to wear for their performances:

<p>Tuxedo</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • white tuxedo shirt: clean, well-fitting, and wrinkle-free • black bow tie • black cummerbund • black tuxedo jacket • black tuxedo pants • solid black socks (no skin should be visible between pants hem and shoes when seated) • solid black, closed-toe dress shoes 	<p>No:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • colored ties • white, colored, or patterned socks • jackets with tails
<p>All black: shirt and skirt or dress</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • solid black, long-sleeve (to the wrist) shirt with discreet neckline • solid black, floor-length skirt • solid black, floor-length dress with long sleeves (to the wrist) and discreet neckline • solid black socks or hosiery (no skin should be visible between bottom hem and shoes when seated) • solid black, closed-toe dress shoes 	<p>No:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • short-sleeve or sleeveless shirts • patterns, lace, or shiny embellishments
<p>All black: shirt and pants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • solid black, long-sleeve (to the wrist) shirt with discreet neckline • solid black, floor-length dress slacks • solid black socks or hosiery (no skin should be visible between pants hem and shoes when seated) • solid black, closed-toe dress shoes 	<p>No:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • short-sleeve or sleeveless shirts • patterns, lace, or shiny embellishments • capris, jeans, corduroys, tight or athletic pants including leggings

If you are not properly dressed for your concert, you will be given apparel from the EYSO office to wear. **If you have doubts about whether a piece of clothing is appropriate, the best choice is not to wear it.** Please compare your clothing choices to the chart on the following page to ensure that they comply with the requirements. The following are not allowed for any students:

Tops



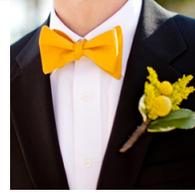
No white or colored buttons



No embellishments or sparkles of any color



No lace or transparency anywhere



No colored ties or embellishments



No wide or deep necklines

**Dresses
Skirts
Pants**



Must be floor length



No embellishments or sparkles



Must be floor length



No jeans



No leggings or tight/athletic fabrics

**Socks
Hosiery**



No white socks



No dots, stripes, or patterns



No lace, patterns, or transparency



No colors or patterns



No skin showing between hem and shoes

Shoes



No athletic shoes



No open toes



Must be solid black



No boots

Styling



No sparkly hair accessories



No colored nail polish



No large or sparkly jewelry



No perfume, cologne, or body spray

If you have questions about concert attire that are not answered above please email the administrative office at office@eyso.org.

CONCERT TICKETS

EYSO concert tickets are for sale directly from the ECC Arts Center box office. You may purchase tickets [online](#), in person (Monday-Thursday, 12:00-6:00pm, Saturday 12:00-5:00pm) or by phone: 847-622-0300. Please note, the 2:00pm and 4:30pm concerts often sell out.

If you have student(s) playing in more than one concert on any EYSO concert day, purchase tickets to the earliest concert and you will be given the same number of complimentary tickets for the second concert.

Please communicate this information to the box office when you reserve your seats.

VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDINGS

Ownership of Rights

As stipulated by the current U.S. copyright laws, the Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra owns all rights to audio and video recordings of EYSO's ensembles. This includes (but is not limited to) all audio and/or video in any form, including audio or video posted on public websites and social media (i.e. YouTube, Facebook, and other similar file sharing services). Audio or video of EYSO posted without the express written permission of the organization will be immediately removed per article "VIII. Ownership Rights" in the *Participation Terms and Agreement*. EYSO also reserves the right to request the removal of any EYSO-related media posted on the web at any time (including any "fair use" claims).

Photographs and Social Media

It is permissible to display personal EYSO-related photographs on the internet, and we encourage students to do so on EYSO's social media platforms. However, photographs that the organization deems inappropriate (or that reflect poorly on the organization) will be immediately subject to removal at the discretion of EYSO.

Copyright Law

Duplicating the intellectual property of the Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra in any form with the intent to share or sell without the express written permission of the organization is illegal under U.S. copyright law. This includes (but it not limited to) the official live concert recordings (which are made available exclusively to the EYSO students), images or other proprietary material found on the EYSO website, and authorized (or unauthorized) EYSO-related media already posted on the web.

CHAMBER MUSIC INSTITUTE

EYSO members in Prelude and above have the opportunity to join chamber music ensembles in EYSO's Chamber Music Institute (CMI). Each CMI ensemble meets every Sunday and has a regular coach who is an experienced educator and skilled performer in the Chicago region. Each semester ends with a series of free chamber music concerts, and CMI ensembles may be invited to perform at additional community concerts throughout the area. Questions about the program should be directed to CMI Director Theresa Goh: tgoh@eyso.org.

APPLICATION AND AUDITIONS

Participation in the CMI requires an additional year-long commitment from EYSO students. A separate tuition for the CMI is required for participation. Every audition for an EYSO orchestra also doubles as an audition for the CMI. However, candidates who wish to participate only in the CMI must audition like any other EYSO student and complete the online EYSO audition application to be assigned to a CMI group.

HONORS CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

The CMI offers four exceptional chamber music opportunities for students who are members of the Youth Symphony: The Maud Powell String Quartet, the Hanson String Quartet, the Sterling Brass Quintet, and the Earl Clemens Wind Quintet. More information and applications for these ensembles are available under the members tab on EYSO.org prior to the season auditions.

OTHER EVENTS/OPPORTUNITIES

FALL CAMP

The Youth Symphony participates in an overnight camp while Philharmonia, Sinfonia, and Prelude participate in a daytime retreat in August. Fall Camp is an important, exciting, and concentrated experience of rehearsals, team-building activities, and plain old fun. Primo and Primo Intermezzo will have their own retreat day on September 10. These activities provide opportunity for learning lots of repertoire, and is also the best time to build friendships within the ensemble. For these reasons, attendance is required.

TOURS

Touring can create concentrated growth for a performing group; the repetition of a concert program in rapid succession provides intense group interaction and collective musical achievement. Travel also provides an opportunity for learning from other orchestras, and for exposure to other cultural experiences. EYSO is committed to facilitating tours, ranging from school day tours of area elementary, middle, and high schools to more extended tours. Touring possibilities vary from year to year and are based on many factors: the age and level of the individual ensemble, special invitations and opportunities, musical/educational merits of touring venues, and the financial implications.

CONCERTO COMPETITION

EYSO's Young Artists Concerto Competition provides an opportunity for soloists to perform a movement of a standard concerto with their respective ensemble. The competition is open to all members of the EYSO Youth Symphony and Philharmonia who must audition on the same instrument they play in the EYSO. The competition takes place October 14, 2017, and winners perform with their orchestras in the spring. Musicians audition with a single movement of a standard concerto or comparable piece with orchestral accompaniment that has been approved by their conductor. They must provide their own piano accompanist for the audition, which will last no longer than 15 minutes. Although it is not required, memorization is strongly recommended. Please see the application for deadlines and more information. Applications are available on EYSO.org on or before September 1, 2017. **Auditions are judged by an independent panel of professional musicians.**

OPEN HOUSE EVENTS

Most new EYSO students are referred to the organization by current members, parents, and teachers who know EYSO well. It is often a personal recommendation that brings interested musicians to the organization, and EYSO encourages member families to welcome prospective members to EYSO.

Each spring, parents, friends, family members, prospective students, and music teachers are welcome to attend an Open House during which they may observe a rehearsal, meet current students, faculty and staff, and ask questions about EYSO. This is the opportunity to sit inside an orchestra rehearsal and hear it "from the inside out."

SUPPORT EYSO

VOLUNTEERING

EYSO depends on the donation of time and other tangible support from parents. Each family is asked to volunteer in a variety of activities: committee tasks, chaperoning events, performing clerical or specialized professional tasks, etc. Please watch for emails throughout the season to sign up online.

FUNDRAISING

Tuition covers less than 40% of the EYSO operating expenses and, as a nonprofit corporation, we depend on select fundraising projects to help with our budget.

EYSO member fundraising projects serve three goals:

- 1) To raise funds to keep tuition as low as possible.
- 2) To help each member build awareness in their own community about their EYSO participation, a positive and enriching activity.
- 3) To help each member build lifelong skills in volunteering and charitable giving.

NOTES 2018

Our main family fundraiser is the annual NOTES campaign (beginning in January), an opportunity for each member to raise awareness of the EYSO with their friends and family, as well as raise funds for the operating budget. Last season the NOTES 2017 campaign surpassed our goal (\$65,000) again! Another way of looking at it: each student receives a scholarship of over \$1,000 towards the actual cost of their participation. We ask that each student commits to the goal of raising at least \$100 in the EYSO NOTES campaign this season.

MATCHING GIFTS

Many corporations offer matching gifts when their employees make charitable contributions or volunteer their time. Please consider matching gifts, as a way to double your contribution.

TAX DEDUCTIONS

EYSO is a registered 501-C-3 not-for-profit organization, and all charitable contributions to EYSO are fully tax deductible.

EYSO STAFF & BOARD OF DIRECTORS INFORMATION

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EYSO BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017-18

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The EYSO Board of Directors supports the ongoing mission of EYSO through fundraising, development, coordinating of volunteers, and staff assistance. If you are interested in serving on the board, or know someone who would be, please contact the Executive Director Eric Larson: elarson@eyso.org.