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2008 Conductor of the Year ■ 2000 / 2007 Youth Orchestra of the Year ■ 2005 / 2015 Programming of the Year ■ 2001 Elgin Image Award

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ELGIN YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (EYSO) TO HOST AUDITION WORKSHOP

Elgin, IL – Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra (EYSO) will host its first Audition Workshop, Sunday, February 24 in two identical sessions, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. and 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the Spartan Auditorium of the Elgin Community College Arts Center at 1700 Spartan Drive in Elgin. Led by Artistic Director Randal Swiggum, the workshop is for current EYSO students intending to audition for the next orchestra and for prospective students, parents, and teachers to learn about the EYSO audition process.

“This workshop will cover common questions about the audition process, how to prepare, what makes a good audition, and tips for success,” said Swiggum. “What we’ll cover applies to both EYSO auditions and auditioning in general, for any age.”

With EYSO’s continued growth in numbers and in the level of musical performance, what people learned even two or three years ago is often no longer current. This workshop will give attendees up-to-date insight into successfully preparing for an audition in today’s youth orchestra environment. Registration is not required, and the workshop is free and open to the public.

The workshop is on the same day as an *EYSO Open House*, so attendees not already familiar with EYSO can also visit rehearsals, meet current students and staff and explore the many possibilities available through participation in EYSO. See ensemble descriptions at [www.eyso.org](http://www.eyso.org) for specific rehearsal times.

Auditions for the EYSO 2019-20 season will be held at Elgin Community College May 30 -- June 2. Information on audition requirements and EYSO placement philosophy, as well as the online application, is available at [www.eyso.org/join-eyso/](http://www.eyso.org/join-eyso/) or by calling 847.842.7700.

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## **ABOUT THE EYSO**

EYSO serves nearly 400 students from 70 communities and has a national reputation for providing students with an engaging musical experience and a comprehensive learning environment of curiosity, imagination, critical thinking, and collaboration. Students explore a thematic curriculum each season – one which helps students develop artistically and technically, and prepare them for a future of complex ideas, creative risk-taking, and leadership as global citizen. This approach has led hundreds of alumni to successful careers as professional musicians, educators, and strong leaders in every field.

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