

Douglas County Youth Orchestra
(DCYO)
2020 - 2021 Season
Handbook



Expanding Instrumental Music Education Through Instruction and Performance for Young Musicians

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Updated July 17, 2020

Welcome

Dear Musician and Family,

Congratulations and welcome to the Douglas County Youth Orchestra (DCYO). The board of directors and our conductor wish you success as you join our community of musicians. We are glad to have you and will treat you with courtesy and respect as you continue your musical education with DCYO. This season our orchestra will come together to improve our individual and collective musical skills. Our hope is for you to grow as a musician, individual, and enjoy the process! Our collaborative efforts will bring great music to our community.

Introduction

Overview

Douglas County Youth Orchestra (DCYO) is designed to provide opportunities for student musicians to be involved in music outside of a formal school setting. We believe that music is an essential part of every student's education, and we are committed to providing the highest quality orchestral experiences for our students. Rehearsal is under the direction of our professional conductor on Saturday mornings from 10:00AM to 12:00PM and DCYO performs concerts at the end of each semester (Fall and Spring).

Mission Statement

Douglas County Youth Orchestra believes that music is an essential part of every student's education, and is committed to providing the highest quality orchestral experiences possible for our students.

Description

DCYO expands instrumental music education through instruction and performance for young musicians in the Douglas County area. DCYO is largely a volunteer organization and our success is dependent on the work of parent volunteers. Participation by all families is our goal to ensure a positive experience for all our young musicians.

DCYO is a Colorado 501 (C)(3) non-profit, non-discriminatory organization that brings together Douglas County youth to participate in an affordable, educational program.

History

DCYO was started in 2005 by a group of music teachers seeking to provide orchestral ensembles in order to foster students' musical understanding, social growth, and self-esteem at a reasonable cost. *DCYO is not affiliated with the Douglas County School District.*

Douglas County Youth Orchestra Handbook Organization

Purpose

This handbook is to give members of DCYO information about the organization, its policies, and its expectations.

Non-Discrimination Policy

DCYO gives equal membership and employment, contracting, and volunteer opportunities to all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, marital status, national origin, military status, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression, citizenship, disability, or geographic location. Because we are a youth orchestra membership is open to individuals only through the age of 21.

Tuition

As of July 31, 2020 tuition is \$250.00 per semester per student.

Tuition is due the last Saturday of the first month of rehearsals. On-line payments are accepted with an \$8.00 convenience surcharge added. A \$25.00 late fee will be assessed for late payments.

Tuition is non-refundable.

Financial assistance

Financial assistance, based on need, is available through DCYO Financial Assistance Program for those who apply. This program is designed to help students with financial need participate in DCYO. Our desire is to provide tuition assistance, and in some cases, make an instrument available. Any student 17 years old or younger are eligible who meet the requirements for free or reduced lunch at school. Students who are in financial need, but who do not meet this lunch program qualification may still qualify, based on need. Please submit your request via an email addressed to douglascountyyouthorchestra@gmail.com. Please include the student's name, the school musician attends, and if there is a Free and Reduced Lunch Program being used and/or an explanation for assistance. DCYO will be in touch with you to confirm and process the request.

Douglas County Youth Orchestra Handbook Membership Qualifications

Open Rehearsal

Open rehearsals occur at the beginning of each season/performance block. **Rather than a formal audition, open rehearsals are a chance for anyone to bring his/her/their instrument, play along, and determine if DCYO is the right place.**

This is your audition! Once you have made a decision, join! Tuition will be due at the end of the first complete month of rehearsals for the performance block.

Returning Musicians

Returning Musicians are required to attend the open rehearsals. Attendance policy applies to these rehearsals. Please notify the Music Director with any questions or absences. (See section on Musician and Family Expectations)

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Expectations

COVID 19 - Protocol

Due to the current pandemic in the World, United States, and Colorado, DCYO requires musicians and family attending rehearsal to follow the following protocol:

- Sign a waiver to release DCYO from liability prior to admittance to rehearsal - musician and one family member attending
- Temperature check - musician and one family member before entering rehearsal space
- Washing hands on arrival to rehearsal area
- Wearing a mask at all times before, during and after rehearsal
- No food to be brought to rehearsal area
- Bring a water bottle with water to rehearsal

DCYO will make the final determination for anyone's admittance to rehearsal on any given day.

Behavior

- All musicians will treat each other with respect and dignity, and will contribute to a positive and encouraging atmosphere.
- Musicians will arrive with parts well prepared, approach all pieces, rehearsals, and performances with a positive and sincere attitude.
- All musicians must arrive 15 minutes prior to all rehearsals and performances.
- Downbeat for each rehearsal is 10:00 am which means arrival no later than 9:45
- Arrive at least 15 minutes prior to any performance
- All musicians must bring their music folder and pencil to every rehearsal and music folder to every performance
- Musicians are required to clean up after rehearsal, which includes picking up and putting away all chairs, music stands, music, etc. Restore rehearsal space to its original state

- Musicians' focus must be on the conductor during all rehearsals and performances; no excessive talking or disruptive behavior. Musicians are NOT permitted to chew gum, eat, or drink (other than water) during rehearsals. **All cell phones must be turned off during rehearsals or performances.**
- Musicians are a guest of the rehearsal and performance halls. Please remain in the rehearsal/performance space. All other areas are off limits. It is important to be very respectful of the rehearsal facility, Christ Episcopal Church, or any other location.
- Due to COVID19 - snacks will not be provided
- Safety is always a priority, therefore, please do not leave the rehearsal space during any breaks or any other time until rehearsal is concluded

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Expectations Continued

Musicians and Family

Musicians:

Attendance and Preparation

- Musicians must sign in and out before and after each rehearsal and performance
- Musicians must attend every rehearsal and be prepared by personal practice time
- **Musicians must contact the conductor prior to a missed rehearsal.** Musicians will be excused for no more than two (2) rehearsals during the performance block, excluding sickness. (One performance block per semester)
- Musicians are encouraged to have a year of playing experience prior to joining DCYO
- Musicians are highly encouraged to be active in a private lesson scenario while a member of DCYO

Concerts

- Apparel - Musicians will wear black DCYO shirts and black on bottom. Or in some cases apparel will be determined.
- Preparation - Arrive in a timely manner for concerts
- Conduct - Professional behavior is expected - sincere presentation of music and self - First Chairs - this is your opportunity to lead!

Family:

Attendance and Preparation

- Parents, please walk your student musician in and out of rehearsal. Student musicians will sign the attendance sheet themselves. Remember, safety is important and no musician will leave unless an adult is accompanying them.
- Arrive 15 minutes prior to rehearsal or performance time for COVID 19 protocol, sign in, set up chairs, and music stands.
- Playing in an orchestra is like being on a sports team; it's a TEAM and it only works well when everyone on the team is on time, prepared, and focused!
- **First Chairs, you are the captain of the team!**

Douglas County Youth Orchestra Handbook Opportunities

Volunteers:

Parents

DCYO is a volunteer and parent run organization. We are always looking for your help, whether it is with the rehearsal times, set-up and tear-down, snacks for rehearsals and performances, or monetary donations. We will always accept your help. Every family is asked to participate at some level.

Weekly Rehearsal:

- Attend one rehearsal: help with attendance, set-up and tear-down
- There will be no snacks this season due to COVID 19
- Set-up and Tear-Down

Community Development:

- Community contacts: Spread the word about DCYO, Donors, Distribute fliers
- Invite friends, family, contacts to performances
- Locations for fundraisers
- Networks
- Newspapers
- Serve on the DCYO Board

Douglas County Youth Orchestra Handbook
 Schedule 2020 -2021 Fall Season

Arrive by 9:45, Warmed up and ready to play, Rehearsal Downbeat 10:00 Updated July 17, 2020

Date	Session	Notes/Expectations
Sept. 12	Open Rehearsal*	TBD
Sept. 19	Open Rehearsal*	TBD
	Regular Rehearsal	Seating Auditions during rehearsal
	Regular Rehearsal Tuition Due	Tuition Due
	Sectionals Rehearsal Professional coaches meet with all sections	*Carnegie Hall Initiative Kick Off
	Regular Rehearsal	*Carnegie Hall Initiative
	No Rehearsal - Fall Break	*Carnegie Hall Initiative Practice during the week
	Regular Rehearsal	*Carnegie Hall Initiative
	Sectionals Rehearsal	*Carnegie Hall Initiative Due
	Regular Rehearsal	Professional coaches meet with sections
	Regular Rehearsal	*Carnegie Hall Initiative Party and Prizes
	Regular Rehearsal	Practice during the week
	No Rehearsal - Thanksgiving	Practice during the week
	Dress Rehearsal	
	Concert	

* Open Rehearsal - All are welcome to sit in with the orchestra to determine if DCYO is the right fit for the musician. Please ask questions and have fun! Like DCYO? Join us!

***Carnegie Hall Initiative** - Information will be handed out for musicians to increase their personal practice commitment and raise money for DCYO through sponsorships for practice time.

Schedule 2020 - 2021 Season - Spring Season
Arrive by 9:45, Warm up and ready to play, Rehearsal Downbeat 10:00

Date	Session	Notes/Expectations
	Open Rehearsal*	Invite a friend to join us!
	Regular Rehearsal	
	Regular Rehearsal	Seating Auditions during rehearsal
	Regular Rehearsal	
	Sectionals Rehearsal	Professional coaches meet with all sections
	Regular Rehearsal	Parent Meeting 11:45
	Regular Rehearsal	Tuition Due - \$250 Check to DCYO or pay online at our website \$258.
	Regular Rehearsal	
	Sectionals Rehearsal	Professional coaches meet with all sections
	Regular Rehearsal	
	Spring Break - No Rehearsal	Practice during the coming week
	Regular Rehearsal	
	Regular Rehearsal	
	Regular Rehearsal	
	Final Regular Rehearsal	
	Set Up Concert	
	Set Up, Arrival Concert Recognition Banquet	

* Open Rehearsal - All are welcome to sit in with the orchestra to determine if DCYO is the right fit for the musician. Please ask questions and have fun! Returning Musicians required to attend.