

SOUTHTOWNS YOUTH ORCHESTRA

WILLIAM STAEBELL,
MUSIC DIRECTOR

35th Season

2021 - 2022



Dear Southtowns Youth Orchestra Members,

Congratulations and welcome! I am sure our orchestra will provide an excellent musical and enjoyable social experience.

For the past 35 years, I have witnessed the continual growth and success of our orchestra. We have performed a variety of standard repertoire including some selections for string orchestra. I believe the experience of working together in an orchestra is as important as being a member of any team. Therefore, your individual preparation and concentration for rehearsals and concerts is essential to maintain our ensemble's performance and prestige.

I would like to recognize the outstanding school and private music teachers of Western New York for the excellent training of our orchestra and musicians. I strongly encourage all students to participate in their school music organizations, for without this initial preparation and support we could not attain our high standards.

I would also like to thank parents, families and friends for the support and encouragement of these young musicians. I hope in return that we shall enhance school, county, state and community music groups for the future.

Sincerely,

William Staebell
Music Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

Attendance

- Regular attendance is mandatory.
- Up to two absences per semester are permitted. If a member misses more than three rehearsals per semester they will be removed from the group without refund.
- Mrs. Miraglia **must be notified** through email or phone **at least 24 hours** of an absence.
- The phone number to call is 716-868-7870 or email styo@me.com.
- Attendance at the dress rehearsal is mandatory to perform in the concert.

Rehearsal Procedures

- Rehearsals will be held on Wednesdays at the Orchard Park Middle School on Lincoln Avenue, unless otherwise notified.
- Rehearsals will begin promptly at 7 p.m. and will end at 9 p.m.
- All members are responsible to bring their own music, pencil, and instruments, except for large percussion equipment. Not coming prepared to rehearsal is considered an absence.
- Students must remain in the building always
- NO food or drink is allowed in the auditorium.
- NO gum chewing during rehearsals, please.
- NO cell phones during rehearsal. You may use them offstage at the 8 p.m. break.

Music

- Music should be thoroughly prepared before rehearsals.
- Seating auditions for strings will take place at the discretion of the music director.
- Music performed at the concert will be collected immediately following the performance. A \$25 fee will be charged for any lost, damaged, or music returned later than one week after the concert.

Inclement Weather and Rehearsal Changes

- If a rehearsal has been canceled or a concert needs to be rescheduled due to bad weather a notification will also be sent by email, the Facebook page and Remind app. The announcement will also be posted on the closing tickers for WGRZ, WIVB, and WKBW.
- Please be aware of any rehearsal date or place changes. Notification of these changes will be made through reminders at rehearsals and e-mail and the Remind app.

Concert and Concert Dress

- Above all no student can miss any performance. Music is chosen around specific instrumentation and strength in sections. Any part missing would lead to an incomplete performance and is unfair to other performers and the musical composition.
- Girls: white blouse, long black skirt (below the knee) or pants, black stockings, and black shoes.
- Boys: white shirt, long black tie, black pants, black shoes, and black socks.

Audition Policy

- An audition is required of everyone wanting to participate in the Southtowns Youth Orchestra. The audition fee is \$25.
- Any musician in grades six through twelve, may audition for membership into the orchestra. The audition will consist of a prepared solo at a NYSSMA Level 4, 5, or 6, or equivalent, orchestral excerpts, and sight reading. The orchestral excerpts will be available to download from our website a few weeks before the audition date.
- Violinists must perform either first or second violin excerpts, not both. Mr. Staebell may use his discretion to place a musician in either section as needed.
- We encourage all students to participate in their school music programs.
- Tuition for the 2021 - 2022 season is \$225.00 per year. There are no refunds on tuition.

Covid-19 Safety Procedures

- Students will practice safe social distancing at all times.
- Strings and percussion players: Masks will be worn at all times.
- Winds: Instrument bell covers are required. Masks will be worn while not playing.
- Mask breaks will be given at the discretion of the music director.

The Southtowns Youth Orchestra reserves the right to withhold future enrollment in the group if one or any of these guidelines is not followed. Success of the orchestra depends on your reliability and commitment to the group.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The awards listed below are not considered as competitions, but rather opportunities to aid a student's music education. Recipients of each scholarship will be a member in good standing of the Southtowns Youth Orchestra. Local music teachers may be contacted if additional information is needed about a particular applicant. Applications may be obtained from the Manager at rehearsals beginning in January and will not be accepted after the deadline stated on the form. Scholarships will be awarded at the spring concert.

Christopher T. and Carmen Hughes Memorial Scholarship

- Any age musician is eligible if they intend to continue in the Southtowns Youth Orchestra or a senior planning to study music in college.
- The fund will be perpetual and only the interest will be used for the scholarship award.
- Determining factors are musical potential, citizenship, and need.
- Contributions to the Scholarship Fund are accepted at any time. Please make checks payable to: Christopher T. and Carmen Hughes Memorial Fund. Send to: Southtowns Youth Orchestra, 1377 Stainton Rd., Lake View, NY 14085.

The Southtowns Youth Orchestra / Orchard Park Symphony Community Music Scholarship

- This \$500 scholarship will be awarded to assist in furthering a student's musical education.
- This scholarship is offered to Sophomores and Juniors only. All applicants must intend to continue in Southtowns Youth Orchestra.
- A video recording of the applicant performing one movement of a selected solo must accompany the application.
- If selected for the final call back, the applicant must perform at least two movements of the solo selected. Piano accompaniment is required for the final call back. Memorization of music is highly recommended.

The Southtowns Youth Orchestra Founder Scholarship In Recognition of Ellen Buxton

- This \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior pursuing a degree in music education.
- Applicants must have been a member of the Southtowns Youth Orchestra for a minimum of three years.
- Determining factors include musicianship, leadership, citizenship, creativity, and character.
- A two to three-page essay describing the applicant's philosophy of music education is required.

2021-2022 SOUTHTOWNS YOUTH ORCHESTRA SCHEDULE

Please be aware of any rehearsal date or place changes.

Notification of any changes will be made through reminders at rehearsals and e-mail.

2021

September 22	OP Middle
September 29	OP Middle
October 6	OP Middle
October 13	OP Middle
October 20	OP Middle
October 27	OP Middle
November 3	OP Middle
November 10	OP Middle
November 17	OP Middle, Dress Rehearsal
November 21	OP Middle, Fall Concert, 3:00 PM

2022

January 5	OP Middle
January 12	OP Middle
January 19	OP Middle
January 26	OP High School Auditorium
February 2	OP Middle
February 9	OP Middle
February 16	OP High School Band Room
February 23	Winter Recess: No Rehearsal
March 2	OP Middle
March 9	OP Middle
March 16	OP Middle
March 23	OP Middle, Dress Rehearsal
March 27	OP Middle, Spring Concert, 3:00 PM