

# **RESPONSIBILITIES**

## Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra 2011-2012

**Membership Definition:** Performing members are those students accepted into the orchestra by audition to perform in the orchestra. Any student of Lewis University or Joliet Junior College up to the age of 24 may audition.

**College Students:** Registered students at Joliet Junior College and Lewis University must first audition for a place in the orchestra and then register to take MYSO for college credit.

### I. Financial Obligations – adopted by MYSO Board 5-27-10

A. Membership fees are \$225.00 per member. Families with more than one child in the orchestra will have a discount for each child in the orchestra. \$200.00 for the second child; \$175.00 for the third child and a discount of \$25.00 for each additional child. Fees are due by the third rehearsal. There is a \$25.00 late fee if the fees are late unless arrangements are made with the Executive Director.

B. Tickets – Each family is required to purchase \$100.00 in tickets for the three concerts that are held at Joliet Junior College. This fee is due the last Wednesday in October. Each family will receive 6 tickets for each concert at JJC.

C. Fees and Ticket requirements for those musicians joining MYSO after the first concerts of the season are as follows:

1. Member joining after the first set of concerts:  
\$150.00 membership fee – \$60.00 for tickets – 4 tickets for each of the two remaining concerts at Joliet Junior College
2. Member joining after the second set of concerts:  
\$75.00 membership fee - \$30.00 for tickets – 2 tickets for the remaining concert

D. Auditions: All new and returning musicians must pay a \$15.00 audition fee.

E. If a check is returned for insufficient funds the payer is responsible for all charges incurred for MYSO.

F. Refunds are given at the discretion of the board.

## II. Attendance

- A. Attendance is mandatory for rehearsals, concerts, and sectionals. Rehearsals are held in Ives Hall at Lewis University on Wednesday from 6:00 PM until 8:30 PM.
- B. **Three absences during a season is reason for dismissal from the orchestra. (adopted by MYSO board 5-23-11)**
- C. Musicians are expected to be prompt. All members should allow enough time to warm-up, tune, and be ready to play at the scheduled rehearsal time. Bring all necessary equipment and accessories - mutes, reeds, extra strings.
- D. All musicians are important to the orchestra. When a musician is accepted by audition into the orchestra s/he makes a commitment to attend all rehearsals and all performances. If a musician has a conflict with a performance s/he must notify the music director and the executive director before the first rehearsal of the concert cycle. For the 2011-2012 season these dates would be before **August 31, 2011, January 18, 2012 and April 4, 2012.**  
**Musicians that miss a concert without notifying the Executive Director by the first rehearsal of a concert cycle (dates stated above) will be billed \$100.00.**
- E. Letters of recommendation will be limited to seniors applying to college. The music director will not write a letter of recommendation for anyone who has missed a MYSO concert.

## III. Responsibilities at Rehearsals

- A. Help with the set-up and breakdown at each function. Our rehearsal/concert site should be left as we found it.
- B. String bass players and percussion players are responsible for obtaining necessary instruments from the storage area and returning them after rehearsal.
- C. All members need to practice their music during the week between rehearsals. Private study is strongly recommended.
- D. Bring a pencil with at all times (no pens).
- E. Conduct becoming young professionals is expected during the rehearsals. Disruptive behavior is a detriment to the whole orchestra.
- F. Do not leave the function site at any time, including breaks, until excused.

## IV. Music

- A. Individual parts will be assigned to each player.
- B. There should be no permanent marks added to the music.
- C. All folders are collected after the last concert in a concert cycle. The music is to be returned in order and in the original folder with the musician's name on it.

- D. There will be a charge of \$5.00 for any music that needs to be copied at rehearsal. If an entire folder is lost or not handed in after the last concert in a set there will be a \$30.00 charge for the music.
- E. Any problems with your music should be directed to the librarian.

#### V. Concert Dress

- A. Ladies: Long black dresses with long sleeves. Black dress shoes and stockings. Hair ornamentation and jewelry should be minimal.
- B. Gentlemen: Black suit or black tux and white shirt. Black bow tie, black shoes and socks are required.

#### VI. Section Leaders

- A. Should have complete command of their parts by the third rehearsal.
- B. Give instructions on fingerings, technique, phrasing and bowing to members of their sections.
- C. Check with the music director if there are questions about markings or bowings.
- D. Help your section maintain professional conduct.
- E. If a situation arises that you feel you cannot handle notify the Music Director who will help you handle the situation.

#### VII. Solo Concerto/Original Composition Competition

- A. There is an annual competition held in the fall to select the Concerto winner
- B. Any current member of the orchestra may audition except the winner of the previous year.
- C. The solo piece must have an orchestral accompaniment. The composition must be written for orchestra.
- D. The concerto must be approved by the Music Director prior to the competition. Musician must complete a form before the audition. Forms will be available from the Music Director.
- E. If the piece is not currently in the MYSO music library and the rental fee is more than \$250.00 it will be the obligation of the concerto winner to cover the difference for the rental.
- F. The audition fee is \$25.00 and is non-refundable. This fee is due two weeks before the concerto competition.
- G. The winner of this current year's concerto competition is not eligible to enter the competition the following year.
- H. Membership fees to the orchestra must be paid in full before the audition.
- I. Application can be found on the website under For Members.

#### VIII. Parent Association

- A. Parent meetings are scheduled in September and April.

- B. Parent involvement is necessary for the continued success of MYSO.

#### **IX. General Information**

- A. If weather conditions or other emergency deem it necessary to cancel a rehearsal all musicians will be notified as soon as possible. It is advisable to check your email before leaving home for rehearsal each week.

- B. Directions to all concerts venues will be available on the website and at rehearsals.

- C. The website is the most reliable source for new information to the members and should be checked regularly.

- D. The Snack Shop is open during the breaks at rehearsals and is completely supported by contributions from the parents. Water, soda, and individually wrapped candy, cookies, etc. are always welcome. The money raised in the snack shop goes back to the musicians in the form of a pizza party and the reception after the last concert of the season.

#### **X. Mandatory Rehearsals**

- A. Each MYSO musician is an important part of the orchestra. The absence of any one musician from a concert diminishes the entire group's performance. We therefore ask that each musician, and all parents, understand the importance of attendance at each of our scheduled performances.

- B. Attendance at the final rehearsal just prior to a concert is also crucial. Any excused absences from a concert or mandatory rehearsal are at the discretion of the music director.