



**San Diego Youth Symphony
and Conservatory**
Student Musician's Handbook
63rd Anniversary Season
2008-2009

Jeff Edmons, Artistic Director
Dalouge Smith, President & CEO



**San Diego Youth Symphony
and Conservatory**

The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory is a recreational program of the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department and is funded, in part, by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, the San Diego County Community Enhancement Program and the California Arts Council

San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory

63rd Anniversary Season

Congratulations! You have successfully auditioned and been selected to study music with Southern California's leading youth orchestra organization. Our sixty – three years of history are filled with music making of the highest caliber, life long friendships, and wonderful memories. This handbook answers many of the most important questions you and your family will have about the exciting year ahead. We will continue to update you throughout the season with announcements at rehearsals, concert information forms, website updates, and emails to both you and your parents. So that you don't miss any important information, please inform us **immediately** if you change your email address or home mailing address. If you have any questions at any point in the year, please ask your conductor, the orchestra coordinator, or any other staff members. Welcome to the 63rd Anniversary Season of the San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory!

Office Location & Contact Details

Casa del Prado Building, Balboa Park
1650 El Prado, Suite 207A
San Diego, CA 92101
sdys@sdys.org
Phone: 619.233.3232
Fax: 619.233.3236
www.sdys.org

Rehearsal Locations

Locations and maps are posted on our web site at:

<http://www.sdys.org/Musicians/Musicians.html>

Orchestras

Rooms 207 & 204

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

String Ensembles & Wind Ensembles

Thurgood Marshall Middle School

9700 Avenue of Nations

San Diego, CA 92131

Concert Locations

Copley Symphony Hall

750 B Street

San Diego, CA 92101

The Neurosciences Institute

10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive

San Diego, CA 92121

California Center for the Arts – Escondido

340 N. Escondido Blvd.

Escondido, CA. 92025

SHOWCASE AND OVATION CONCERTS

Families are expected to purchase tickets to **either the Showcase concert or the Ovation Concert**. Families who have purchased tickets for one concert will be given a voucher which can be exchanged on the day of the concert for complimentary tickets to the other concert. **Students are required to attend the entire length of SDYS concerts.**

SHOWCASE CONCERT

Students will stay with their ensemble after their performance and will be seated in the hall with parent chaperones. Please do not purchase tickets for your student to the concert at which they are performing. **Students are required to attend the entire length of SDYS concerts.**

GROUP DISCOUNTS

Ticket prices are not discounted. Group discounts are given as follows: a purchase of **9** tickets at the **SAME PRICE** receives **1** complimentary ticket.

VOUCHERS WHICH CAN BE EXCHANGED FOR TICKETS

Vouchers are sent to new families for the June concert. Vouchers are also issued to partner schools and organizations which can be exchanged for complimentary tickets in the concert hall lobby prior to the concert.

CONCERT ATTIRE - CONTINUED

Concert Winds, Concert Orchestra, Debut Strings

Boys - Black pants, white shirt, black bow tie, black shoes, black socks.

Girls - Long black dress or black skirt and white blouse (long or ¾ length sleeves, not sleeveless), black shoes and black nylons or white socks for very young girls.

If you need assistance locating proper concert attire please contact the Orchestra Coordinator.

CONCERT TICKET POLICIES

GENERAL

SDYS sells concert tickets from the administration office until a week before the concert. The sale of the tickets is then transferred to Symphony Hall. SDYS accepts cash, checks, Amex, Visa and MasterCard credit cards. SDYS does not charge a service fee for ticket sales. Tickets ordered from the Monday prior to the concert are placed at **WILL CALL**. Tickets ordered from Symphony Hall are subject to a price increase (except student tickets). Tickets ordered by phone from Symphony Hall are subject to a **\$5 service charge** per order.

PRE PAID TICKETS

Parents and other patrons are encouraged to pre-buy tickets in order to avoid a delay at the Box Office and the late start of the concert.

CHILDREN

SDYS abides by the policies of Symphony Hall for children's tickets at family concerts. **Children 3 and older** must have a ticket. **Children under 3** can sit on a parent's lap.

SENIOR & MILITARY & MUSIC EDUCATOR DISCOUNTS

There is a senior, military and music educator discount available for tickets ordered through SDYS. Those people age **60** or older are eligible for the senior discount. The discount is also available for tickets purchased through Symphony Hall. Valid ID must be shown for purchases at Symphony Hall. Tickets ordered by phone from Symphony Hall are subject to a **\$5 service charge** per order.

MUSIC EDUCATORS

Music Educators are sent vouchers for complimentary tickets for the **November concert ONLY**. They can purchase tickets for the January, February, and June concerts at the music educator discount.

UNDER AGE 25 - STUDENT TICKETS

Student tickets are **\$5** for students age 25 and younger. Student ticket prices remain the same when the tickets are sold at Symphony Hall. Valid ID must be shown for purchases at Symphony Hall. Tickets ordered by phone from Symphony Hall are subject to a **\$5 service charge** per order.

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ARTISTIC FACULTY

Jeff Edmons, Artistic Director

jedmons@sdys.org

Ella Steinberg, Wind Ensembles Conductor

esteinberg@sdys.org

John Ramirez, String Ensembles Conductor

jramirez@sdys.org

Daniel Rumley, Music Theory Instructor

drumley@sdys.org

David Rumley & Sundiata Kata, Percussion Specialists

percussion@sdys.org

Miguel Ramirez, String Specialist

mramirez@sdys.org

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Dalouge Smith, President & CEO

dsmith@sdys.org & 619.233.3232 ext. 170

Alexis Alfaro, Program & Operations Manager

aalfaro@sdys.org & 619.233.3232 ext. 130

Sheila Walker, Business Manager

swalker@sdys.org & 619.233.3232 ext. 140

Debbie Peterson, Orchestra Coordinator

attendance@sdys.org & 619.233.3232 ext. 111

Chris Acquavella, Production Coordinator

cacquavella@sdys.org & 619.233.3232 ext. 120

Molly Clark, Development & Marketing Coordinator

mclark@sdys.org & 619.233.3232 ext. 150

San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory

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REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Philharmonia (Phil)

Jeff Edmons, Artistic Director
Room 207, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
Saturdays, 4:00-5:30 PM

Symphony Orchestra (SO)

Jeff Edmons, Artistic Director
Room 207, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
Saturdays, 12:30 PM to 3:45 PM

Sinfonia (SIN)

Jeff Edmons, Artistic Director
Room 207, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
Saturdays, 8:30 AM to 10:45 AM

Wind Symphony (WS)

Ella Steinberg, Conductor
Thurgood Marshall Middle School
Saturdays, 10:15 AM to 12:30 PM

Concert Wind Ensemble (CWE)

Ella Steinberg, Conductor
Thurgood Marshall Middle School
Saturdays, 3:00PM to 5:00 PM

Concert Orchestra (CO)

John Ramirez, Conductor
Thurgood Marshall Middle School
Saturdays 12:45 PM to 2:45 PM

Debut String Ensemble (DS)

John Ramirez, Conductor
Thurgood Marshall Middle School
Saturdays 11:00AM to 12:30 PM

Sinfonia String Quartet, Symphony Orchestra String Octet, Concert Orchestra String Quartet, Wind Symphony Sax Ensemble, Woodwind/Brass/String Ensemble, Flute Choir, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band, Music Theory, Conducting

Rehearsals and classes take place at Balboa Park and throughout San Diego. Please contact the Orchestra Coordinator for more information. Schedules may change for specific needs to complete concert preparation or other program needs.

MUSIC

Student musicians are responsible for having their music at each rehearsal and performance. Lost music will be replaced at the student musician's expense. Rented musical parts must be returned immediately following the last performance of that work. Students will keep all non-rental music.

PREPARATION & SUPPLIES

Student musicians are expected to attend all rehearsals fully prepared. This means practicing their parts and learning music at home. This will make each rehearsal enjoyable and productive for all. Student musicians are required to bring sharpened pencils with erasers, extra strings, reeds, valve oil, proper percussion mallets, and all music parts. Students also may be occasionally asked to bring wire music stands to rehearsal.

PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS

Student musicians are all encouraged to take private music lessons on their instrument. Admission to advanced ensembles is by audition and can be extremely competitive. If you need a list of teachers in your area, please contact your Conductor or the Orchestra Coordinator.

SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAMS

Student musicians are encouraged to participate in their school or university music programs. Please indicate both your private and school music instructor on your registration form so that we may recognize them in our Celebration of Music Educators concert program. Please be aware of possible schedule conflicts – refer to Attendance Policy.

PARKING

Parking in Balboa Park is free but often quite full, especially on weekends and holidays. To avoid tardiness, please feel free to use the curbside drop off area outside of the Casa del Prado on Village Place, just off of Park Boulevard. Arriving early to rehearsal is essential to the success of all students in the ensembles. **If the park is full, students and parents should consider parking in the Veteran's Memorial parking lot (east on President's Way off of Park Blvd.) and taking the free Balboa Park tram to El Prado.**

Parking at Thurgood Marshall Middle School is located at the top of Willow Creek Road. The drop-off area for students is located by veering right on Willow Creek Road and veering left at the round-about.

CONCERT ATTIRE

Philharmonia, Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonia, Wind Symphony Gentlemen—black tuxedo, white tuxedo shirt, black bow tie, black socks and black shoes.

Ladies—black dress (long and covering arms) and black shoes. Pants are permissible if dressy and full length. If in doubt, ask. No backless or spaghetti straps without a jacket.

(Concert Attire continues on next page)

CONCERT HALL FACILITIES

As an important part of providing the highest level music education experience, the San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory ensembles perform in professional level concert hall facilities. Student musicians are expected to behave in a professional manner at all times in the concert halls, follow the directions of both the SDYS and concert hall staff members, and avoid touching concert hall equipment.

CONDUCT

Student musicians will conduct themselves in a manner that is becoming of SDYS members at all times. Courteous attention, respectful good manners, enthusiasm, punctuality, and attention to directions will lead to a productive experience for all involved. Inappropriate behavior, as defined in the “Membership and Attendance Requirements” each student and parent signed, may result in removal from the ensemble and dismissal from all SDYS programs.

The SDYS maintains a drug-free workplace and drug use by student or adult will not be tolerated. **Smoking is prohibited in Balboa Park.**

ATTENDANCE

Students must follow specific absence policies for their ensemble as detailed in the “Membership and Attendance Requirements” signed by each student and their parents. To receive an additional copy of these requirements, please contact the Orchestra Coordinator.

To request an absence students must sign the absence request form (available at rehearsals) or send an email to the Orchestra Coordinator at attendance@sdys.org at least two weeks prior to the requested absence. Only in an emergency should an absence be reported by phone. If an emergency occurs and you are unable to contact the office or San Diego Youth Symphony staff prior to the missed rehearsal, please do so at the earliest time possible after the missed rehearsal. Any phone call regarding any absence **must** be followed up with an email to the Orchestra Coordinator. Unexcused absences will result in removal from the ensemble and dismissal from all San Diego Youth Symphony programs.

TARDINESS

Arriving late to a rehearsal is disruptive to the entire ensemble. Students should arrive 15 minutes prior to the rehearsal start time and be seated 5 minutes prior to the beginning of each rehearsal. Students who are late are required to check in with SDYS office staff. Parking can be difficult in Balboa Park so arrive early or use the curbside drop off on Village Place outside the Casa Del Prado. Excessive tardiness may result in removal from the ensemble and dismissal from all San Diego Youth Symphony programs as outlined in the “Membership and Attendance Requirements”.

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PRIMARY CONCERT SCHEDULE

See Rehearsal Schedule on line or in SDYS office for Ensemble Abbreviations
Concert times, dates and location subject to change

Sunday, November 2, 2008
4:00 PM

Celebration of Music Educators Concert
California Center for the Arts - All Ensembles

Saturday, January 24, 2009
3:00 PM

Showcase Series Concert
California Center for the Arts - Sinfonia; CO; CWE; WS

Thursday, February 12, 2009
7:00 PM

Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition Finals
The Neurosciences Institute, La Jolla

Sunday, February 15, 2009
4:00 PM

Ovation Series Concert
Copley Symphony Hall - Symphony Orchestra; Phil

Thursday, March 12, 2009
7:00 PM

Sinfonia Concerto Competition
The Neurosciences Institute, La Jolla

Saturday, March 21, 2009
12 Noon and 2:00 PM

String & Wind Ensemble's Concert
Casa del Prado Theatre - Free to Public

Thursday, April 30, 2009
7:00 PM

Small Ensemble Concert
The Neurosciences Institute, La Jolla – Flute Choir,
String/Woodwind/Brass Ensemble, WS Sax Ensemble,
Advanced Percussion Ensemble

Thursday, May 7, 2009
7:00 PM

Small Ensemble Concert
The Neurosciences Institute, La Jolla --Symphony Orchestra
Octet, Sinfonia Quartet, Concert Orchestra Quartet

Saturday, May 30, 2009
3:00 PM

Showcase Concert
Copley Symphony Hall – CO/DS; CWE; WS; Sinfonia

Sunday, June 7, 2009
4:00 PM

Ovation Concert
Copley Symphony Hall - Symphony Orchestra; Phil

Additional performances may be scheduled after publication of this handbook. All ensembles will be considered for performances. Updated rehearsal schedules are published on www.sdys.org.

Students will receive written Dress Rehearsal and Concert Instructions 2 weeks prior to each concert. These instructions will be distributed at the regular weekly rehearsal. Parents will receive a copy of the instructions via email from the Orchestra Coordinator.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory instills excellence in the musical and personal development of students through rigorous and inspiring musical training experiences.

ORGANIZATION

The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory, founded in 1945, is a California public non-profit organization. As a cultural activity of the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department, it enjoys the benefit of office and rehearsal space in historic Balboa Park. It is supported, in part, by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, San Diego County's Community Enhancement Program and the California Arts Council. In addition to tuition, the organization also depends upon support from generous individuals, foundations, volunteers, and businesses to provide its high quality music education programs.

The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory program offers opportunities for student musicians of all skill levels through the ages of 8-25 to participate in ensembles led by professional conductors. Student musicians from throughout San Diego County as well as Riverside and Imperial Counties participate. Auditions are held each June for new members and returning members seeking to advance to the next ensemble level. **Placement in the ensembles is based upon each individual student's demonstrated development on his or her instrument at the time of audition.**

The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory is governed by a volunteer Board of Trustees of community leaders. Their guidance in policy making and fund raising has kept the organization stable through its sixty-three year history.

2008-2009 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jim Whitesell –Chair
Marvin Levine - Vice Chair
Larry Scott -Vice Chair
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Bill Sturgeon – Vice Chair of Development
Kevin Chaisson – Vice Chair of Strategic Planning
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William Beamish
Julia Collins
Cindy Goodman
Ronald Heller
Anni Lipper
Dorothy Sollender

Mark Bennett
June Furman
Pamela Hartwell
Betty Hiller
Justin Rennilson
Gene Summ

PARENT PARTICIPATION

Parents are our most important partners in providing exciting and educational music programs. So that you can witness your student's progress and the activities of their ensemble, you are welcome to stay and listen to any rehearsal. Along with encouraging your student's musical development, our staff depends on you to help with all types of office and concert tasks. Please let us know how you can help by submitting the parent volunteer form, or by being aware of volunteer opportunities that appear throughout the year. Thank you for your commitment to strengthening the San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory for all student musicians!

AUDITIONS

Placement Auditions are held each June for new members and returning members seeking to advance to the next ensemble level. Placement in the ensembles is based upon each individual student musician's development on his or her instrument at the time of audition. There is a \$35 non-refundable audition/registration fee payable at the time of audition.

New student musicians are welcome to audition for preparatory ensembles throughout the year. Additional auditions for vacancies in the Symphony Orchestra or Sinfonia may be held at any time until the vacancy is filled.

Once a student is placed in an ensemble they will be asked to do a Seating Audition in August. This audition will determine what seat they are placed in for their ensemble section.

Detailed requirements for entrance into each ensemble are available online at www.sdys.org or from the Orchestra Coordinator. The Orchestra Coordinator will determine audition times and schedules.

TUITION

Fees for the 2008-2009 season include a \$35 non-refundable audition/registration fee, a \$60 materials fee and a tuition fee between \$440-\$500, depending on ensemble placement(materials fee and tuition fee are both non-refundable after September 1). A limited number of scholarships are available for qualifying student musicians. Scholarships are awarded by the Board of Trustees. Information and applications are available from the Orchestra Coordinator.

All tuition and registration requirements must be met for a student musician to be seated at their first rehearsal.

REHEARSAL FACILITIES

San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory ensembles rehearse in the Casa del Prado in Balboa Park and at Thurgood Marshall Middle School. These rehearsal facilities are shared by many organizations and it is the responsibility of each group of student musicians to leave the room in good condition. Student musicians and parents will be asked to assist the staff with setting up and breaking down the chairs for rehearsals. This is an easy task when everyone helps.