

Hochstein  
Youth Symphony  
Orchestra

Membership Handbook  
2019-2020



# HOCHSTEIN YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Casey Springstead, Music Director  
Ruth Gates, Orchestra Manager

## 2019-2020 HANDBOOK

### Mission Statement

The Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra offers orchestral training to the advanced string, wind, and percussion student through rehearsal and performance of standard orchestral repertoire.

### Membership Guidelines

#### Enrollment

Enrollment is by audition only and is open to students in junior and senior high school. Auditions are held in late spring.

Each HYSO student **MUST BE** a member of their appropriate school music ensemble (i.e. string students must participate in their school orchestra, wind and percussion students must participate in their school band and /or orchestra). The only exceptions are for students whose school does not have a music program (or a program for their instrument), or they are home schooled.

Each student should be studying his or her instrument on a private basis. The Hochstein Music School offers a discounted youth orchestra tuition rate for orchestra members taking private lessons through the music school. Please call the main office (454-4596) for information on available teachers.

#### Attendance Policy

Because each member is important and vital to the success and growth of the group, it is imperative that students attend every rehearsal. If there is an event that cannot be rescheduled and requires a student to miss a rehearsal, the director and manager must receive an excuse **in writing** no later than two weeks prior to that date. Please be aware of all rehearsals and schedule your events and activities around them. If you have an unavoidable conflict, try to find a compromise between our rehearsal and the other activity. (all day school musical technical rehearsal – attend HYSO rehearsal 9:00 – 11:30 am.; go to musical tech rehearsal 12:30 – 4:00 p.m.).

It is mandatory that each member make every effort to make each and every rehearsal throughout the season. An excused absence from rehearsal may be an all-county or area all-state rehearsal, illness, SAT's, band trip, etc. If a student has more than **three absences**, the conductor will then contact the student and discuss future obligations. If a student has an illegal absence (anything other than an excused absence) he/she will meet with the conductor and discuss their future with the group.

There are a few Sunday and Saturday afternoon rehearsals scheduled this season to help students avoid conflicts with honors festivals and standardized testing. It is our hope that these rehearsals will alleviate some the demands put on Saturday mornings and improve overall rehearsal attendance over the course of the year.

**\*Seniors**, we would appreciate any consideration you can give to planning auditions for colleges from November through March. If possible, please try to consolidate some of the auditions/interviews so that you have multiple auditions on a weekend in which you'll miss HYSO rehearsal. Note: No rehearsals during Winter Break.

## Commitment

Your artistic commitment to the group means that you are prepared for each week's rehearsal. You need to practice your parts and work on difficult passages with your private teacher during the week. You will receive an e-mail by 4:00 pm on Monday each week outlining specific pieces/passages to practice for the next rehearsal as well as rehearsal order. Please note: The Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra and Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra have agreed that student musicians should be members of one orchestra or the other, not both.

## Solo Festival, Area All-State, All County

When being excused for Area All-State and All-County Ensembles, the student should fill out an excuse form as soon as possible and put it in the HYSO check-in box. *Note: When signing up for any solo festival, ask your teacher to sign you up for **FRIDAY EVENING OR LATE SATURDAY AFTERNOON** audition.*

## Seating Auditions

The function of assigned seating is to create the most balanced ensemble possible, as well as to offer leadership opportunities to various players.

Seating auditions occur in the fall. For returning orchestra members the seating assignment is also based on performance/participation from the previous year. *The director reserves the right to rotate seating assignments in all sections.*

## Hochstein/Nazareth CMP Conducting Project

Current HYSO members may apply for the opportunity to conduct VSCO. Applications are available in the spring for the following season. An HYSO Conducting Apprentice position is then awarded to one of the conducting students.

## HYSO Concerto Competition

Any member of HYSO is eligible to compete to perform a solo with the orchestra during the school year on his/her orchestra instrument or on a secondary instrument (including voice). Two to three soloists are chosen each year and placed on the Winter or Spring concert. A maximum of two wins will be permitted during one's membership in the orchestra and there must be one year between wins.

Auditions will be held in the recital hall on **Wednesday, November 6, 2019 from 3:00 to 9:00 pm**. Students will be assigned a 10-minute audition slot and auditionees will be contacted that evening with the results.

- ◆ A piano accompanist **IS REQUIRED**. We find it beneficial to the performer and listener to present the piece in its entirety, allowing for the best possible presentation. An accompanist **WILL NOT BE PROVIDED**.
- ◆ Good literature does not necessarily need to be 'flashy' so in choosing your solo with your teacher, select a movement/piece you like playing and that shows off your strengths.
- ◆ Your private teacher should make sure that the orchestral parts are readily available and are reasonable to purchase or rent.

## Rehearsal Preparation

If you are 15 minutes early to rehearsal you are on time.

If you are on time, you are late!

Rehearsals begin at **9:00 am**. Orchestra members are to be seated, warmed up and ready to rehearse at 9:00 am which means you must arrive no later than **8:45 am**. Percussionists will need to arrive earlier to set up equipment.

### *WHAT TO BRING TO REHEARSAL*

- ◆ **Sharpened Pencils**
- ◆ **All of your music in a black binder or folder (this includes all string players)**
- ◆ **Spare reeds, valve oil, full set of strings. (The music school does not have an in-house source of supplies).**

**All electronic devices  
(cell phone, ipod, etc.)**

are to be put in purses and/or instruments cases.

## Inclement Weather

The youth orchestra rehearsal is canceled due to snowstorms or other inclement weather **ONLY** if Hochstein is closed. You can tune to WHAM-AM (1180), social media outlets or check the Hochstein website – [www.hochstein.org](http://www.hochstein.org).

## Rehearsal Check-in table and HYSO mailbox

Check off your name on the attendance sheet and then look for any handouts on the check-in table right outside the entrance of the Performance Hall before every rehearsal. If you have an absence form or any handouts that need to be returned, just put them in the HYSO box located on the check-in table.

**You will receive a weekly email with specific instructions for the next rehearsal.** Specific pieces will be listed so you know exactly what to practice at home. There may be times when a section of the orchestra may be excused early or a section may begin rehearsal at a later time. All this information is provided so you can plan accordingly.

## Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded to HYSO members annually according to each scholarship's criteria. It is through the generous donation of individuals that these scholarships are available and awarded to different HYSO students each year. Students are selected by the conductor along with a committee of Hochstein faculty members. Each scholarship is awarded for the period of one year only.

### **Rolf Hallinan Memorial Violin Scholarship**

Rolf Hallinan was a young violinist who was born in Ireland and studied Suzuki violin for almost 10 years. He also studied piano, sang in school choruses and select choirs, was very active in All-County Solo Festival and All-County Orchestra. A kind and caring individual, Rolf died suddenly of a bicycle accident at the age of 14. This scholarship is given in loving memory by his mother, Adrienne Dahl, to honor and perpetuate Rolf's love of music.

### **Don Messina String Instrument Endowed Scholarship**

Don Messina studied piano and double bass which he played in the East High School Orchestra and the Eastman School's Conducting Orchestra in the 1950s. This scholarship is in memory of

Don's immigrant parents, Harry and Louise Messina, who loved music and who sacrificed much to encourage his musical aspirations. The Don Messina String Instrument Scholarship covers the full HYSO tuition for one year and is awarded annually to a student currently enrolled in elementary, middle or high school, and plays a stringed instrument. The recipient must display strong potential and outstanding musicianship.

### **The George A. Pettersen Memorial Scholarship**

George A. Pettersen served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy during World War II, successfully ran his own business, and was passionate about many things in life including music. Mr. Pettersen truly appreciated those around him who devoted their lives to their passions, and it is in his memory that Nancy Strelau annually honors a string, wind, or percussion student who emulates her father's commitment and work ethic.

### **Morning Musicale Scholarship**

Morning Musicale was founded in Rochester around 1930. It is an organization of approximately sixty women musicians who meet monthly for chamber music and friendship. The group provides support for the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, the Imogene Barstow Fund at the Eastman School of Music and it is proud to sponsor this full scholarship for a student in HYSO. The Morning Musicale Scholarship is awarded to a returning junior or senior who strives for excellence and exhibits dedication and commitment to the orchestra.

### **Gretchen Snedeker Memorial Endowed Scholarship For Principal Horn**

Gretchen Snedeker, a 24-year-old graduate student at the Eastman School of Music, was tragically killed in a car accident in April, 2008. She was principal horn of the Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra from 1998 to 2001, and featured on our first tour to Austria in 2001. She received her undergraduate degree in horn performance in 2005 and posthumously was awarded her Masters in Horn Performance in May 2008. Her parents have said that she discovered her passion for music during her time with *HYSO*. It is in the memory of Gretchen's spirit and passion that a full tuition scholarship is awarded annually to the HYSO principal horn.

### **Anne Wilson Yard Memorial Endowed Scholarship For Principal Oboe**

Anne Wilson Yard, a lifelong supporter of the arts, passed away in July 2017. Passionate about children being engaged musically at an early age, she was influential in starting a Suzuki Violin program at an independent school in New Jersey where her children were enrolled. She passed on her love of music to her daughters and grandchildren - which include three generations of oboe players. Later in life, she and her husband moved to Pittsford, New York to be closer to family. Two of her grandchildren have attended Hochstein for more than a decade and thoroughly enjoyed their time in HYSO. In Anne's memory, her family has endowed the Principal oboe Chair for the Orchestra.

## Concert Attire

**Men:** Tuxedo, white shirt, black bow tie, black socks, black dress shoes. We have a special rental/purchase arrangement with **TUXEDO CORNER – 2040 Eastridge Road, Rochester, NY 14622.** [www.tuxedocorner.com](http://www.tuxedocorner.com)

Call ahead - 342-2800, identify yourself as an *HYSO* member and arrange a time in which to get fitted in August or September. Your rental period runs from October 1, 2019 to June 1, 2020

Rental price is \$119.99 - includes jacket, pants, shirt, bow tie, cummerbund (\$8.95 damage waiver and tax additional)

Purchase prices: Used - \$169.99 (includes jacket, pants, shirt, bow tie, cummerbund; *new shirt – add \$10*)  
New - \$249.99 (includes all above and a new shirt)

**Women:** Black blouse and black skirt/dress black pants with wide legs at bottom or black dress (mid-calf or longer) with black shoes. Garments should be loose fitting so that the musician is comfortable and is not restricted in movement. Black dress shoes.

### **NOTE:**

*All blouses/dresses must have sleeves. Short sleeves or spaghetti straps are not acceptable.*

## Billing Information

Tuition for 2019-2020 HYSO season is \$504, billed in quarterly installments of \$126. Students enrolled in private lessons at Hochstein are charged a reduced tuition rate of \$444, billed in quarterly installments of \$111. All families will receive payment reminders 2 weeks before the start of each quarter, with first payment due the week of September 8.

If you are awarded an HYSO scholarship, your account will be adjusted for the remaining quarters to reflect your reduction in tuition.

For questions regarding billing, contact the Hochstein business office at: 585-454-4596 Ext. 217

## Travel

Under the direction of Nancy Strelau, the Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra made its first performance tour in 2001, traveling and performing in Vienna, Graz, Innsbruck and Salzburg, Austria. The orchestra made its Carnegie Hall debut in New York City in April, 2002 and was a featured performer at the New York State Music Educators Convention in 2003 and 2008.

HYSO toured northern France in 2004, performing in Normandy and Paris. In April, 2006 the orchestra traveled to Germany and the Czech Republic, performing in Berlin, Dresden, Leipzig and Novy Bor. In April, 2009 the group presented concerts in Rome, Florence, Cremona, Italy and in Weggis, Switzerland. In 2011, the group toured southern Ireland performing benefit concerts in Dublin, Galway, Kilkenny and Bray.

In April 2014, under the direction of Casey Springstead, HYSO toured Normandy and Paris, France with performances commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the D-Day Invasion and the Liberation of France. HYSO returned to Austria in 2016, 15 years after their first tour. Spring 2018 HYSO toured and performed in Portugal and Spain.

HYSO will travel once again to Germany and the Czech Republic in Spring 2020 performing in Berlin, Leipzig and Prague. Fundraising is available. Students are not required to participate on a trip to be a member of HYSO.

## 2019-2020 Rehearsal/Concert Schedule

### IMPORTANT POINTS:

- ◆ There WILL be rehearsal on the first Saturday of Winter Break. There will be NO rehearsal on March 21 following the Live from Hochstein concert 3/18
- ◆ There are occasional Sunday and Saturday afternoon rehearsals to avoid Area All-State, All-County and SAT exams.
- ◆ All rehearsals/concerts are in the Hochstein Performance Hall.

<b>September</b>		
Saturday 9/7	12:00-8:00	Seating Auditions
Sunday 9/8	12:00-7:00	Seating Auditions
<b>Friday 9/13</b>	<b>3:45-8:45</b>	<b>Mini-Camp</b>
Saturday 9/14	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Saturday 9/21	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Saturday 9/28	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
<b>October</b>		
Saturday 10/5	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Saturday 10/12	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Saturday 10/19	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Saturday 10/26	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
<b>November</b>		
Sunday 11/3	2:00-4:30	Rehearsal (Avoid Area All-State)
<b>Wednesday 11/6</b>	<b>3:00-9:00</b>	<b>Concerto Competition</b>
Saturday 11/9	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
<b>Sunday 11/10</b>	<b>3:00 pm</b>	<b>Fall Concert</b>
Sunday 11/17	5:00-7:00	Rehearsal (Avoid Area All-State)
Saturday 11/23	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Saturday 11/30		No Rehearsal (Thanksgiving)
<b>December</b>		
Saturday 12/7	2:00-4:30	Rehearsal (note special time)
Saturday 12/14	9:00-11:15	Rehearsal
Saturday 12/21		No Rehearsal (Holiday Break)
Saturday 12/28		No Rehearsal (Holiday Break)
<b>January</b>		
Saturday 1/4	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Saturday 1/11	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Saturday 1/18	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Saturday 1/25	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
<b>February</b>		
Saturday 2/1	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Saturday 2/8	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
<b>Sunday 2/9</b>	<b>2:00 pm</b>	<b>Centennial Concert</b>
Saturday 2/15	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Saturday 2/23		No Rehearsal (Winter Break)
Saturday 2/29	2:00-4:30	Rehearsal (note special time)
<b>March</b>		
Sunday 3/8	2:00-4:30	Rehearsal (Avoid All-County)
Sunday 3/15	2:00-4:30	Rehearsal (Avoid All-County)
<b>Wednesday 3/18</b>	<b>12:10-12:50</b>	<b>Concert - Live from Hochstein</b>
Sunday 3/21	2:00-4:30	No Rehearsal
Saturday 3/28	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Tuesday 3/31	6:30-8:30	Tour Rehearsal (tentative)
<b>April</b>		
Thursday 4/2	6:30-8:30	Tour Rehearsal (tentative)
Saturday 4/4		Tour Departure
Sunday 4/12		Tour Return
Saturday 4/18	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
Saturday 4/25	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
<b>May</b>		
Saturday 5/2	2:00-4:30	Rehearsal (Avoid SAT's)
Saturday 5/9	9:00-11:30	Rehearsal
<b>Sunday 5/10</b>	<b>3:00 pm</b>	<b>Spring Concert (Mother's Day)</b>

*Hochstein School of Music and Dance  
Orchestral Program*

***Concertino Strings***

*Marcos Kreutzer, Music Director*

***Sinfonia***

*John Fetter, Music Director*

*Matt Osika, Assistant Director*

***Philharmonia***

*John Fetter, Music Director*

*Matt Osika, Assistant Director*

***Hochstein Youth Symphony Orchestra***

*Casey Springstead, Music Director*

***Virtuosi Scholarship Chamber Orchestra***

*Nancy Strelau, Conductor*

*HYSO Conducting Students*

**Contact Information**



50 North Plymouth Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14614

**Hochstein Front Office:** 454-4596

**Hochstein Business Office:** 454-4596 ext. 217

**Casey Springstead, Director:** 255-0007 (c) [casey.springstead@hochstein.org](mailto:casey.springstead@hochstein.org)

**Ruth Gates, Orchestra Manager:** 739-2556 (c) [ruth.gates@hochstein.org](mailto:ruth.gates@hochstein.org)

**Visit our website – [www.hochstein.org](http://www.hochstein.org)**