GUIDE TO ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

Policies of the
ORANGE COUNTY
YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

2017-2018 SEASON
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CONTACT INFO

Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra
Chapman University Conservatory of Music
One University Drive
Orange, CA 92866

OCYSO Office: (714) 744-7927
Website: ocyso.org
General inquiries: info@ocyso.org

OCYSO musician absence or late arrival notification:
ascent@ocyso.org and
http://ocyso.org/about/student-portal/

FACEBOOK

Twitter

YouTube

Instagram

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra is to provide pre-professional training to Orange County’s most talented young musicians through varied performance opportunities, and by establishing an environment that develops creative ability, self-expression and the desire for perfection.

WHO WE ARE

Founded in 1970, OCYSO is the official youth orchestra of Orange County. Our diverse roster represents student musicians from nearly 40 high school and college programs from San Clemente to Fullerton and more. The OCYSO community of young musicians and their families is particularly committed to advancing and sharing the intercultural love of orchestral music. We serve as music-ambassadors to each other and to our local schools, districts, and cities.

WHAT WE DO

Our nine-month season (September-May) consists of 11 performances, 5 workshops, 26 rehearsals, a concerto competition, and a three-day mountain retreat. All workshops and rehearsals take place on the campus of our founding partner, Chapman University (centrally located within the county in the City of Orange). Performances take place at three locations: the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall, Chapman’s historic Memorial Hall, and the new and stunning Musco Center for the Arts. The Orchestra generally rehearses on Sundays from 2:00 to 5:00pm.

2017/18 MUSIC

Maestro Wachs carefully programs each season with a commitment to new music and commissions alongside traditional repertory favorites. Season highlights include:

• A fairy tale, Humperdinck’s opera Hansel & Gretel (December)
• Gershwin’s masterpiece, An American in Paris (March)
• And a Russian revolution, Shostakovich’s monumental Symphony No. 11, The Year 1905 (May)

EDUCATION

OCYSO additionally serves to support and supplement music programs across the County.

• Presented in longtime partnership with the Philharmonic Society of Orange County, our annual Concerts for Fifth Graders series has impacted more than one million students since the 1980s.
• OCYSO recently began inviting select high school programs to jointly perform in our season finale concert, doubling the size of each ensemble and providing new platforms for access and inspiration to all students.
• All OCYSO musicians are required to participate in their respective and primary string, band, or orchestral programs. This reinforces both ensembles since each individual student is immersed in symphonic literature.
TOURS

In our 48-year history, OCYSO has traveled the world representing Orange County’s best young adult musicians. Locations visited include Austria, China, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United Nations, and Carnegie Hall. In the summer of 2016, OCYSO presented concerts in Madrid, Barcelona and Manresa. The Orchestra will not tour in 2017 or 2018, but a trip is in the works for 2019.

RECENT SUCCESS

• OCYSO received the prestigious American Prize in Orchestra Performance—Youth Orchestra Division in 2012.
• Among others, it has performed new works by Mark-Anthony Turnage (including a U.S. commission and premiere) and Kurt Schwertsik and has hosted notable guests such as Ray Chen, Midori, and the Kronos Quartet.
• Past collaborations have included the Young Musicians Foundation Debut Orchestra presented by the LA Philharmonic at Disney Hall, TEDx at Chapman University, and the West Coast Youth Orchestra Festival.
• In 2014, OCYSO celebrated the Philharmonic Society 60th season finale and farewell performance for Dean Corey with Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony. This event was selected by PBS SoCal for multiple broadcasts.

REVIEWS

“...The performance was smashing thanks in no small part to the exceptionally well-practiced pre-professionals, who brought a sparkle to the Salzburgers’ sound that wasn’t there before... They are the real thing.”
—Mark Swed, Los Angeles Times on a joint concert with the Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg

“Wachs led a wonderfully clear and patient traversal, finding order in complexity. The young musicians appeared to have little trouble with the work’s progressive language.”
—Timothy Mangan, Orange County Register on the United States premiere of Mark Anthony Turnage’s Passchendaele, an OCYSO co-commission

“The young players gave an excellent performance and earned the tremendous ovation they received... Charismatic director Daniel Alfred Wachs was excellent throughout.”
—Bristol Cathedral (UK) performance

ARTISTIC MANAGEMENT & STAFF

Daniel Alfred Wachs
Music Director & Conductor

The Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra is led by the renowned conductor and pianist Daniel Alfred Wachs. Educated in the United States, Europe, and Israel, Maestro Wachs holds degrees in Piano Performance and Conducting from The Curtis Institute of Music and The Juilliard School. He has guest conducted orchestras such as the Auckland Philharmonia of New Zealand, the Rotterdam Philharmonic, the Fort Worth Symphony, the Pacific Symphony and the Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg. In addition, Maestro Wachs has held the position of Assistant Conductor with the National Orchestra of France and the Minnesota Orchestra. He also served as an Artist-in-Residence with the New York City Ballet at Lincoln Center. Committed to education, Maestro Wachs is the Director of Orchestral Activities at Chapman University Conservatory of Music. He has also taught at Swarthmore College in Philadelphia.

Alex Nelson
General Manager

Jeffrey de Seriere
Coordinator of Winds and Brass

Danielle Culhane
Operations & Personnel Manager

David Scott
Librarian and Assistant Conductor

Moni Simeonov
Coordinator of Strings
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
INTRODUCTION & GUIDELINES

The purpose of this guide is to inform musicians, parents, teachers, and staff of the policies and procedures set forth by OCYSO. These policies are to be adhered to by all OCYSO members and staff during rehearsals, workshops, sectionals, performances, special events, etc. It is each orchestra member’s responsibility to follow and maintain the policy and guidelines presented. This promotes the conditions necessary to achieve the professional standards expected of the orchestra and its members. Members serve as OCYSO ambassadors and are thus looked upon as role models among fellow musicians and within the community at-large.

COMMITMENT + COST

OCYSO is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization. Tax-deductible charitable contributions to OCYSO are used to partially fund orchestra expenses incurred each season.

- $900 season contribution: the total nine-month season donation, which includes 11 performances, 5 workshops, and 26 rehearsals
- $200 retreat fee (not tax-deductible): supports the weekend mountain retreat at the beginning of each season.

We offer installment flexibility as well as other options to support those families and students who wish to commit to a season, such as volunteering time and skills. Contingent upon application, limited need-based financial assistance is also available.

Please note that all donations and payments are non-refundable.

SERIES

For special events at other venues, concert ticket information/pricing will be distributed to all participants and families at the beginning of each season, or as soon as information is available.

OCYSO members are encouraged to promote concerts at their schools, throughout their communities, on social media, etc.

Chapman University

- OCYSO presents two season concerts at Chapman University each year. The March program takes place in Chapman’s historic Memorial Hall, while the season-finale concert in May happens on the stunning stage of the new Musco Center for the Arts.
- Refer to the season schedule for exact performance details and call times.
- TICKETS: For all concerts at Chapman University, tickets will be available for sale once the season begins, and at the door 30 minutes prior to all performances.
CONCERTS FOR FIFTH GRADERS

- On four mornings each spring semester, the Philharmonic Society of Orange County presents OCYSO in the highly acclaimed Concerts for Fifth Graders series at the Renée & Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall. Through these concerts, OCYSO has introduced classical music to over one million fifth-grade students in Orange County since the 1980s. The concept of ‘kids playing for kids’ is unique to OCYSO as these concerts showcase OCYSO musicians who in turn inspire and encourage a younger generation to follow in their footsteps.
- Each day’s schedule:
  - 7:30AM: OCYSO call time
  - 7:45AM: Members should be warmed up and in their chairs
  - 8:00-9:00AM: Sound check
  - 9:45AM: Performance #1
  - 11:00AM: Performance #2
- Since these concerts occur during school hours, OCYSO members are provided with absence letters addressed to their school Attendance Office from the OCYSO staff. Students should not incur any attendance infractions at their school since these concerts are considered a community service. To that end, OCYSO members are eligible to receive community service credit for these performances.
- TICKETS: Complimentary tickets for the Concerts for Fifth Graders at the Renée & Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall are available on a limited, first-come, first-served basis. Tickets can be requested by completing the appropriate form and submitting it to OCYSO by the specified date.

ANNUAL RETREAT

OCYSO musicians are required to participate in a three (3) day mandatory fall retreat at the beginning of the season. The retreat is an opportunity to get to know the artist and administrative staff and fellow musicians. Students are supervised by OCYSO staff and parent volunteers, and coached by faculty guest artists. Musicians will spend time rehearsing, participating in team-building activities, and socializing.

The $200 retreat fee includes room and board in dormitory accommodations (2 nights, 5 meals), activities and bus transportation to/from Chapman University.

CONCERTO COMPETITION

Each year, OCYSO members have the unique opportunity to compete and perform with OCYSO. Previous year winners are not eligible to compete. To compete in the Concerto Competition:

- Return the Concerto Competition Application Form to the General Manager by the date indicated.
- After consulting with the Music Director about your selection, prepare a movement of a concerto or a work for your instrument and orchestra (i.e. a romance, variations for piano and orchestra, concerto, etc.) that does not exceed 15-20 minutes in total length. Be prepared to perform the movement of the concerto or the selected work in its entirety and by memory.
- Schedule your own accompanist. If you do not have one, please ask the OCYSO staff for a recommendation.
- Bring one copy of your selected work for the jury.
- Dress appropriately and be early.


**POLICIES**

**Attendance**

Each member of the orchestra plays an invaluable part – literally. Even if one orchestra member misses a rehearsal or comes late, it affects his or her entire section. OCYSO members are expected to attend all rehearsals, workshops, sectionals, performances, and special events as outlined in this handbook and in future handouts and notices.

It is mandatory to provide advance notification of any absence or late arrival to the Personnel Manager. It is the responsibility of each member to manage their time in accordance with the guidelines set forth in this Guide.

In case of illness or emergency, the member or member’s parent/guardian

- Must notify the OCYSO staff via email at absent@ocyso.org
- Call the OCYSO office at (714) 744-7927 at least one hour prior to rehearsal
- Complete an ONLINE Absent/Late Arrival Request Form, at www.OCYSO.org —> “About OCYSO” —> “Student Portal”.

Any other extenuating circumstances that may affect attendance should be discussed with the Personnel Manager as soon as possible.

Members are required to return to their seats in a timely manner after breaks.

LATE ARRIVALS: OCYSO members are to be seated at least 15 minutes prior to each rehearsal, workshop, or sectional. Call time for Sunday afternoon rehearsals is 1:45 PM unless otherwise notified. For each late arrival, members must complete an Absence/Late Arrival Request electronic form on the OCYSO website, Student Portal page. These forms are then reviewed by the Personnel Manager for final approval. Any unapproved late arrival will be considered unexcused.

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**College Credit**

Through Chapman University’s Extended Education Program, OCYSO members completing an entire season are eligible to receive one (1) unit of college credit. To receive credit, complete a Registration & Grade Report form and remit a non-refundable payment of $60.00 to the General Manager by the fourth rehearsal of the season. Checks should be made payable to: Brandman University.

To complete the Registration & Grade Report form, make sure to include the following information in the appropriate spaces:

- Social Security #
- Date of Birth
- Telephone #
- Name (Last, First)
- Address
- City/State/Zip
- Student ID# - leave blank
- Form of Payment – circle one

Complete the boxed sections as follows:

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<td>05/2018</td>
<td>Orange Campus/Prof. Daniel Wicks</td>
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Amount Paid: Tuition X Units = Total

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Disciplinary Consequences
Repeated tardiness, absence, inappropriate etiquette, or conduct by an OCYSO member may result in one or more of the following:
• Seat reassignment within the section
• Loss of solo opportunities
• Restriction from participating in master classes
• Restriction from participating in the annual OCYSO Concerto Competition
• Restriction from performance within the concert period
• Dismissal from OCYSO
Absence: Two unexcused absences will result in a verbal warning and a meeting with the General Manager. A third unexcused absence will result in a written warning and a meeting with the General Manager and Music Director, and may be grounds for dismissal from OCYSO.

Guests
Guests are welcome to attend OCYSO rehearsals provided they follow appropriate observer etiquette as described below:
• Turn off all electronic devices
• Enter and leave quietly
• No refreshments; water bottles ok
• No audible speech or noise of any kind
• No babies or young children
• No audio or visual recording or photographs without the consent of the Music Director
Parents/Guardians are welcome to make use of the Parent’s Lounge during rehearsals located in the Oliphant Hall Conference Room, OH 101D.

Orchestra Seating
No seat is guaranteed. If unsatisfactory participation and progress is determined by the Music Director and OCYSO staff, any member of OCYSO may be subject to a playing test and will be reseated according to their proficiency. Should a student not play as well as the student seated behind, the student will be moved back to the appropriate chair. Should a student play better than those seated ahead, the student will be moved up to the appropriate chair.

Performance Attire
OCYSO members are required to dress in concert attire and adhere to the following attire guidelines:

Ladies
• Floor length, solid black dress, covered shoulders (with modest neckline and minimal leg-slits)
• Loose, long solid black dress pants/skirt and solid black blouse with modest neckline
• Black hose/stockings, and dress shoes
• Not permitted: strapless gowns, spaghetti straps, or tank tops

Gentlemen
• Regular black tuxedo (no tails) with white tuxedo/dress shirt
• Black bow tie and cummerbund or vest
• Black socks and dress shoes
OCYSO members failing to meet these guidelines will not be allowed to perform. For further assistance or questions, please contact the General Manager.

OCYSO members are expected to dress in appropriate attire at all rehearsals, workshops, and special events, if not otherwise instructed.

School Music Program Participation
All OCYSO members attending middle school or high school are required to participate in their school’s instrumental music program (if one is available).

Orchestra members must notify the Personnel Manager as soon as possible of any scheduling conflicts that may prevent the member from attending an OCYSO rehearsal, workshop, performance, or special event. Attendance policies are applicable regardless of extracurricular involvement or commitment to a school music program.

No excused absence or late arrival will be granted for rehearsal or performance conflicts with other youth, community, or professional performing ensembles. Please refer to the OCYSO schedule and ensure your availability for each activity. It is each member’s sole responsibility to negotiate terms of involvement with other ensembles to make it possible to attend, manage, and meet all activities outlined on the OCYSO schedule.

Season Recordings + Photographs
Audio and visual recording of any kind is strictly prohibited during any OCYSO concert. Posting home or smartphone recordings on the internet or other social media is strictly prohibited due to legal and privacy restrictions.

Smoking
Smoking is prohibited at all OCYSO rehearsals, performances, and events.

Valuables
Keep all personal valuables, such as purses, wallets, cash, technology, and instruments with you always. Do not leave any valuables in your cases, dressing room, or unattended on stage or backstage. During concerts, valuables may be locked in the Stage Manager’s office. No objects may be placed on stage during a concert.
CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

Chapman University has hosted OCYSO for nearly 50 years. In addition to our close relationship to the University, we also respect its top-level facilities. Be mindful of your interactions, behavior, and presence while on campus for all OCYSO events.

During rehearsals, OCYSO members may place their personal belongings (coats, backpacks, instrument cases, etc.) around the perimeter of the rehearsal hall. During concerts, these items must be kept in the under-stage dressing rooms or other designated areas. Do not use the stage or stage wings for storing any personal items.

Refreshments may only be consumed outside each facility. Refreshments are not permitted on stage at any time. Only bottled water may be consumed on stage during rehearsals.

For safety reasons, the balcony and upper levels of Memorial Hall and the Musco Center are restricted and will remain closed during all rehearsals, workshops, and sectionals (unless otherwise noted). These will remain open only during concerts and special events at the discretion of management.

Under no circumstances should an OCYSO member attempt to move or handle any stage equipment or Chapman University instruments. Only OCYSO percussionists and keyboardists, Chapman University Staff, and OCYSO Staff are permitted to handle percussion, keyboard, and stage equipment.

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

The Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra is proud to be sponsored by and partnered with the following organizations and wishes to acknowledge the vital role they play in making our orchestra performances possible.

Philharmonic Society of Orange County
The mission of the Philharmonic Society of Orange County is to foster, promote, and increase the knowledge and appreciation of the arts through the presentation of performances by musical artists of national and international stature and the development and implementation of a wide variety of music education outreach programs. More than a quarter of a million Orange County students, from kindergarten through high school, participate yearly in the youth programs provided by the committees of the Philharmonic Society.

Each year since 1986, the society has presented the Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra in eight concerts for fifth graders at the Performing Arts Center. These concerts provide the opportunity for the youth orchestra members to appear in Segerstrom Hall and for the fifth graders to be inspired by the fine musicians of the Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra members.

The Friends of the OCYSO
The goal of the Friends of the OCYSO is to provide both financial and organizational support for the Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra. Through direct donations and fundraising activities, this group provides financial assistance for the Orchestra. The Friends’ efforts provide monies for the annual fall auditions, concert programs, and promotional materials. The Friends of the OCYSO also supports special workshops and master classes for orchestra members. In addition, orchestra tours are partially underwritten by the Friends of the OCYSO, reducing the cost to individual orchestra members and their families.

Members of the Friends of the OCYSO donate their time, helping with concert performances, tours, and post-concert receptions. This dedicated group provides all of the necessary efforts required to elevate and promote OCYSO.
Orange County Department of Education
The Orange County Department of Education provides guidance and leadership to the 28 school districts in Orange County. The mission is to provide a world class education to the over 500,000 students enrolled in our public schools. We provide students with the following county-operated programs and services: Alternative and Correctional Education, Outdoor Science, Regional Occupational Program, Special Education, Child Care Services, and Student Programs.

OCDE serves as a connecting agency among Orange County school districts, community college districts, local, state and federal governmental agencies, and community organizations and responds to district and community requests for staff development, administrative, business, educational, and support services.

The Orange County Department of Education was one of the founding sponsors of the Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra in 1970.

Chapman University Conservatory of Music
The mission of the Conservatory of Music at Chapman University is to provide an outstanding education for the professional and intellectual development of artists and scholars in a supportive, rigorous liberal arts environment that enriches the human mind and spirit.

The Conservatory of Music offers the Bachelor of Music in music and pre-professional programs leading to the bachelor of music in composition, music education, and performance (conducting, instrumental, keyboard collaborative arts and vocal).

Chapman University first offered the Bachelor of Music degree in 1930-31, and has strived to present thorough music curricula blended with liberal learning ever since. The university’s music facilities compare with institutions far larger in size and offer a fine setting for both instruction and musical presentations. The Conservatory of Music is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music.

SEASON SCHEDULE
Subject to change. Please check ocyso.org for the most up-to-date information.

Weekly Rehearsals
Sunday afternoons
- Call Time: 1:45 PM
- Rehearsals: 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM
*OCYSO reserves the right to extend a rehearsal to 6:00 PM as needed
*Sectionals & Chamber Music Rehearsals: 1:00 – 1:45 PM as needed
- Rehearsals begin: August 27, 2017
- Season rehearsals end: May 13, 2018
Location: Chapman University, Crean Orchestral Recital Hall / Oliphant Hall

Mandatory Parents/Guardians & Members Meeting
Parents/Guardians are required to attend one (1) orientation meeting:
- Sunday, August 27, 2017 from 2:00 – 3:00 PM in Salmon Recital Hall, Chapman University

Palomar Annual Retreat
Friday – Sunday, September 15-17, 2017

Chapman Season Workshops
Fall Workshop #1  Sunday, September 10, 2017
Fall Workshop #2  Sunday, October 22, 2017
Winter Workshop #1  Sunday, January 14, 2018
Winter Workshop #2  Sunday, February 18, 2018
- Workshop Call time: 12:45 PM
- Workshop Rehearsals: 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Spring Workshop  Sunday, March 25, 2018

Season Concerts
Concert at the Renée & Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall
- Saturday, December 9, 2017 at 2:00 PM
Concert at the Chapman University Memorial Hall
- Sunday, March 11, 2018 at 4:00 PM
Concert at the Musco Center for the Arts
- Sunday, May 13, 2018 at 4:00 PM

Concerts for Fifth Graders at the Renée & Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall
Concert #1+2  Monday, February 12, 2018
Concert #3+4  Friday, March 9, 2018
Concert #5+6  Wednesday, March 21, 2018
Concert #7+8  Thursday, March 29, 2018
- Call Time: 7:45 AM
- Concerts (2 per morning): 9:45 AM and 11:00 AM
- Concerts end: 12:00 PM

Concerto Competition (optional)
Crean Recital Hall, Chapman University
Saturday, November 11, 2017 at 10:00 AM