

The Metropolitan  
Youth Orchestra  
of New York

**Member Handbook**  
25th Anniversary 2017-2018 Season

## About The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York:

The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York (MYO) is committed to fostering a community of talented young musicians from Long Island and providing them with an opportunity to rehearse and perform choral and orchestral masterworks at the highest possible level with recognized leaders in music education and performance. Founded in 1993 by John C. McNeur, MYO has grown from a 15-piece orchestra to seven orchestras, a flute choir, and seven choral ensembles, serving over 1,000 musicians between the ages of 8 and 18. MYO enjoys a rich tradition of international summer performance tours, beginning with the 1997 tour to Germany, France, and Austria through the most recent tour to Spain in 2016. MYO is thrilled to announce our 12th international performance tour to Berlin, Dresden, Prague, Vienna, and Budapest in July 2018. Please see our [Tours page](#) for more details!

The MYO Handbook is intended to provide a reference for common questions and official procedures that concern our regular season. Any new information will be distributed to members and their families throughout the season as needed. If you have any questions, please email us or call our office during business hours and we will be happy to assist you.

### Board of Directors

Sandra Baskin, President

Ramon Guerrero, Trustee

Stephanie Temple, Vice President

Debbie Madonna, Trustee

Ken Davis, Treasurer

Robert McDermott, Trustee

Omid Tousi, Secretary

Gene O'Brien, Trustee

Robert Condemi, Trustee

Anthea Jackson, Executive Director

Margaret Feldman, Trustee

Anissa Arnold, Executive Liaison

Marian Fourman, Trustee

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## Contact Information

### Mailing Address:

The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York  
13 Myrtle Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Manhasset, NY 11030

### Office Hours:

Monday - Friday  
9am - 5pm

### Telephone:

(516) 365-6961

### Fax:

(516) 365-6960

### MYO Office Staff:

Anthea Jackson  
Executive Director

### Email:

[ajackson@myo.org](mailto:ajackson@myo.org)

Mark Carr  
Music Librarian and Media Specialist

[mcarr@myo.org](mailto:mcarr@myo.org)

Emily Fischer  
Membership Coordinator

[efischer@myo.org](mailto:efischer@myo.org)

### Website:

[www.myo.org](http://www.myo.org)

### Like us on Facebook:

[Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York](#)

### Follow us on Instagram:

[@myoorch](#)

### Follow us on Twitter:

[@myoorch](#)

### Hear us on SoundCloud:

[www.soundcloud.com/myo2015-1](http://www.soundcloud.com/myo2015-1)

## From the Executive Director

Dear MYO Members and Families,

Congratulations to all of our new and returning musicians! We are so impressed with the exceptionally high level of playing and singing we heard at this year's auditions and we cannot wait to welcome you to the 25th Anniversary Season here at The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York!

MYO continues to grow in size and talent and we are proud to offer rehearsing and performing opportunities for all 15 of our ensembles, including seven choirs, seven orchestras, and our fabulous flute choir this season.

There are over 1,000 members between the ages of 8 and 18 participating in MYO in 2017-2018 and we hope you will enjoy the following benefits of your membership:

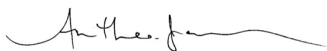
- Making music with Long Island's leaders in education and performance
- Performing at renowned concert venues in Long Island and New York City
- Collaborating with talented and dedicated young musicians
- Building your musical skills from one MYO season to the next through our comprehensive training program

**In 2017-2018:** each MYO ensemble will perform three formal concerts, two of them at our esteemed Long Island concert venues including the Adelphi University Performing Arts Center, LeFrak Concert Hall at Queens College, The Staller Center for the Arts, and The Tilles Center. The final concerts of the season will be held at Carnegie Hall. Be sure to check our website [www.myo.org](http://www.myo.org) and your weekly MYO E-Notes for more information about our Community Concert Series, National Anthem performing opportunities, Special Guest Artists, and more!

MYO members are expected to uphold our organization's high musical standards and abide by the policies and procedures outlined in this handbook. Thank you to our members and their families for taking the time to read this handbook carefully, as it will answer many of your questions and prepare you for the 2017-2018 season.

It is our goal to provide you with opportunities that are as exceptional as you are and we look forward to a spectacular year of music ahead!

Thank you for joining us this season,



Anthea Jackson, Executive Director  
The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York

# Membership

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Membership in MYO Choirs and Orchestras is available to qualified musicians who audition and are accepted. Acceptance is based on several factors including musical ability, technical proficiency, experience, age, and the needs of each ensemble.

Membership in the program is a serious commitment and members are expected to be actively involved from the first rehearsal in September through the final concert in May. Please refer to your MYO ensemble schedule for specific rehearsal and performance dates and times.

## Programs

MYO has 15 performing ensembles across Long Island's Nassau and Suffolk Counties for the 2017-2018 season. Learn more about MYO Music Directors and Pianists on our [WEBSITE](http://www.myo.org/about-us) ([www.myo.org/about-us](http://www.myo.org/about-us)).

### **Nassau County**

Nassau Treble Choir

Nassau Concert Choir

Nassau Symphonic Choir

Nassau Chamber Chorale

Nassau Flute Choir

Nassau String Orchestra

Nassau Concert Orchestra

Nassau Symphony Orchestra

Nassau Principal Orchestra

### **Music Director**

Craig B. Knapp and Pianist Naomi Aomori

Doreen Fryling and Pianist Jeong-Hwa Park

Louise O'Hanlon and Pianist Naomi Aomori

Edward P. Norris III and Pianist Cara Brown

Nana Aomori

Michelina Sobolewski

Peggy Ho

Patricia Koppeis

Scott Sticklely

### **Suffolk County**

Suffolk Treble Choir

Suffolk Concert Choir

Suffolk Symphonic Choir

Suffolk Concert Orchestra

Suffolk Symphony Orchestra

Suffolk Principal Orchestra

### **Music Director**

Craig B. Knapp and Pianist Kaitlin Schneekloth

Melanie Dominick and Pianist Brendan Sparks

Shoshana Hershkowitz and Pianist Brad Drinkwater

Eileen Murphy

Scott Zarchy

Phil Preddice

## Registration

To register for the 2017-2018 season, you must submit the following:

1. Completed online Registration Form
2. Completed online Release and Medical Information Form
3. Tuition Fee

The Registration Form includes the terms and conditions of our Parent/Guardian Agreement, and both forms require a parent or guardian signature.

Your 2017-2018 MYO Registration Form, Release and Medical Information Form, and tuition must be received and processed before you can be enrolled as an active MYO member. Members will receive:

1. MYO 2017-2018 Handbook (emailed to members and available on [www.myo.org](http://www.myo.org))
2. Schedule of Rehearsals, Concerts, and Events
3. Folder and Assigned Music
4. MYO 25th Anniversary 2017-2018 T-Shirt
5. Weekly E-Notes from the MYO Office

## Tuition

The annual tuition fee helps MYO offset the costs associated with:

- Instruction by MYO Music Directors, Pianists, Coaches, and Guest Performers
- Rental and security fees for MYO rehearsal spaces, September 2017 through May 2018
- Performances in renowned concert venues in Long Island and New York City
- Sheet music for rehearsals and performances

### **2017-2018 Tuition Fees**

Nassau/Suffolk Treble Choir: \$550

1.75 hours of rehearsal/week and three formal concerts

Nassau/Suffolk Concert Choir: \$565

2 hours of rehearsal/week and three formal concerts

Nassau Flute Choir: \$565

2 hours of rehearsal/week and three formal concerts

Nassau/Suffolk Symphonic Choir, Nassau Chamber Chorale: \$575

2.5 hours of rehearsal/week and three formal concerts

Nassau String Orchestra: \$575

2 hours of rehearsal/week and three formal concerts

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Nassau/Suffolk Concert Orchestra: \$600

2.25 hours of rehearsal/week and three formal concerts

Nassau/Suffolk Symphony Orchestra: \$625

2.5 hours of rehearsal/week and three formal concerts

Nassau/Suffolk Principal Orchestra: \$625

2.5 hours of rehearsal/week and three formal concerts

Please note the tuition does not cover the cost of concert tickets, concert recordings, or any additional MYO merchandise.

## Payment Methods

Tuition payments may be submitted online through PayPal, or in the form of cash, check, money order, or credit card (MasterCard, Visa, American Express, and Discover). Please be sure to include the MYO member's full name (first and last) on each check or money order. Any bank fees resulting from a returned check are the responsibility of the paying party.

Full tuition payments must be completed by the due date indicated on the registration form. If this presents a hardship, payment plans are available. Please contact the MYO office at 516-365-6961 for details. **Members will not be permitted to attend rehearsals without a tuition payment or payment plan in place.**

MYO Member accounts with an outstanding balance on **Monday, January 8, 2018** will be subject to review and possible probation.

## MYO Concert Ticket Prices

MYO families are expected to purchase concert tickets to three formal concerts held throughout the 2017-2018 season. The ticket income offsets the cost of venue rental, labor, and concert programs. Concert ticket prices for Long Island venues are priced at \$25 for Adults, and \$10 for Students (21 years and under) and Seniors (60 years and older). Concert ticket prices for New York City venues are higher (\$18-\$55 on average) because of the costs associated with renting internationally renowned concert spaces.

**All ticket sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.**

## Discounts, Financial Aid, and Senior Scholarships

We offer the following tuition discounts:

1. \$100 discount for each additional sibling who is an active MYO member in 2017-2018
2. As part of our building use agreement with the Patchogue-Medford and Connetquot School Districts in Suffolk County, we offer a \$100 tuition discount to members who are currently enrolled in Patchogue-Medford and Connetquot District public schools.



Financial Aid may be provided based on demonstrated financial need and the availability of MYO funding. The deadline for submitting the Financial Aid Application for the 2017-2018 season is **Monday, July 24, 2017**.

We are proud to offer merit-based scholarships to **graduating seniors** who have demonstrated outstanding musicianship, dedicated service to MYO, and have plans to major in music at college (including the fields of Music Administration, Business, Composition, Education, Performance, Recording, and Therapy). Performance includes instrumental and vocal performance, as well as Musical Theater.

Applications for the following scholarships will be available by Monday, April 2, 2018:

- Joseph Ferriso Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000)
- Veronica Franco Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000)
- Grace McDermott Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000)
- Genelle Taney Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000)
- Three additional MYO Senior Scholarships (\$1,000 each)

## Withdrawing Membership

We would like to reiterate that by accepting a position in MYO, you have made a season-long (September 2017–May 2018) commitment. However, should a situation occur where you need to withdraw your membership after the season is underway, you must send Membership Coordinator Emily Fischer a written statement explaining the reason(s) for your withdrawal to [efischer@myo.org](mailto:efischer@myo.org). All assigned music must be returned to MYO or you will be charged a minimum replacement fee of \$10 per part.

Participation fees are **NON-REFUNDABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE** after your child's **first** official rehearsal of the season. No refund will be granted for any reason if your child completes his/her first official rehearsal of the season. MYO will retain an administrative fee of \$100 for any refund issued **prior to** your child's first scheduled MYO rehearsal of the 2017-2018 season. A written petition for refund is required.

## Personal Information Access

We use a secure online program to manage our members' information, called Charms Office Assistant. Through Charms, you can access and edit your personal information which we use to contact you via email, phone, mail, and (in case of emergency) text message. You can also use Charms to check your music assignments, download practice parts, review absences, and more.

To access this area:

1. Click the **"MYO Members Only"** link found on the homepage of our [website](#).
2. Charms will prompt you to enter your **"School Code"**; please enter **"MYONYOrch"**
3. Use your 6-digit MYO ID number as the **"Student Area Password"** (you may change it once logged-in)

If you are making changes to your personal information, your changes will not be saved to your account unless you click the **"Update"** button in the upper right hand corner of the page.

**Weekly MYO E-Notes will be sent to the email addresses listed in your Charms account. Please add CharmsEmailSender@CharmsMusic.com to your contacts to avoid E-Notes being sent to your spam folder.**

## Promoting MYO Events and Auditions

We strongly encourage our members and their families to promote MYO performances and new member auditions through word of mouth.

- Please share our website address ([www.myo.org](http://www.myo.org))
- “Like” our Facebook page (Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York)
- Follow us on Instagram (@myoorch)
- Follow us on Twitter (@myoorch)
- “Check-in” to MYO rehearsals and performance venues
- Invite your music teachers to a MYO concert
- Tag MYO in your rehearsal and concert photos

## Annual T-Shirt Design Contest

We are thrilled to announce our fifth annual MYO T-Shirt Design Contest for our 25th Anniversary Season 2017-2018! Each year, our registered members have an opportunity to show their MYO pride by designing an image for our official season shirt, which will be worn by over 1,000 members!

Show us how creative you can be with a design (up to four colors) that can be printed on a short-sleeved, crew neck black T-shirt. The winning artist’s signature will also be included on the shirt.

- Submissions must be original and include your signature (no use of copyrighted material, apart from the MYO logo)
- Submissions should be music-related, incorporate MYO’s 25th Anniversary, and be appropriate for both our choral and orchestral members
- The design will be used on the front of the T-shirt only
- The winner must provide MYO with high quality artwork for printing, so computer-generated designs are preferable

In addition to seeing your design worn by all of our MYO members, the winner will also receive a cash award of \$250.00!

The deadline for submission is **Thursday, August 31, 2017**. Please use the [ONLINE FORM](#) to upload your design. We accept JPEG, PNG and PDF file types with a maximum file size of 1024 KB.

We look forward to seeing your designs!

# Policies and Expectations

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## MYO Code of Conduct

Whether rehearsing or performing with your MYO ensemble, you are responsible for the following:

- You are a guest in MYO rehearsal and concert spaces and you must leave the premises in the same condition you found them
- You are expected to follow directions from MYO Music Directors, MYO Staff, and Venue Staff
- **MYO strictly enforces a zero tolerance policy regarding any form of harassment toward other members, MYO Music Directors, and Staff**
- You must not touch any musical instruments that do not belong to you
- **Cell phone use during MYO rehearsals and concerts is strictly prohibited**
- No talking during rehearsals unless you are addressed by the Music Director
- Homework is to be completed **before** or **after** rehearsals only

The first violation will result in a verbal warning from your Music Director and/or onsite MYO Staff.

The second violation will result in a call to member's family from the Executive Director.

The third violation will result in probation and possible dismissal from MYO.

## School Ensemble Participation

As a MYO Member, you are expected to remain an active, positive role model in your school music ensemble(s). Participating in both a school music program and MYO provides many benefits to young musicians, including experience playing a wide variety of musical styles, development of technique and musicianship, and the opportunity to work with and gain knowledge from different music directors and peers.

Every attempt is made to avoid scheduling conflicts with school events and other music organizations on Long Island. Please compare your rehearsal and concert schedule with your school events calendar now and note any and all conflicts by filling out our [ABSENCE REPORT FORM](#) and discussing the conflicts with your MYO Music Director as soon as possible.

## Rehearsal Supervisors

Rehearsal Supervisors are on-site MYO Staff members who manage rehearsals and concerts. Your rehearsal supervisor will assist with:

- Checking members in and distributing materials such as sheet music, tickets, and merchandise
- Monitoring our members before and after rehearsal and during breaks to ensure member behavior is consistent with the MYO Code of Conduct
- Responding to family questions and concerns
- Accepting paperwork and payments, and transporting rehearsal materials to and from the MYO office
- Working with family and member volunteers to coordinate ensemble set-up and breakdown
- Remaining with members to be sure everyone departs the premises safely

## Attendance

Attendance is taken at every rehearsal by your Rehearsal Supervisor, and MYO members are responsible for checking in upon arrival. **Your MYO music folder must be presented each week to be scanned for attendance.** Please **do not** use your sheet music for this purpose.

Arriving late for a rehearsal is disruptive. We expect our members to arrive at least fifteen minutes early to check in and warm up prior to the start of the 7:00 PM rehearsal. **Three (3) late arrivals or early departures per concert cycle will count as one (1) absence.**

## Absences

**The MYO attendance policy allows for a maximum of three (3) excused absences per concert cycle. This policy may vary based on the requirements of your ensemble.** Any member exceeding this allowance will be notified by email and placed on probation. Members on probation should speak to the MYO Staff and their Music Director regarding their continued participation. The Music Director may ask members to play or sing their parts to determine their level of preparation.

Upon approval from the MYO Staff and Music Director, the probation status will be lifted. However, **members who do not receive this approval will not be permitted to perform in the upcoming concert.** Music Directors reserve the right to dismiss any member for lack of commitment (including, but not limited to, excessive absences, lack of preparation, and behavioral issues).

## Reporting MYO Absences

If you are going to be late or absent from a MYO rehearsal, please fill out our [ABSENCE REPORT FORM](#). The Absence Report Form can also be found on the main page of our [WEBSITE](#), under the Programs Menu.

You are expected to report any absences or late arrivals to the MYO Staff and your Music Director. We also take your responsibility in reporting absences into account when considering any requests concerning future placement, financial aid, and merit scholarship awards. You can track your attendance record through your [MYO Members Only](#) account on Charms.

## Personal Practice and Preparation

**Members are required to practice their MYO music outside of rehearsal.** MYO Rehearsals are for learning how your individual part fits within the ensemble. We encourage you to listen to recordings of the works you are performing, as guided by your Music Director.

## Private Lessons

MYO members are strongly encouraged to take private music lessons. Lists of private instrumental and vocal teachers in the Nassau and Suffolk areas will be available through Charms to our current members only. These lists are a courtesy and MYO does not endorse or vouch for one private teacher over another and is not responsible for the quality of the instruction, qualifications of teachers, determination of fee structure, or any behaviors of teachers working outside of MYO.

## New Member Auditions

Auditions are required for initial placement in our MYO ensembles.

Auditions will be held in May and June for the upcoming season, and in September in the event of an ensemble opening. Acceptance into the program is highly competitive, and based largely upon:

- Demonstrated musical ability and technical proficiency
- Tone quality and intonation
- Rhythmic accuracy and sight-reading ability
- Experience, age, and the needs of each ensemble

## Returning Member Auditions

Returning Member Auditions will be held in May and June for the upcoming season. There is no fee for returning member auditions and the MYO Staff will notify members and families of their audition day and time by email. You do not need to fill out the online Audition Application form, as it is for new members only.

The Music Directors will make recommendations for ensemble placement in the 2018-2019 season based on these auditions and in consultation with other Music Directors and MYO Staff. Members will be notified of their placement in early July following the new and returning member auditions.

Not all of our returning members are required to audition for the 2018-2019 season. Please review the following information to see your specific ensemble's requirements.

### Nassau Orchestra and Flute Choir Members

All returning Nassau Orchestra and Flute Choir members will be required to audition for placement in the 2018-2019 season. Returning members will audition for their current MYO Music Director and auditions will be scheduled by instrument and ensemble on regular rehearsal nights in May and June 2018 by the MYO office. These auditions are only a few minutes in length and give our returning members a chance to play for their current Music Director one-on-one and demonstrate their technical and musical ability, beyond what was demonstrated during weekly MYO rehearsals.

### Suffolk Orchestra Members

Returning members have the opportunity to audition for placement in either the Suffolk Symphony Orchestra (moving from Suffolk Concert Orchestra) or the Suffolk Principal Orchestra (moving from Suffolk Symphony Orchestra) for the 2018-2019 season and will audition for their prospective MYO Music Director. These auditions will be scheduled on MYO rehearsal nights in May and June for the upcoming season. Members' playing level, orchestral experience, musical maturity, and age/maturity level will be taken into consideration during placement.

Returning members who wish to remain in the Suffolk Concert Orchestra, Suffolk Symphony Orchestra, or the Suffolk Principal Orchestra, as placed in the 2017-2018 season, will not be required to audition for placement in the 2018-2019 season.

### All MYO Choir Members

Returning member auditions give our MYO Choir Directors a chance to build their choirs, knowing the abilities of both returning and new members before the first rehearsal in September. This information also allows them to choose music for the 2018-2019 season that best suits the vocal abilities of their members.

The following returning members are required to audition for their potential 2018-2019 Choir Directors. The auditions will be scheduled on regular MYO rehearsal nights in May and June 2018 by the MYO office.

### **Treble Choirs**

Treble Choir members going into the 7th grade and moving to the Concert Choir will be required to audition for the Concert Choir Director.

### **Concert Choirs**

Concert Choir members going into the 9th grade and moving to the Symphonic Choir will be required to audition for the respective Symphonic Choir Director.

### **Suffolk Symphonic Choir**

Returning Suffolk Symphonic Choir members are not required to audition for placement in the 2018-2019 MYO season.

### **Nassau Symphonic Choir**

Nassau Symphonic Choir members entering 11th and 12th grade in 2018-2019 will audition for placement in the Nassau Chamber Chorale. Members' level of singing, ensemble participation, and attendance will be taken into consideration during placement.

### **Nassau Chamber Chorale**

Returning Nassau Chamber Chorale members are required to audition for placement in the 2018-2019 MYO Season.

**Please Note:** Any members who are remaining in the Treble Choirs, Concert Choirs, or Symphonic Choirs in 2018-2019 based on their age and the age requirements of the ensemble are not required to audition.

## **Orchestra Seating Auditions**

All instrumentalists will be auditioned at the beginning and middle of the season to determine seating assignments. The seating audition dates are included in your rehearsal and concert schedule.

If, for any reason, you are unable to attend the scheduled date of the seating audition, please notify the office immediately to set up an audition prior to the listed audition date, which will be at the discretion of the Music Director.

**There will be no make-up seating auditions after the scheduled date.**

The Music Director and Coaches will determine final concert seating based on demonstrated preparation, mastery of the music, leadership capability, and attendance. This procedure will be repeated in the middle of the season, eliminating permanent seating by a single audition. **The decision of the Music Director is final.**

*\*\*Please understand that family and other outside involvement in this process is disruptive to the Music Directors, Members, Coaches, and Staff. The Music Directors and Coaches work with the members on a regular basis and are able to determine the best possible results for the ensemble based on each individual's growth and strengths on their respective instruments and music. This is a training organization and we ask that you trust our professional judgment.*

## Orchestra Sectional Rehearsals

All String, Woodwind, Brass, and Percussion sections in MYO orchestras receive additional coaching from professional Long Island-based music educators. The MYO Staff will schedule one sectional per concert cycle, for each orchestral section based on the availability of the coaches and additional rehearsal spaces. Sectional dates are included in your rehearsal and concert schedule.

## Sheet Music

All members will be issued music at the beginning of each concert cycle and must be returned to the MYO Office at the end of the concert cycle. **Original music will be assigned to members.** Please be mindful that original music is expensive and replacement charges can be as much as \$25 per part. Please handle any music carefully and return it in the condition in which it was received. Members will be charged a minimum replacement fee of \$10 or more for each piece of unreturned, lost, or damaged original music.

- Printed music will be assigned to you with a specific part number. You will be responsible for returning that specific part at the end of the concert cycle. Do not mix it up with someone else's music. **If the part assigned to you is not returned, you will have to pay for it.**
- You can review your music assignments by visiting your online Charms account.

**MYO Members are expected to bring their own music folder and music to every rehearsal.**

Copies of the concert music will be available where possible for download and printing through Charms.

*\*See [Personal Information Access](#) Section on page 9*

**Only pencil markings are permitted on the music.** Please mark your part lightly in pencil. Music returned with excessive markings, drawings, or with markings made in ink, will be considered damaged and you will be charged a replacement fee.

## Rehearsal Reminders

1. **Bring your music and pencil to every rehearsal.**
2. **Vocalists are encouraged to bring water to rehearsal.**
3. **All personal instruments must be in good working order.**

### For Reed Instruments

- Have a supply of extra reeds available at every rehearsal and concert

### For Brass

- All members must have the appropriate mute(s) available at each rehearsal and concert based on the needs of the music
- Have valve oil and slide grease available as needed

### For Strings

- Have a mute available at each rehearsal and concert
- Have a shoulder rest (as needed), rosin, dust cloth, and an extra set of strings available at each rehearsal and concert
- Cellists must supply their own rock stops

### For Percussionists

- Have own snare drum sticks, timpani pitch pipe, and mallet bag
- Complete any necessary setup **before** each rehearsal and assist with instrument return **after** rehearsal, in collaboration with your Music Director



# Concerts

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## MYO Formal Concerts

Each MYO ensemble will perform in three (or more) concerts throughout each season as noted in your rehearsal and concert schedule. We will email members specific concert information approximately one month in advance of the event, and will post updates on our website's [Concert and Events page](#), [Facebook page](#), and in our weekly MYO E-Notes.

Formal MYO concerts are recorded for archival purposes, except for the New York City venues. Online recordings of the Long Island-based performances will be available for a small fee through Amazon and Google Play. Look for more information in the MYO Concert E-Notes.

MYO is no longer producing recordings on CD due to high costs and diminished demand.

## Community Concert Series

The MYO Community Concert Series will bring our musicians into the Long Island community to perform at venues including senior centers, afterschool programs, and hospitals. **We strongly encourage each member to perform in their ensemble's community concert during the season**, based on the availability of performing opportunities. If you have recommendations for additional performing opportunities, please let us know at [admin@myo.org](mailto:admin@myo.org), thank you.

## Sporting Events

In recent seasons, MYO Choirs have performed the National Anthem for the Long Island Ducks, NYC Football Club at Yankee Stadium, NY Islanders, NY Liberty, NY Mets, Stony Brook University Seawolves, and the NIT tournament at Madison Square Garden. MYO Choirs will continue to sing the National Anthem at sporting events in the 2017-2018 season based on opportunity and availability. Check your weekly E-Notes for details.

## Concert Programs

All MYO concert programs include the full name and school name of each member, as well as acknowledging their participation in the following festivals for the 2017-2018 season: All State, All Eastern, All National, and the American Choral Directors Association National Conference Choir.

**Please complete our [ONLINE FORM](#) with your confirmed 2017-2018 festival participation.**

## Concert Tickets

Ticket information will be included in our concert E-Notes. We will sell tickets through the MYO website whenever possible, and will maintain venue seating charts for concert-goers to choose their own seats and make purchases. Please consult [www.myo.org](http://www.myo.org) for specific information regarding concert date, time, seating, and pricing. New York City concert tickets will be sold directly through each venue.

For smaller concert venues, it may be necessary to limit the number of tickets available to each member's family.

## Dress Rehearsals

**Attendance at all MYO dress rehearsals is mandatory.** These rehearsals are the only opportunity our members have to familiarize themselves with the concert venue and conquer nerves associated with performing on a new stage. Dress rehearsals are scheduled immediately prior to each concert at the concert venue.

**Members are required to wear concert dress to all dress rehearsals.**

## Concert Dress

We expect our MYO ensembles to look as professional as they sound. Please follow the concert dress code carefully. Members who do not follow the code for their particular ensemble may be asked to change before the performance. **MYO provides a list of suggested stores for purchasing concert dress items on Charms.**

The following dress will **not** be permitted onstage:

- **No** jeans, khaki pants, or leggings
- **No** t-shirts or tank tops
- **No** sport socks or sport shoes
- **No** perfume, cologne, or aftershave
- **No** excessive hair ornaments or jewelry
- **No** sheer, lace, or mesh clothing
- **No** side slit skirts or dresses
- **No** bare legs or feet

### Principal Orchestras, Symphony Orchestras, Symphonic Choirs, and Nassau Chamber Chorale

#### Girls

- Unadorned black dress top with discreet neckline and long sleeves and long black skirt to the ankle or black dress pants
- OR long black unadorned ankle-length dress with discreet neckline and long sleeves
- If sleeves are short, a matching unadorned black jacket or sweater with long sleeves is required to be worn
- Black tights or black pantyhose (no patterns)
- Black closed-toe dress shoes (no decorations)

#### Boys

- Black tuxedo (no tails) OR black suit jacket and black pants
- Bright white dress shirt with a black bow tie
- Black socks and black dress shoes

### Concert Orchestras and Flute Choir

#### Girls

- Unadorned black dress top with discreet neckline and long sleeves
- Long black skirt to the ankle OR black dress pants
- Black tights or black pantyhose (no patterns)
- Black closed-toe dress shoes (no decorations)

#### Boys

- Black jacket and black dress pants
- Bright white dress shirt with a long black tie
- Black socks and black dress shoes

## String Orchestra

### Girls

- Bright white ironed dress top with long sleeves
- Long black skirt to the ankle OR black dress pants
- Black tights or black pantyhose (no patterns)
- Black closed-toe dress shoes (no decorations)

### Boys

- Bright white ironed dress shirt with long sleeves and a long black tie
- Black dress pants and black belt
- Black socks and black dress shoes

## Treble and Concert Choirs, NEW in 2017-2018

### Girls

- Unadorned black dress top with discreet neckline and long sleeves
- Long black skirt to the ankle OR black dress pants
- Black tights or black pantyhose (no patterns)
- Black closed-toe dress shoes (no decorations)

### Boys

- Black dress shirt with long sleeves and no tie
- Black dress pants and black dress belt
- Black socks and black dress shoes

**Please make sure concert dress clothing is clean, ironed, and fits well.**

**Black dress shoes must be all black, including the sole, and free of decoration.**

## Audience Expectations

MYO audiences are comprised primarily of family and friends of MYO members and we expect you to follow these guidelines in support of our young performers and Music Directors:

- Stay for the duration of the concert
- We understand you are in a hurry to get home after the concert, but please be sure to show your appreciation of the talented and hardworking musicians onstage with your full applause before you depart
- Turn off or silence all cell phones
- No refreshments in any of the MYO concert venues
- No talking during the performance
- Do not bring portable video games to occupy young concert goers; the LCD screens are distracting to the performers and other audience members
- Videotaping, recording, and flash photography are all strictly prohibited at MYO concert venues as enforced by the venue staff

## More About MYO

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### MYO Summer 2018 Performance Tour to Europe

MYO is touring Europe July 3 - 16, 2018 and will visit Berlin, Dresden, Prague, Vienna, and Budapest! We are recruiting talented young musicians for the MYO Tour Choir and Tour Orchestra to perform five concerts in Europe under the direction of Choir Director Shoshana Hershkowitz and Orchestra Director Scott Stickley! The MYO 2018 Tour is open to registered MYO members entering 8th grade - 12th grade in September 2017 and MYO Alumni. Please see our [Tours page](#) for more details.

### Concerto and Vocal Competition

MYO will host a Concerto and Vocal Competition for MYO instrumentalists and singers in 2017-2018: Division I for 4th - 8th grade MYO Members and Division II for 9th - 12th grade MYO Members. The winners of each Division will receive a cash award and may be eligible to perform as a soloist with their MYO orchestra or choir. Previous 1st place winners of this competition are not eligible to apply.

MYO singers and instrumentalists are eligible to submit an audition recording via YouTube or MP3 file. Audition recordings should be no longer than 15 minutes in length and performed with piano accompaniment. Instrumentalists from Division I and II should include one movement of a concerto from the standard orchestral repertoire. Singers from Division I should include one art song or a song from a Broadway musical. Singers from Division II should include one song/aria from the art song, opera, operetta, and oratorio repertoire. The Concerto and Vocal Competition is open to our MYO members including all singers, string players, woodwinds, brass, percussion, and harp players. Online applications will be available through our website by **Wednesday, October 4, 2017**. Completed applications and audition recordings must be returned to the MYO office by **Wednesday, December 20, 2017**. Finalists will be selected and invited to perform at the Finals Concert on **Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Congregational Church of Huntington**. The Finalists concert is free and open to the public.

### NEW Emerging Composers Competition

MYO will host an Emerging Composers Competition, open to all unpublished composers under the age of 22 as of July 1, 2018. This national competition will have a Choral Division and an Orchestral Division and MYO Members and Alumni are actively encouraged to apply. Composition categories include SATB Youth Choir (High School students) and Symphony Orchestra (High School students). Online applications will be available through our website by **Wednesday, October 4, 2017**. Completed applications and scores in PDF form must be returned to the MYO office by **Wednesday, December 20, 2017**. The winning compositions will be announced by **Wednesday, January 17, 2018**. All finalists in each Division will receive a cash award and may have their composition performed by one of our MYO ensembles in the 2018-2019 season.

## Fundraising and Donations

MYO tuition fees are not enough to cover our operational costs. We also rely on individual donations, concert program advertisements, and MYO concert ticket and merchandise sales to help pay our excellent Music Directors, Pianists, Coaches, and Guest Performers, support our outstanding performances, and continue building our music library.

You can help support MYO by:

- Advertising your place of business in our concert programs during the 2017-2018 season
- Considering a matching gift with your employer
- Making a personal donation, naming a senior scholarship, or considering a commemorative giving opportunity as outlined on our website
- Using the link [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), searching for “Metropolitan Youth Orchestra Society of New York” and Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase price to MYO

*MYO is a certified 501 (c) (3) charitable organization, and as such, all contributed donations are tax deductible as prescribed by law.*

## MYO Merchandise

[MYO Merchandise](#) items including backpacks, hoodies, long-sleeved red or blue MYO shirts, 2017-18 season t-shirts, MYO bears, water bottles, magnets, stickers for instrument cases, and more, will be available for sale at all Long Island concert venues and at select rehearsals throughout the season. Proceeds go towards our MYO Scholarship Fund. Thank you for your support!

# Parent Information

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## Parent Meetings

Parent meetings are scheduled at the beginning of every MYO season at each of the rehearsal sites. Please refer to your MYO Ensemble Schedule for your specific meeting date and time. These meetings are an opportunity to get to know your MYO Staff, learn more about the 25th Anniversary Season, and ask questions. Refreshments will be provided and we look forward to meeting you!

## Carpooling

MYO Carpool lists will be made available at the Parent Meetings and on our secure online program (Charms Office Assistant) and they are divided by day and location of MYO rehearsals. Each list is ordered alphabetically by town, and includes Member name, MYO ensemble, and primary contact number.

## Emergency Cancellations

Please check our website or Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter pages for emergency cancellation of a rehearsal or performance due to school closings, inclement weather, or other circumstances beyond our control. MYO will make every effort to schedule make up rehearsals based on rehearsal site availability.

## Volunteer Opportunities

MYO Volunteers are an integral part of our organization. Volunteers assist with rehearsals and concert events during the season, and we would really appreciate your help with member check-in, rehearsal set up and break down, and chaperoning members at concert venues.

Please call the MYO Office at 516-365-6961 if you are interested in volunteering during the 2017-2018 season. Thank you!

## **MYO 2017-2018 Concerts and Events**

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### **Sunday, November 5, 2017 - Staller Center for the Arts at SUNY Stony Brook**

**2:00 PM** - Suffolk Concert Orchestra, Suffolk Symphony Orchestra, and Suffolk Principal Orchestra  
*Eileen Murphy, Scott Zarchy, Phil Preddice - Music Directors*

**7:00 PM** - Suffolk Treble Choir, Suffolk Concert Choir, and Suffolk Symphonic Choir  
*Craig B. Knapp, Melanie Dominick, Shoshana Hershkowitz - Music Directors*  
*Kaitlin Schneekloth, Brendan Sparks, Brad Drinkwater - Pianists*

### **Sunday, November 12, 2017 - Adelphi University Performing Arts Center**

**3:00 PM** - Nassau Flute Choir, Nassau String Orchestra, and Nassau Concert Orchestra  
*Nana Aomori, Michelina Sobolewski, Peggy Ho - Music Directors*

**7:00 PM** - Nassau Symphony Orchestra and Nassau Principal Orchestra  
*Patricia Koppeis, Scott Sticklely - Music Directors*

### **Sunday, December 10, 2017 - LeFrak Concert Hall at CUNY Queens College**

**4:00 PM** - Nassau Treble Choir and Nassau Concert Choir  
*Craig B. Knapp, Doreen Fryling - Music Directors*  
*Naomi Aomori, Jeong-Hwa Park - Pianists*

**7:00 PM** - Nassau Symphonic Choir and Nassau Chamber Chorale  
*Louise O'Hanlon, Edward P. Norris III - Music Directors*  
*Naomi Aomori, Cara Brown - Pianists*

### **Sunday, March 4, 2018 - Adelphi University Performing Arts Center**

**3:00 PM** - Nassau Treble Choir and Nassau Concert Choir  
*Craig B. Knapp, Doreen Fryling - Music Directors*  
*Naomi Aomori, Jeong-Hwa Park - Pianists*

**7:00 PM** - Nassau Symphonic Choir and Nassau Chamber Chorale  
*Louise O'Hanlon, Edward P. Norris III - Music Directors*  
*Naomi Aomori, Cara Brown - Pianists*

### **Saturday, March 11, 2018 - Adelphi University Performing Arts Center**

**3:00 PM** - Nassau Flute Choir, Nassau String Orchestra, and Nassau Concert Orchestra  
*Nana Aomori, Michelina Sobolewski, Peggy Ho - Music Directors*

**7:00 PM** - Nassau Symphony Orchestra and Nassau Principal Orchestra  
*Patricia Koppeis, Scott Sticklely - Music Directors*

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**Sunday, March 18, 2018 - Tilles Center for the Performing Arts at LIU Post**

**12:00 PM** - Suffolk Concert Orchestra, Suffolk Symphony Orchestra, and Suffolk Principal Orchestra  
*Eileen Murphy, Scott Zarchy, Phil Preddice - Music Directors*

**4:00 PM** - Suffolk Treble Choir, Suffolk Concert Choir, and Suffolk Symphonic Choir  
*Craig B. Knapp, Melanie Dominick, Shoshana Hershkowitz - Music Directors*  
*Kaitlin Schneekloth, Brendan Sparks, Brad Drinkwater - Pianists*

**Sunday, May 6, 2018 - Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage at Carnegie Hall**

**12:30 PM** - Nassau and Suffolk Treble Choirs, Suffolk Concert Choir, Suffolk Symphonic Choir, Suffolk Concert Orchestra, Suffolk Symphony Orchestra, and Suffolk Principal Orchestra  
*Eileen Murphy, Scott Zarchy, Phil Preddice - Orchestral Directors*  
*Craig B. Knapp, Melanie Dominick, Shoshana Hershkowitz - Choral Directors*  
*Naomi Aomori, Kaitlin Schneekloth, Brendon Sparks, Brad Drinkwater - Pianists*

**7:30 PM** - Nassau Concert Choir, Nassau Symphonic Choir, Nassau Chamber Chorale, Nassau Flute Choir, Nassau String Orchestra, Nassau Concert Orchestra, Nassau Symphony Orchestra, and Nassau Principal Orchestra  
*Nana Aomori - Flute Choir Director*  
*Michelina Sobolewski, Peggy Ho, Patricia Koppeis, Scott Stickley - Orchestral Directors*  
*Doreen Fryling, Louise O'Hanlon, Edward P. Norris III - Choral Directors*  
*Jeong-Hwa Park, Naomi Aomori, Cara Brown - Pianists*

**Sunday, June 10, 2018 - Adelphi University Performing Arts Center**

**3:00 PM** - MYO Alumni Choir and Orchestra  
*Shoshana Hershkowitz, Edward P. Norris III - Choral Directors*  
*Phil Preddice, Scott Stickley - Orchestral Directors*

A list of our community and anthem performances can be found on our [Events page at www.myo.org/events](http://www.myo.org/events)

