



DES MOINES SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

2017-2018 POLICIES & GUIDELINES

Des Moines Symphony Academy
The Temple for Performing Arts
1011 Locust Street, Suite 400
Des Moines, IA 50309
dmsymphony.org/academy

Joseph Giunta, Youth Symphony
Michele Senger, Youth Philharmonic
Matt Meyer, Preludio Strings & Youth Sinfonia

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Des Moines Symphony Youth Orchestras is to provide talented and motivated instrumental students with memorable performance and mentorship opportunities led by recognized professional orchestra Conductors. Designed to be an extension of school instrumental music programs, student musicians must be enrolled in their school orchestra or band program in order to be eligible for participation in one of the Des Moines Symphony Youth Orchestras (Preludio Strings, Youth Sinfonia, Youth Philharmonic and Youth Symphony). As a member of our Youth Orchestras, student musicians will be provided an opportunity to pursue excellence and achieve their musical goals; performing, appreciating and preparing a strong foundation for a lifetime of great music.

MUSICIAN / PARENT EXPECTATIONS

As a member of the Des Moines Symphony Youth Orchestras, it is the student's responsibility to attend all rehearsals and concerts. Musicians are expected to arrive 10 minutes ahead of the scheduled rehearsal time with their instruments tuned and ready to rehearse/perform.

Musicians are expected to show respect for facilities and equipment used by the Youth Orchestras. Irresponsible behavior, use of drugs and/or alcohol or disrespect for Conductors and/or orchestra personnel will be considered grounds for automatic dismissal from our Youth Orchestras Program.

Parents are welcome to listen to rehearsals as long as this is done quietly and respectfully. If a conductor or staff member finds a parent or family to be disruptive to rehearsal you may be asked to remove yourself from the rehearsal room.

ABSENCES

It is imperative to the success of these ensembles that musicians regularly attend scheduled rehearsals. If a musician should need to be absent from a scheduled rehearsal, it is the responsibility of that musician (or parent) to notify the Symphony Academy office at 515.280.3332 or dmsymphonyacademy@gmail.com by 2pm on the day of the missed rehearsal including the reason for the absence. Excused absences include illness, family emergencies and other approved school related

activities. Missing rehearsal for homework is not considered an excused absence. One unexcused absence, chronic tardiness or early departure may result in dismissal from our Youth Orchestras Program. Refunds will not be issued for missed rehearsals or performances.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

The Des Moines Symphony Youth Orchestras will not rehearse on days when the Des Moines School District **OR** West Des Moines School District cancels or dismisses classes early due to inclement weather. Notice of cancellation will be distributed via e-mail no later than 2pm on the given rehearsal date. Notice of cancellations will also be posted on the Symphony Academy website. Please call the Symphony Academy at 515.280.3332 if you are in doubt.

PARKING INFORMATION

Metered street parking is available around The Temple for Performing Arts and many of these meters now accept credit cards along with coins. Youth Orchestras musicians and families may park in the **Voya surface lot** (located on the southeast corner of 10th and Locust – kitty-corner to The Temple) for free after 4:15 p.m. on weekdays. **Please keep in mind the Voya lot is not always available**, so be sure to always have change with you in case you need to use metered street parking.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Fire – Exit using the North doors at either end of The Temple for Performing Arts. Those exiting by use of the West fire staircase should report directly to the area next to the Des Moines Public Library entrance. Those exiting by use of the East fire staircase should report directly to the Des Moines Public Library walkway just north of The Temple for Performing Arts.

Tornado – Make way to corridors away from windows. If on the lobby floor, proceed to the corridor with restrooms near Centro Restaurant. Youth Orchestras staff will direct students to the safest, sheltered area.

In the event of either emergency, do not use elevators or stairs next to elevators.

REHEARSAL FACILITY CARE

To keep our rehearsal spaces in great condition, bringing outside food or drinks is not permitted during Youth Orchestras rehearsals. Students are permitted to have bottled water with them at rehearsals. There is absolutely no chewing gum or candy allowed at rehearsals. Approved snacks may be provided.

STUDENT SAFETY

Student safety is a top priority at the Des Moines Symphony Academy. In our continuing efforts to keep the Symphony Academy a safe and nurturing learning environment, all Symphony Academy Faculty undergo background checks and are required to complete annual Youth Protection Training. Because The Temple for Performing Arts is open to the public for many different uses throughout the day (7 days a week), we ask that parents/guardians of younger students escort them to and from their music lessons, classes and rehearsals.

CONCERT PERFORMANCE DRESS CODE

Preludio Strings, Youth Sinfonia & Youth Philharmonic

Men: Provided Youth Orchestras polo shirt, black slacks and black shoes with black socks

Women: Provided Youth Orchestras polo shirt, black slacks and black shoes with black socks. Long black dress or below knee length skirt with black tights are also acceptable.

Youth Symphony

Men: Solid black long-sleeve top, black slacks and black shoes with black socks.

Women: Solid black long-sleeve top, black slacks and black shoes with black socks. Long black dresses with long sleeves/black cardigan or below knee length skirts with black tights are also acceptable.