

# Youth Philharmonic of Central Ohio HANDBOOK

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The Youth Philharmonic of Central Ohio is dedicated to the musical enrichment and musical education of its members and audiences, promoting the enjoyment and appreciation of an orchestra and its musical repertoire, fostering musical collegiality among orchestra members and audiences.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Membership into YPCO is determined by audition. All members who are in good standing at the end of the season may return the following year. Grounds for dismissal include, but are not limited to, **repeated absences, tardiness, poor attitude or lack of practice**. These problems serve as a basis for the need to re-audition for the orchestra for the following season.

**YPCO members are required to participate in their school instrumental music program** (If there is no such program in your school that is appropriate to your instrument, this requirement is waived). Any exceptions to this requirement must be discussed with the YPCO board. Each member must submit a form signed by the school instrumental teacher verifying his/her participation.

**REHEARSALS:** Rehearsals will be held on Mondays in Battelle Hall at Otterbein University, Westerville, OH 43081. No food, drink or gum will be permitted in the rehearsal room. We are guests in the building and must maintain an attitude of respect for the facility. All students are expected to bring their music folder and a No. 2 pencil for marking music – **no pens, markers, etc. are allowed!**

All rehearsals begin promptly at **7:00 PM** and end at **9:15 PM**. Plan to arrive no later than **6:45** and have your instrument and music ready. Tardiness will not be tolerated. Late arrivals show a disrespect for other members and disrupt the rehearsal. Students who are late more than once will be put on probation. Parents will be notified by phone if musicians are leaving the rehearsal early!

Parents and siblings are welcome to observe the rehearsals as long as they are not disruptive to the rehearsal process. Should the parents leave their child/children at the rehearsal, it is imperative that they return promptly at the end of the rehearsal (9:15PM) to pick up their children, as YPCO cannot accept any responsibility for unattended children.

**PREPARATION FOR REHEARSALS:** All musicians are required to arrive prepared at each rehearsal. We suggest that you practice your music at least 3X before each rehearsal. Please mark the spots where you have difficulties so we can help you master the piece. Musicians who arrive to rehearsals repeatedly unprepared will be notified and will not be invited back for the next season.

**ATTENDANCE:** Attendance is mandatory at all rehearsals and concerts and will be strictly enforced. Permission for an excused absence must be submitted in writing with a parent signature no less than one week prior to the absence. Each request will be considered on an individual basis. (Two excused absences per semester are allowed). Emergency absences and illnesses must be communicated via email to the secretary. A student with unexcused absences will be put on probation and will need to re-audition for membership the following season.

**AWARDS:** YPCO presents all graduating seniors who have performed in both concerts with a plaque and a certificate at the spring concert. Seniors who have not performed at both concerts will receive only a certificate.

**SNOW DAYS:** If Otterbein University closes as posted on the Otterbein home page, there will be NO rehearsal. E-mails will be sent out by 3PM Mondays.

**CONCERT ATTIRE:** Ladies: Black skirts (below the knee) or black pants, white blouses and black dress shoes.  
Gentlemen: Black pants, white shirts, black ties and appropriate black dress shoes (no sneakers).  
Spring concert – concert tee shirt with black pants or skirt

**MUSIC:** Each student will have access to one piece of music via the website before rehearsals begin and a folder of music at the first rehearsal. You are responsible for bringing this folder/music to **EACH** rehearsal and concert. You will also be responsible for reimbursing YPCO \$5 for music/cost for original scores that are lost or damaged during the year. A deposit of \$10 will be collected at the first rehearsal in September to cover this cost and will be returned after music is turned in at the spring concert. Be careful to keep all music in good condition! Bowings, fingerings, articulations, etc. should be marked lightly with a No. 2 **PENCIL** only!