

Connecticut Youth Symphony

**2008-2009
Handbook**

Personnel

Dr. Daniel D'Addio, Director
Mickey Reisman, Assistant Director

Phone: (860) 768-4451

Email: cys@hartford.edu

Website: www.hartford.edu/hartt/community

Connecticut Youth Symphony

A Full Orchestra for Advanced High School Students

2008 – 2009 school year

Mission Statement

The Connecticut Youth Symphony is a full orchestra ensemble for very advanced students playing orchestral instruments. It is a great opportunity to meet like-minded high school-aged musicians from throughout Connecticut and Western Massachusetts. CYS performs regularly throughout the Hartford area and takes advantage of many opportunities given to such talented musicians.

Rehearsals

Sundays from 2:00 – 4:00 P.M, in Bliss Music Room on the second floor of The Hartt School, University of Hartford. Additional sectional rehearsals are scheduled periodically from 1-2pm and are indicated on the ensemble calendar provided at the beginning of the year.

Concerts

CYS generally produces 3-4 concerts per year and all events are updated regularly on our school website <http://hcd.hartford.edu>. Some concerts are recorded professionally and available for purchase by families whose child participates in the ensemble. For more information, contact the ensemble manager at cys@hartford.edu.

Membership

Members of CYS are typically in grades 9-12. Participation in CYS is based on an academic calendar, beginning in September and ending in May.

CYS General Information

- Performs a high level of symphonic literature
- Provides full orchestra and sectional rehearsals
- Past repertoire includes music by Beethoven, Dvorak, Schubert, Ravel, Sibelius, Prokofiev, and Mendelssohn.
- Performs commissioned works, including *Give Back Peace* in 2005 written for orchestra and chorus by Hartford composer David Macbride performed at the Belding Theater, The Bushnell
- Has performed for the past five consecutive years at First Night Hartford
- Performed at the 2007 Youth Orchestra Festival held in New Haven, Connecticut
- Led by Daniel D'Addio, professor at Central Connecticut State University, and well-known regional and All-State conductor.
- Performances are presented several times a year, including 2 full-scale performances in December or January and May.

Concerto Competition

- CYS students are provided the wonderful opportunity to audition for their annual Concerto Competition. Pianists who are Hartt Community Division students are invited to audition every other year.
- The winner of the competition performs his/her piece with the orchestra during the academic year. The winner is given a recording of the event by The Hartt School Recording Studio
- Occasionally, when merited, an additional student is given an honorable mention for the Concerto Competition, which awards a recording session with the orchestra to perform his/her concerto of choice played at their audition.

Leadership

Leadership is provided by the Community Division, the music directors, and managers. The Music Directors include Daniel D'Addio and Mickey Reisman. Please contact the Community Division office with questions at (860) 768-4451. This ensemble has a manager to organize the needs of the ensemble and help answer questions of parents and students

Performance Attire

Ladies – long, black skirt or black pants, closed-toe black shoes, long-sleeved black blouse.
Gentlemen – black tux, black socks, black dress shoes, black bowtie, white shirt

Tuition and Fees

Students who take private lessons with the Hartt Community Division participate in CYS free of charge. Students who do not take private lessons with the Hartt Community Division may register for the year and pay \$500 plus a \$25 registration fee.

Requirements

Instrumentalists who have been accepted into the CYS must submit a registration form with appropriate tuition and fees. The submission of a signed registration form with tuition and fees indicates agreement to the calendar and absence policy listed in this handbook. It also indicates that the student and his/her parents have read the handbook, looked at the yearly calendar, and are willing to make a commitment to the organization for the coming year. A student who does not fulfill his/her commitment to the organization may jeopardize current and future membership in the organization.

Attendance Policy

Attendance and active participation at all rehearsals /classes is crucial to the success of any organization such as CYS. It is expected that all members will demonstrate responsibility, punctuality, and dependability as part of their commitment to the organization. Commitment to an organization often includes making choices that are difficult. If a student knows that he/she will have to be absent from a rehearsal /class, then he/she should complete an absence form (see attached) and turn it into the manager. Excessive absence (more than twice per semester) is not acceptable and may result in dismissal. In the case of illness, members are expected to call and leave a message (860-768-4451) or email the manager at cys@hartford.edu. At the next rehearsal /class, students should fill out an absence form and turn it in to the manager.

Expectations

1. Members of CYS are expected to attend all designated rehearsal and performance dates listed on the 2008-2009 Calendar. If additional rehearsals and/or performances are required, they will be communicated well in advance. Members are not expected to attend rehearsals on religious holidays or rehearsals that are in conflict with school music performances. Rehearsals and performances that conflict with school music performances need to be communicated in writing to the manager as early as possible.
2. Members who miss more than two rehearsals before a concert may be asked not to perform. Members who miss performances (except in the case of illness or family emergency) will not be considered for future membership. Members with excessive absences may be dismissed from the group and will not be considered for future membership in the organization.
3. Members are responsible for all music or supplies checked out to them and must pay for anything that is lost or damaged.
4. Members are expected to demonstrate a high level of self-discipline, maturity, and professionalism at all times. They are expected to be courteous, polite, and respectful of other instrumentalists and adults. Members who cannot abide by these expectations will be dismissed from the organization.

Percussionist Expectations

1. Percussionists are expected to help set up and remove percussion equipment prior to, and following every rehearsal and performance.
2. Percussionists must arrive at least 20 minutes early and plan to stay at least 20 minutes late for every rehearsal and performance to allot time for care of equipment.

At Rehearsals

1. Each instrumentalist should always keep a **sharpened pencil** in his/her folder.
2. Instrumentalists should not ask to be excused to visit the restroom or water fountain unless it is an emergency. Drinks and restroom trips should be taken care of before rehearsal.
3. Instrumentalists should be attentive to all directions and follow them quickly. All communication with the directors and managers should occur before or after rehearsals, or at a designated break.
4. Instrumentalists are responsible for knowing assigned music when they come to a rehearsal.
5. Food and beverages may not be consumed during rehearsals, except for water.
6. Folders should be kept neat and organized. A calendar should be kept in the folder at all times.

At Performances

1. Instrumentalists should plan on being in place at the designated time.
2. Instrumentalists are required to wear the designated attire at all performances. Members who do not dress appropriately will not be allowed to perform.
3. Instrumentalists who do not attend the final rehearsal before the performance may not perform with the ensemble.

Admission to Concerts

There is an admission charge to all CYS concerts – families will be notified of exceptions. Tickets may be purchased online at www.hartford.edu/hartt or by calling the University Box Office at (860) 768-4228. The Box Office, located in the lobby of Lincoln Theater, is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets may be purchased up to six weeks in advance and are also sold at the door beginning one hour prior to each event.

CYS

Advance Absence Form

Name: _____ Instrument: _____

Date of Absence: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Reason for
Absence: _____

_____.

CYS

Advance Absence Form

Name: _____ Instrument: _____

Date of Absence: _____

Student Signature: _____

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Reason for
Absence: _____

_____.