



Three Rivers Community Orchestra

Musician's Handbook

Three Rivers Community Orchestra
PO Box 233.
Rogue River, OR 97537
541-261-0497

Welcome to the Three Rivers Community Orchestra

Founded in January 2018 we are a community-based, volunteer orchestra. Our musicians share the joy of making music together and are dedicated to providing quality, affordable orchestral performances for all residents of the Rogue, Applegate and Illinois Valleys.

The Three Rivers Community Orchestra objectives are:

1. To encourage attendance by a diverse population from the three river valleys. It is our goal that these concerts will contribute to the cultural enrichment of our region and enhance the lives of our listeners.
2. To provide access to orchestral and chamber orchestral music to all residents, regardless of their economic situation. We demonstrate this commitment through our stated policy that “no one shall be denied access to our concerts due to an inability to pay”.
3. To provide a joy-filled, rewarding orchestral experience for local musicians.
4. To provide and encourage youth and families in our community to experience the cultural arts. We demonstrate this commitment by offering free tickets to all youth, ages 18 and under.
5. To always remain a fully functioning, volunteer-based symphony orchestra made up of local musicians.
6. To encourage and support the activities of other performing arts ensembles and organizations in our region.

Season

The regular concert season of the TRCO runs from September to June. The season may include a series of 3 concerts. Additional fundraising concerts may be added as dictated by the time and interest of the musicians.

Concert dates will be set prior to the beginning of the season. Practices will generally be on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30 pm at North Middle School in Grants Pass.

Membership

The TRCO provides opportunities for musicians in our community to share in the joy of making music together. Musicians interested in joining the orchestra should contact the Orchestra Director.

Future candidates should be prepared to audition prior to being involved in regular weekly rehearsals (and of course, concerts). At the Orchestra Director’s discretion, players may be asked to attend select rehearsals and concerts concurrent with being auditioned. Upon completion of the audition, the candidate will either

- a) Be invited to join the orchestra as a regular member, or
- b) Attend select rehearsals performing doubled parts at the Orchestra Director’s discretion, or
- c) Encouraged to undertake further study and re-audition.

Audition materials:

1. A solo of the prospective member’s choice taken from the high school state solo contest list or ABRSM grade 4 or higher. Accompaniment is not required.
2. Perform three 2-octave scales of your choice.
3. Sight-read music at the Orchestra Director’s discretion.

Audition expectations:

1. Scales at eighth-notes at quarter-note = 60 or faster (slurred or tongued)
2. The solo should be at a traditional tempo with audible dynamics, expression, and style.
3. Prospective members will be allowed to study the sight-reading piece for up to one minute.
4. During the summer, auditions will be scheduled in-person, or virtually, at a mutually convenient time between the Orchestra Director and the prospective member. During the season, auditions will take place at 6 pm Thursday nights.

How to schedule an audition:

Send a joint email to the Orchestra Director, Stuart Potter - stu.potter@gmail.com and Artistic Director, Janis Rands - wolfmzbach@yahoo.com and TRCO's email - trcoorchestra@gmail.com

Principals and Section Seating

The principal players of each section will be appointed at the discretion of the Orchestra Director. Seating placement within a section will be assigned by the Orchestra Director in consultation with the section principal and/or Concert Master.

Principal chair positions will be responsible for general section management including, but not limited to, attendance of section players, musical markings and direction, assigning of parts, maintaining a positive environment, and holding section practices as needed.

Music

Music will be made available to musicians at the start of rehearsals for each concert set. Please do not punch holes in them. These copies may be marked in **pencil** as you find necessary. Music is to be returned immediately following each concert set. **If music is lost, you will be responsible for covering the cost of replacing the lost part.**

Rehearsal Expectations

It is expected that musicians will come to rehearsals having adequately prepared their parts at home. To maximize the effectiveness of rehearsal time, musicians are expected to keep talking to an absolute minimum during rehearsal. Practicing difficult passages while other sections are being rehearsed is both disrespectful and distracting.

Rehearsals begin promptly at 6:30 pm. on Thursday night. This means you should be in your seat, warmed up, and ready to tune prior to that time. Typically, important announcements and orchestra business occur during the first five minutes of rehearsal.

Attendance

Given the short amount of rehearsal time that we have together before each concert set, it is important that everyone attend all rehearsals. We do understand that life happens and illness and family emergencies may cause an occasional absence. This type of absence is understood and is considered an excused absence. Please phone/e-mail the Orchestra Director and your section leader to let them know you will be absent.

In order to adequately prepare challenging programs, the commitment of all musicians to practice diligently outside of orchestra rehearsals and to attend rehearsals is expected.

Musicians who know in advance that they will have a scheduling conflict on a rehearsal day should let the Orchestra Director know well before the start of each concert set. Depending upon the situation and the number of rehearsals to be missed the Orchestra Director may deem it necessary to find a substitute for the concert set.

Concerts

Concerts will be generally scheduled on Saturday night at 7:00 pm or Sunday at 3:00 pm. We will have a warm-up rehearsal 60 min. prior to each performance. Dress code will be “concert black”. Please wear modest attire with **NO miniskirts, white socks, T-shirts, flip flops or distracting jewelry.** Please do not wear perfume or scented deodorant.

Dues

The Three Rivers Community Orchestra is a membership organization. Dues are assessed at \$60 per year for adult players, \$30 per year for students. They may be paid all at one time or incrementally in 3 installments coinciding with our rehearsal/concert schedule each beginning in September. Dues are required for two primary purposes:

- 1) To help offset the various costs of operating the orchestra such as salary for the conductor, venues, music, advertising, programs, insurance, financial and legal costs, etc.
- 2) As an indication to Donors and Grant Makers that our membership is invested in the success of the organization.

Beginning January 1, 2020 all regular members will be expected to pay their dues on time, i.e.: NLT the end of September, January or April. Those who have paid their dues are considered “members in good standing.” Musicians who do not pay their dues in a timely manner may be asked to not participate in the orchestra until paid.

However, the TRCO board realizes that dues may pose a financial hardship for some people. Therefore, the TRCO board has voted to set aside some unrestricted funds as a small scholarship fund to help a limited number of members who need occasional help with their dues. Members who wish to ask for a scholarship should contact the orchestra Treasurer to fill out a request form for such assistance. A scholarship will be restricted to one concert session per year per person. All such requests will be kept strictly confidential.

Governance

A volunteer Orchestra Board of Directors oversees the administration of the orchestra. Functions of the board include setting policy, approving the operating budget, keeping watch over the finances of the organization, strategic planning for the future, fundraising, and other business that require board involvement. Orchestra members are welcome to suggest agenda topics and to attend board meetings. The staff and board of the TRCO value ideas and suggestions coming from musicians. Please feel free to share your thoughts at any time.

Problem Resolution

Principal players are always available to help resolve problems within their section. If a situation arises where a player does not feel comfortable approaching their section leader, please feel free to contact one of the individuals listed below. All problems will be handled in a professional and confidential manner.

Contact Information

Orchestra Director

Stuart Potter	503-504-9720	stu.potter@gmail.com
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Board of Directors

President

Lisa Krebs	541-261-0497	lkrebster@gmail.com
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Vice President

Jon Knapp	541-450-7725	jonknappster@gmail.com
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Secretary

Colleen Kirkland	541-476-0860	dekirklands@gmail.com
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Treasurer

Jean Ainsworth	541-690-9496	jean.ainsworth@gmail.com
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Artistic Director

Janis Rands	541-299-0502	wolfmzbach@yahoo.com
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Director

Susie Mackey	541-582-0420	541mackey@gmail.com
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Director

Trevor Clements	406-579-4572	tclemcpe@gmail.com
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