



# **East Texas Youth Orchestra, Inc. 2018-2019 Handbook**

East Texas Youth Orchestra  
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[www.etyo.org](http://www.etyo.org)

<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b>	<b>3</b>
Mission Statement	3
Communication	3
Weather	4
Tuition	4
Financial Aid	4
Sibling Discount	5
Refunds	5
Concert Tickets	5
Location & Parking	5
<b>THE ORCHESTRAS</b>	<b>6</b>
Symphony Orchestra	6
Philharmonic Orchestra	6
School Participation Policy	6
Rehearsal Information	6
Attendance Policy	7
Tardiness	7
Consequences	7
Rehearsal Policy	7
Concerts	9
Dress Code	9
Seating	10
2017-2018 SEASON OVERVIEW	10
<b>THE BOARD AND STAFF</b>	<b>11</b>
ETYO Board	11
ETYO Staff	11

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Mission Statement

The mission of the East Texas Youth Orchestra, Inc. (ETYO), is to provide exceptional musical experiences in arts education through a diverse set of programs providing performances that enrich its members and the community. Through its two major ensembles, the Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonic Orchestra, ETYO accomplishes this mission by meeting the following objectives:

To educate students' knowledge of symphonic literature and to provide opportunities with professional musicianship and music educators to develop technical and musical skills.

To provide students with experiences involving high-level orchestral performance in a variety of groups and settings under the direction of inspiring leaders.

To encourage the creative and personal development of members by nurturing self-confidence, discipline, dedication, and the ability to work harmoniously with others.

To instill in members a desire to achieve excellence in their skills and to challenge them to strive for the highest level of musical performance.

To enrich the musical lives of members by promoting a love and appreciation of orchestral music and to enrich the musical and cultural life of the community through performance, community involvement, and education.

To help members experience the enjoyment that comes from personal and group achievements in a successful performance and interaction with others who share a passion for music.

## Communication

### Email

ETYO primarily communicates through email. If you do not have one, we ask that you create one through a free web service (i.e. Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.). Please be sure to update the ETYO office with any changes in your email address.

### Facebook

Please join the East Texas Youth Orchestra Facebook page for more updates and related events!

## Weather

The East Texas Youth Orchestra, Inc. will cancel rehearsals due to extreme and dangerous weather conditions. If a rehearsal or related event is cancelled, the following notifications will be made:

- A Remind 101 message will be sent to all members/parents.

## Tuition

Symphony Orchestra	\$300
Philharmonic Orchestra	\$300
Jazz Academy	\$300 (discounts apply for those enrolled concurrently in Symphony)

Tuition is due in full by Sunday, September 23, 2018. The address for payments is:

PO Box 130694  
Tyler, TX 75713

Students who join later in the season will pay pro-rated tuition as follows:

After second concert \$225  
After third concert \$175

Those requesting financial aid may do so by completing and submitting a financial aid application by **Sunday, September 16, 2018**. Please see the next section for more information.

Checks and money orders should be made payable to East Texas Youth Orchestra. Please include the student's name in the memo line. Credit card payments can be made on the ETYO website via PayPal, noting musician's name in comment.

Payment plans are available upon request. Non-payment will result in student not being allowed to participate in further rehearsals or performances.

## Financial Aid

It is the desire of East Texas Youth Orchestra, Inc. to assist any musician with financial needs who also possesses the desire, time, talent and commitment necessary for active participation in any of our ensembles. A limited amount of financial aid is available for tuition scholarships.

We require that financial aid applications be submitted no later than **September 16, 2018** for full consideration. Application materials may be submitted to the executive director at rehearsal or sent by mail. Financial assistance, when awarded, will be applied towards the balance due. Financial aid assistance for those auditioning later in the season are limited by available funds and will be addressed on an individual basis.

Behavior and attendance throughout the season does affect scholarship requests.

We also ask parents of those requesting scholarships to consider how they can volunteer their time to help the organization.

# Sibling Discount

For families with multiple children enrolling in the organization, one child will pay in full while subsequent siblings will receive a 10% discount.

# Refunds

The ETYO organization makes a financial commitment to ensuring the best experience for each member of the orchestras. Therefore, no refunds will be given to students who leave the ETYO organization during the season or asked to leave due to disciplinary issues.

# Concert Tickets

General admissions to all ETYO concerts are free and open to the public.

# Location & Parking

All ETYO rehearsals are held at UT Tyler in the Fine and Performing Arts Center (FAC). We are guests in these facilities, and our members are expected to behave accordingly. Please show respect to the property and facilities at all times. Food and beverages are not allowed in the rehearsal halls, and at the end of the rehearsal, all personal belongings and trash must be removed.



# THE ENSEMBLES

## Symphony Orchestra

The flagship ensemble of the organization, the Symphony Orchestra, offers a full orchestra experience to advanced string, woodwind, brass, and percussion players. The ensemble regularly performs works from the standard orchestral repertoire while embracing contemporary music and more. The Symphony Orchestra is open to all students up to age 22 by audition.

## Philharmonic Orchestra

The Philharmonic Orchestra is a full orchestra experience that provides intermediate students the challenges to prepare for advancement into Symphony Orchestra. The ensemble accepts students studying strings, wind, brass, and percussion instruments. The focus is on developing instrumental technique, refined ensemble playing, and different musical styles. The Philharmonic Orchestra is open to all students by audition.

## Jazz Academy

ETYO's Jazz Academy provides young and talented musicians of East Texas the opportunity to study and perform America's music, jazz. The program includes instruction in instrumental techniques, improvisation, music theory, music history, and composition in an effort to help students' understanding of the art form and achieve excellence through performance.

## School Participation Policy

The East Texas Youth Orchestras program is an enhancement to, and not a replacement of, existing school music programs. Therefore, all students are required to verify enrollment in their school's band or orchestra program.

## Rehearsal Information

Following is the rehearsal schedule for the ensembles:

Symphony Orchestra	Sundays, 2-4:30 p.m. UT Tyler, FAC, Orchestral Rehearsal Hall
Philharmonic Orchestra	Sundays, 2-4:30 p.m. UT Tyler, FAC, Choir Rehearsal Hall
Jazz Academy	Sundays, 5-7 p.m. UT Tyler, FAC, Orchestral Rehearsal Hall

## Photo Release

All members of the ETYO organization give the East Texas Youth Orchestra, Inc., its employees, designees, agents, and all persons or entities for or through whom ETYO is acting, permission and the absolute right to take, publish, use, edit, reproduce, distribute and other similar activity the likeness and/or voice regardless of the medium used, to specifically include but not limited to, photographic, video, audio, digital or other electronic or digital medium. All

members understand that this information may be used for any lawful purpose to include artistic works, promotional or advertising efforts, publicity or recruitment. Furthermore, members agree that any reproduction of their likeness becomes the exclusive property of the ETYO.

ETYO members understand and agree that they shall not be notified when any reproduction of their likeness, regardless of form, is used, nor will be given the opportunity to view or approve of the reproduction prior to its publication. Members further understand and agree that there will be no remuneration or compensation provided for any use of likeness, and hereby waive any rights to royalties or other compensation arising from any use of likeness by ETYO.

## Attendance Policy

Musicians are expected to attend every rehearsal, dress rehearsal, and concert. Each student member will be allowed two (2) absences during each concert cycle.

## Tardiness

Rehearsal time is limited; therefore, prompt arrival is necessary. Arriving late to a rehearsal will count as 1/2 of an absence.

## Consequences

Parents will be notified when the student has missed the maximum number of absences in one concert period. The notification will serve as the official reminder that should further absences result, the student will not be allowed to participate in the concert in that cycle. All final decisions regarding the attendance policy are left at the discretion of the conductors.

Please notify the ETYO Executive Director of any expected absences as soon as possible when they come up during the year. Absences may result in chairing penalties or elimination from participating in a concert.

Absence from a dress rehearsal or performance may be cause for dismissal from the orchestra. If principal players miss either of the last two rehearsals, they should not expect to maintain a chair position in the concert. In cases of dismissal, no tuition refund will be made, and all financial aid will be withdrawn.

## Rehearsal Policy

Students are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Plan to arrive 20-30 minutes prior to any given rehearsal.
- To be brought to all rehearsals
  - Instrument in good working condition
  - Pencils
  - All music for concert cycle in folder
- No food or drink is allowed in rehearsal halls, sectional rooms or performance venues (water bottles are permitted).
- Cell phones should be turned off and stored away for the duration of the rehearsal.
- Wear appropriate clothing to rehearsals and concert dress to all performances. No t-shirts with inappropriate writing. No short shorts, bare midriffs or low cut tops. No halter tops, tank tops, tube tops, spaghetti straps, or bra straps showing.

- Behave respectfully, politely, and maturely at rehearsals, performances and other orchestra events.
- Except for breaks, musicians are expected to stay seated for the duration of the rehearsal. Departure during a rehearsal is disruptive to other members and should be avoided.
- Loud or raucous behavior will not be tolerated and is grounds for dismissal from the orchestra.
- ETYO musicians should not leave the premises until rides have arrived.

Behavior off the stage is as important as it is on the stage, and each musician's behavior should reflect that person's commitment to excellence. Behavior throughout the season does affect scholarship requests. Consequently, all members should observe the following guidelines at rehearsals, performances, and in any situation in which they represent the East Texas Youth Orchestra, Inc. Every member is expected to maintain a mannerly and respectful demeanor, showing respect to all conductors, staff, adults, and fellow students.

Musicians who disregard good behavior may be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of the conductor or executive director. A disciplinary letter will be given to the student and parent to inform them of an offense. The second offense may result in the following consequences: sitting out of rehearsals or performance, loss of chair position, loss of scholarship, and ultimately, dismissal.

## Guest attendance

All Symphony, Philharmonic, and Jazz Academy rehearsals are open to the public. Guests may be seated towards the back of the rehearsal space and asked to remain silent throughout the duration of their stay.

### STUDENT PICK-UP

Finally, musicians should be picked up promptly, no later than ten minutes after rehearsal is scheduled to end. Students who are consistently picked up late may be asked to leave the organization.

## Concerts

Most ETYO concerts are held on Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m. unless otherwise listed on website. Locations vary and will be announced at the beginning of each concert cycle. All members are required to arrive 15 minutes prior to their call time for tuning and rehearsal tuning preparations. Please make sure you arrive to the performance venue in concert clothes and instrument in proper working order. Check the season schedule for complete details on dates.

## Dress Code

Symphony gentlemen	Philharmonic gentlemen
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Black tuxedo</li><li>• White wing-tip shirt</li><li>• Black socks</li><li>• Black shoes</li><li>• Black bow tie</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Black slacks</li><li>• White button down long-sleeve shirt</li><li>• Black socks</li><li>• Black shoes</li><li>• Long necktie of any color besides black</li></ul>
Symphony ladies	Philharmonic ladies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Black dress or black skirt and blouse, mid-calf or floor-length black dress with short, 3/4 or long length sleeves (no sleeveless dresses)</li><li>• Black skirt, mid-calf or floor-length black dress</li><li>• Black, plain nylons</li><li>• Black dress shoes (closed toe and heel, flat or low heel, no sandals)</li><li>• Minimal jewelry and hair accessories</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Black dress or black skirt and blouse, mid-calf or floor-length black dress with short, 3/4 or long length sleeves (no sleeveless dresses)</li><li>• Black skirt, mid-calf or floor-length black dress</li><li>• Black, plain nylons</li><li>• Black dress shoes (closed toe and heel, flat or low heel, no sandals)</li><li>• Minimal jewelry and hair accessories</li></ul>

Jazz Academy gentlemen	Jazz Academy gentlemen
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suits/ Ties</li> <li>• Dress socks</li> <li>• Dress shoes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dresses (arms must be covered, no sleeveless dresses/shirts), skirts of appropriate length (to the knee or longer), or Suit</li> <li>• Dress shoes</li> </ul>

## Seating

Seating within each section will be determined at the beginning of each concert period. Seating assignments are left to the sole discretion of the conductor. Seating is made to fully maximize the educational effectiveness and balance of the ensemble. If a student misses a seating audition, the seating audition will not be rescheduled. The student will be placed at the back of the section for that concert cycle.

## 2018-2019 SEASON OVERVIEW

Sunday, October 21, 2018, Bergfeld Park Stage (Time TBD)  
 ETYO Symphony and Philharmonic and Jazz Academy

Sunday, December 2, 2018, 4p.m., Caldwell Auditorium 4 p.m.

Sunday, December 9, 2018, 2 p.m., Braithwaite Recital Hall, Concerto Competition

Sunday, February 24, 2019, 4 p.m., Caldwell Auditorium  
 ETYO Symphony and Philharmonic and Jazz Academy

Sunday, May 5, 2019, 4 p.m., Caldwell Auditorium  
 ETYO Symphony, Philharmonic and Jazz Academy

# THE BOARD AND STAFF

## ETYO Board

Mark Owens, President  
Carol Wiertz, Vice-President  
Lisa Lininger, Treasurer  
Ann Marie Fate, Secretary  
Jennifer Rippy, WSL Representative  
Jim Broussard  
Jami Brumfield  
John Fry  
Vanessa Gardner  
Joshua Johnson  
Phil Ketcham  
Sandra Newton  
Rob Springer  
Carol Wiertz  
Celeste Fisher – Parent Liaison  
Dee Williams – Parent Liaison

Holly Marsh –Advisory  
Jana Johns – Advisory  
Lori Knight - Advisory

## ETYO Staff

### Artistic Staff

Felix Torres, Symphony Orchestra Conductor  
[Felix.Torres@me.com](mailto:Felix.Torres@me.com)

Sarah Reason, Philharmonic Orchestra Conductor  
[sarahjreason@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahjreason@yahoo.com)

Sarah Roberts, Jazz Academy Conductor  
[sarahlynnroberts@gmail.com](mailto:sarahlynnroberts@gmail.com)

### Administrative Staff

Jill Hardin, Executive Director  
[director@etyo.org](mailto:director@etyo.org)