



East Texas Youth Orchestra 2019-2020 Handbook

**East Texas Youth Orchestra, Inc.
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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 ensembles, the Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonic Orchestra, and Jazz Academy, 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 an email account, 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.

Remind

ETYO additionally uses Remind for quick communication. Join your respective ensemble's Remind by doing the following:

Symphony	Philharmonic	Jazz Academy
Text @etyo-sym to 81010	Text @etyo-phil to 81010	Text @etyo-jazz to 81010

Social Media

Please like and follow our various social media accounts, listed below, for updates and ETYO and music related content.

Facebook – facebook.com/easttexasyouthorchestra

Instagram – instagram.com/etyorchestra

Twitter – twitter.com/etyorchestra

Social Media Hashtags

#etyo #etyojazz #youthorchestra

Weather

ETYO 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 message will be sent to all members/parents.

Tuition

Symphony Orchestra	\$300
Philharmonic Orchestra	\$300
Jazz Academy	\$300

A discount will be provided for musicians concurrently in an orchestra and Jazz Academy.

Tuition is due in full by **Sunday, September 15, 2019**. The address for payments is:

PO Box 130694
Tyler, TX 75713

Students who join later in the season will pay prorated 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 15, 2019**. Please see the next section for more information.

Tuition Payments

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 the musician's name in the comment field.

Payment Plans

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

Financial Aid

It is the desire of East Texas Youth Orchestra to assist any musician with financial needs who 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 ([link](#)) be submitted no later than **Sunday, September 15, 2019** for full consideration. Application materials may be submitted to the executive director or to the Treasurer 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 is 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 musicians enrolled in the organization, one musician will pay in full, while subsequent musicians will receive a 10% discount.

Refunds

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

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 performers. The ensemble regularly performs works from the standard orchestral repertoire while embracing contemporary works and more. The Symphony Orchestra is open to all musicians up to the age of 22 by audition.

Philharmonic Orchestra

The Philharmonic Orchestra is a full orchestra experience that provides intermediate students the challenges to prepare for advancement into the Symphony Orchestra. The ensemble accepts students studying strings, woodwind, 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

ETYO is an enhancement to, and not a replacement of, existing school music programs. It is strongly recommended that members of ETYO participate in their school music programs. Participating in both a school music program and ETYO provides many benefits to young musicians, including exposure to a wide variety of music, development of techniques and musicianship, the opportunity to work with and gain experience from different music directors, and access to local and statewide programs and performance events.

Rehearsal Information

Following is the rehearsal schedule for the ensembles:

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

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. Musicians should be seated, with all of their necessary materials, at least five (5) minutes prior to the start of rehearsal. 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 Executive Director of any expected absences as soon as possible as 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 ETYO. 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 Policies

Students are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

- 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 black binder
- No food or drink is allowed in rehearsal halls, sectional rooms or performance venues (water bottles are permitted).
- Cell phones must be on silent 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 hats. 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 East Texas Youth Orchestra. Every member is expected to maintain a mannerly and respectful demeanor, showing respect to all conductors, staff, adults, and fellow musicians.

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 from ETYO.

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.

Rehearsal 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. You should expect to leave any facility we use better than we found it.



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 Symphony and Philharmonic orchestra concerts are held on Sunday afternoons at 4 PM unless otherwise listed on website. Jazz Academy performances typically occur at 6 PM as this falls during their normal rehearsal schedule. 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 preparations. Please arrive to the performance venue in concert dress, your music, and with your instrument in proper working order. Check the season schedule for complete details on dates.

Dress Code

Option A (Symphony and Jazz Academy)	Option A (Philharmonic)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black tuxedo or pantsuit• Black button-down, long-sleeved dress shirt w/ collar• Black, calf length (at least) socks• All black, closed-toe dress shoes (no sandals)• Long, black necktie	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black slacks• Black button-down, long-sleeved dress shirt w/ collar• Black, calf-length (at least) socks• All black, closed-toe dress shoes (no sandals)• Long, black necktie

Option B	Option C
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black dress – floor-length and $\frac{3}{4}$ to full-length sleeves (no sleeveless dresses)• Black, plain nylons• Black dress shoes (closed toe and heel, flat or low-heel, no sandals)• Minimal jewelry and hair accessories	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black skirt and black blouse – floor-length skirt and blouse to have $\frac{3}{4}$ or full-length sleeves (no sleeveless blouses)• Black, plain nylons• Black dress shoes (closed toe and heel, flat or low-heel, no sandals)• Minimal jewelry and hair accessories

Concert Tickets

General admission to all ETYO performances are free and open to the public.

Seating

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

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.

2019-2020 SEASON OVERVIEW

Sunday, October 13, 2019, 4 PM, Caldwell Auditorium
ETYO Symphony, Philharmonic, and Jazz Academy

Saturday, November 23, 2019, morning, Liberty Hall
ETYO Jazz Academy masterclass with ETSO Jazz Spectacular guest artist

Friday, December 6, 2019, 7 PM, Liberty Hall
ETYO Jazz Academy with UT Tyler Jazz

Sunday, December 8, 2019, 4 PM, Caldwell Auditorium
ETYO Symphony and Philharmonic

Sunday, December 15, 2019, 2 PM, Braithwaite Recital Hall (UTT)
Concerto Competition Finals

Saturday, January 4, 2020, 10 AM–12 PM, FAC 1221 (UTT)
New Orleans Rehearsal - Jazz Academy

Sunday, January 5, 2020, 6 PM, FAC 1221 (UTT)
New Orleans Send-Off Concert - Jazz Academy

Sunday, February 23, 2020, 4 PM, Caldwell Auditorium
ETYO Symphony and Philharmonic

Sunday, March 1, 2020, 6 PM, FAC 1221 (UTT)
ETYO Jazz Academy

Sunday, May 3, 2020, 4 PM, Caldwell Auditorium
ETYO Symphony and Mesquite Symphony Orchestra Side-by-Side, Philharmonic, and Jazz Academy

Saturday, May 9, 2020, TBD (ALL DAY), Mesquite Arts Center, Mesquite, TX
ETYO Symphony Orchestra Side-by-Side with Mesquite Symphony Orchestra
ALL ETYO MUSICIANS WILL ATTEND

THE BOARD AND STAFF

ETYO Board

Executive Committee

Phil Ketcham, President
Anne Marie Fate, Vice-President
Lisa Lininger, Treasurer
Vanessa Gardner, Secretary

Board of Directors

Celeste Fisher
John Fry
Joshua Johnson
Jeremy McBain
Sandra Newton
Jeanie Oxler
Dulce Coss – Symphony Orchestra Parent Liaison
Amber Owens – Philharmonic Orchestra Parent Liaison
Elizabeth Sharkey – Women’s Symphony League of Tyler Representative

Holly Marsh – Advisory
Jana Johns – Advisory

ETYO Staff

Artistic & Administrative Staff

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