



San Diego Youth Symphony  
and Conservatory  
Musician's Handbook  
65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season  
2010-2011

Jeff Edmons, Artistic Director  
Dalouge Smith, President & CEO

**OUR MISSION**

The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory instills excellence in the musical and personal development of students through rigorous and inspiring musical training experiences.

**San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory**  
65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season

**Congratulations!** You have taken the first step in being selected in to study music with Southern California's leading youth orchestra organization. Our sixty –five years of history are filled with music making of the highest caliber, life long friendships, and wonderful memories. This handbook answers many of the most important questions you and your family will have about the exciting year ahead. We will continue to update you throughout the season with announcements at rehearsals, concert information forms, website updates, and emails to both you and your family. So that you don't miss any important information, please inform us **immediately** if you change your email address or home mailing address. If you have any questions at any point in the year, please ask your conductor, the orchestra coordinator, or any other staff members. Welcome to the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season of the San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory!

**Office Location & Contact Details**

Casa del Prado Building, Balboa Park  
1650 El Prado, Suite 207A  
San Diego, CA 92101  
sdys@sdys.org  
Phone: 619.233.3232  
Fax: 619.233.3236  
[www.sdys.org](http://www.sdys.org)

Office Hours: M – F 9:00am – 5:00pm  
Saturday 8:00am – 5:00pm

**Rehearsal Locations**

*Locations and maps are posted on our web site at:*  
<http://www.sdys.org/Musicians/Musicians.html>

**Orchestras, String Ensembles, & Wind Ensembles**

Rooms 207, 204, & 205  
1650 Casa del Prado Building, Balboa Park  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Concert Locations**

Copley Symphony Hall  
750 B Street  
San Diego, CA 92101

The Neurosciences Institute  
10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive  
San Diego, CA 92121

California Center for the Arts – Escondido  
340 N. Escondido Blvd.  
Escondido, CA 92025

## **ARTISTIC FACULTY**

Jeff Edmons, Artistic Director  
[jedmons@sdys.org](mailto:jedmons@sdys.org) & 619.233.3232 ext.160

Ella Steinberg, Wind Ensembles Conductor  
[esteinberg@sdys.org](mailto:esteinberg@sdys.org)

John Ramirez, String Ensembles Conductor  
[jramirez@sdys.org](mailto:jramirez@sdys.org)

Elena Yarritu, Instrument Specialist  
[eyarritu@sdys.org](mailto:eyarritu@sdys.org)

David Rumley, Percussion Instructor  
[drumley@sdys.org](mailto:drumley@sdys.org)

Sundiata Kata, Percussion Instructor  
[skata@sdys.org](mailto:skata@sdys.org)

Ken Serfass, Instrument Specialist  
[kserfass@sdys.org](mailto:kserfass@sdys.org)

Steve Steinberg, Instrument Specialist  
[ssteinberg@sdys.org](mailto:ssteinberg@sdys.org)

Miguel Ramirez, Instrument Specialist  
[mramirez@sdys.org](mailto:mramirez@sdys.org)

## **ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

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**ORGANIZATION**

The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory, founded in 1945, is a California public non-profit organization. As a cultural activity of the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department, it enjoys the benefit of office and rehearsal space in historic Balboa Park. It is supported, in part, by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, San Diego County's Community Enhancement Program and the California Arts Council. In addition to tuition, the organization also depends upon support from generous individuals, foundations, volunteers, and businesses to provide its high quality music education programs.

The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory program offers opportunities for student musicians of all skill levels through the ages of 8-25 to participate in ensembles led by professional conductors. Musicians from throughout San Diego County as well as Riverside and Imperial Counties participate. Auditions are held each June for new members and returning members seeking to advance to the next ensemble level. **Placement in the ensembles is based upon each individual musicians demonstrated development on his or her instrument at the time of audition.**

The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory is governed by a volunteer Board of Trustees of community leaders. Their guidance in policy making and fund raising has kept the organization stable through its sixty-four year history.

**2010-2011 BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Jim Whitesell –Chair

Ann Hix – Vice Chair of Programs

Kevin Chaisson – Vice Chair of Strategic Planning

Gene Summ – Vice Chair of Community Relations

Anni Lipper – Secretary

Robert Gaan–Treasurer

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Cindy Goodman

Pamela Hartwell

Ronald Heller

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Margarita Holguin

Nai Hwang

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Ernie Smith

Joel Sollender

Bill Sturgeon

Ellen Turnage

Stanley Goff, Honorary Board Member

# **San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory**

## **REHEARSAL SCHEDULE**

### **Symphony Orchestra (SO) & Philharmonia (Phil)**

Jeff Edmons, Artistic Director

Room 207, Casa del Prado Building, Balboa Park

Saturdays, Symphony Orchestra 3:00-5:15 PM

Phil – 5:25 – 6:45 PM

String/Winds Sectionals TH 6:30pm – 8:30pm (check ensemble calendars)

### **Sinfonia (SIN)**

Jeff Edmons, Artistic Director

Room 207, Casa del Prado Building, Balboa Park

Saturdays, 12:50 PM to 2:45 PM

### **Wind Symphony (WS)**

Ella Steinberg, Conductor

Room 207, Casa del Prado Building, Balboa Park

Saturdays, 8:30 AM to 10:25 AM

### **Concert Winds (CW)**

Ella Steinberg, Conductor

Room 205, Casa del Prado Building, Balboa Park

Saturdays, 3:15 PM to 5:00 PM

### **Concert Orchestra (CO)**

John Ramirez, Conductor

Room 205, Casa del Prado Building, Balboa Park

Saturdays 10:40 AM to 12:35 PM

### **Debut Strings (DS)**

Miguel Ramirez, Conductor

Room 204, Casa del Prado Building, Balboa Park

Saturdays 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM

### **Debut Winds (DW)**

Steve Steinberg, Conductor

Room 204, Casa del Prado Building, Balboa Park

Saturdays 3:15pm to 4:45pm

### **Small Ensembles & Chamber Groups**

Various small string, wind, brass and percussion ensembles are offered by SDYS on an annual basis.

These ensembles focus on development of musical and technical skills in a small ensemble environment, while introducing students to important works of music unique to the chamber ensemble genre. SDYS faculty members provide regular instruction for these ensembles. Musicians rehearse according to various annual schedules, determined according to the individual ensemble needs. These groups perform at annual recitals and public outreach events when appropriate.

### **Invitation Only Ensembles**

Symphony Orchestra Chamber Ensemble I	Artistic Director, Jeff Edmons
Symphony Orchestra Chamber Ensemble II	Artistic Director, Jeff Edmons
Symphony Orchestra Chamber Ensemble III	Instrument Specialist
Sinfonia Chamber Ensemble	Artistic Director, Jeff Edmons
Concert Orchestra Chamber Orchestra	Strings Conductor, John Ramirez
Concert Orchestra Chamber Ensemble	Strings Conductor, John Ramirez
Wind Symphony Chamber Ensemble I	Winds Conductor, Ella Steinberg
Wind Symphony Chamber Ensemble II	Winds Conductor, Ella Steinberg

Rehearsals and classes take place at Balboa Park and various locations throughout San Diego. Please contact the Orchestra Coordinator for more information. Schedules may change for specific needs to complete concert preparation or other program needs.

### **Other Ensemble Programs**

Symphony Orchestra/Sinfonia/ Wind Symphony Chamber Music Workshops      Artistic Director, Jeff Edmons & Faculty

Oak Park Percussion Ensemble\*

Percussion Instructors, Sundiata Kata and David Rumley

*\*Musicians must attend Oak Park Conservatory and Elementary School.*

Monarch Percussion\*

Percussion Instructor, David Rumley

*\*Musicians must attend Monarch School.*

Jazz Ensemble (Begins January 2011) *Intermediate to Advanced*

Winds Conductor, Ella Steinberg

Rehearses - Mondays    6:30pm – 8:30pm

Jazz Class (Begins January 2011) *Beginning Level*

Winds Conductor, Ella Steinberg

Rehearses – Saturdays    5:15pm – 6:15pm

## MUSIC

Musicians are responsible for having their music at each rehearsal and performance. Lost music will be replaced at the musician's expense. Rented musical parts must be returned immediately following the last performance of that work. Musicians will keep all non-rental music.

## ATTENDANCE

No more than **three excused absences** are allowed during any one-concert preparation period (September to the Winter concert and January through the June concert). In order for an absence to be excused, musicians must sign the request for absence book at least **two weeks** prior to the absence date. Or a request for absence must be submitted to the Youth Symphony office at least **two weeks** prior to the absence date via email to [dpeterson@sdys.org](mailto:dpeterson@sdys.org) Only in cases of sudden illness or emergency should an absence be reported to the office by telephone at (619) 233-3232. The musician will be asked to send a follow-up email, fax or written form. Failure to sign in at rehearsal will result in an unexcused absence. ***The only exception to the three-absence rule will be for musicians who participate in their school marching band programs who have competitions on Saturdays in the fall, band festivals in the spring, college auditions or a college entrance exam. One of these events will be excused beyond three absences provided that they are not requests to miss a concert or dress rehearsal. Students in marching band programs are required to submit their marching band by the first rehearsal.***

Any musician with **two unexcused** absences during the year will be dismissed from the ensemble and program. An unexcused absence is any non-emergency absence that is not reported to the Orchestra Coordinator prior to the beginning of the rehearsal. Excessive non-emergency requests reported prior to rehearsal but less than two weeks in advance may be counted as unexcused. Final determination regarding dismissal from the ensembles will be made by the Artistic Director and President/CEO.

Only in an emergency should an absence be reported by phone. If an emergency occurs and you are unable to contact the Orchestra Coordinator prior to the missed rehearsal, please do so at the earliest time possible after the missed rehearsal. Any phone call regarding any absence **must** be followed up with an email to the Orchestra Coordinator. Unexcused absences will result in removal from the ensemble and dismissal from all San Diego Youth Symphony programs.

**Musicians must follow specific absence policies for their ensemble as detailed in the "Membership and Attendance Requirements" signed by each musician and their parents.** To receive an additional copy of these requirements, please contact the Orchestra Coordinator.

Please remember it is the musician's responsibility to sign the Attendance Book at EACH and every rehearsal. Any musician not signed in at rehearsal will have the absence considered **unexcused**.

## TARDINESS

Any musician who is excessively tardy or requests excessive early departures from rehearsal may forfeit their membership in the ensemble. Excessive is defined as more than three tardies or early departures during any one-concert preparation period (September to the Winter concert and Winter concert through the June concert). Three tardies or leave early departures (or a combination of) will be counted as one absence. Final determination regarding dismissal from the ensembles will be made by the Artistic Director and President/CEO.

Arriving late to a rehearsal is disruptive to the entire ensemble. **Musicians should arrive 15 minutes prior to the rehearsal start time and be seated 5 minutes prior to the beginning of each rehearsal**. Parking can be difficult in Balboa Park so arrive early or use the curbside drop off on Village Place outside the Casa Del Prado building.

## REHEARSAL FACILITIES

San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory ensembles rehearse in the Casa del Prado building in Balboa Park. This rehearsal facility is shared by many organizations and it is the responsibility of each group of musicians to leave the room in good condition. Musicians and parents will be asked to assist the staff with setting up and breaking down the chairs for rehearsals. This is an easy task when everyone helps.

## CONCERT HALL FACILITIES

As an important part of providing the highest level music education experience, the San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory ensembles perform in professional level concert hall facilities. Musicians are expected to behave in a professional manner at all times in the concert halls, follow the directions of both the SDYS and concert hall staff members, and avoid touching concert hall equipment.

## CONDUCT

Any musician who exhibits inappropriate behavior at Youth Symphony rehearsals, concerts, or activities jeopardizes their good standing in the orchestra. Examples include, but are not limited to, disrespect towards other musicians or adults, failure to follow instructions, verbal or physical threats towards others, horseplay, inappropriate physical contact with others, inappropriate language, or any other behavior that undermines the integrity of the ensemble. Inappropriate conduct may result in immediate forfeiture of membership in the ensemble. Final determination regarding dismissal from the ensembles will be made by the Artistic Director and President/CEO.

The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory maintains a drug-free workplace and drug use by student or adult will not be tolerated and will result in student dismissal from the program. Adults who smoke should do so away from the rehearsal rooms as a courtesy to our students and others viewing the rehearsal. Smoking in Balboa Park is prohibited and may result in fines imposed by city staff.

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**PARENT PARTICIPATION**

Parents are our most important partners in providing exciting and educational music programs. So that you can witness your musician's progress and the activities of their ensemble, you are welcome to stay and listen to any rehearsal. Along with encouraging your child's musical development, our staff depends on you to help with all types of office and concert tasks. You can view our on-line volunteer calendar at [www.sdys.org/YourSupport/SDYSVolunteerCalendar.html](http://www.sdys.org/YourSupport/SDYSVolunteerCalendar.html). We also have Ensemble Parents opportunities for each large ensemble. Thank you for your commitment to strengthening the San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory for all musicians!

**ENSEMBLE NOTICES and COMMUNICATION**

SDYS will email important information to musicians and their families each week through email. Individual ensembles will receive emails on Tuesdays, where emails sent out on Thursdays will be for all of SDYS. In an effort to contact everyone, please update any email changes with the Orchestra Coordinator.

**AUDITIONS**

Placement Auditions are held each June for new members and returning musicians seeking to advance to the next ensemble level. Placement in the ensembles is based upon each individual musician's development on his or her instrument at the time of audition. There is a \$35 **non-refundable** registration fee payable at the time of audition. Registration forms that arrive after May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 will be charged a \$10 late fee.

New musicians are welcome to audition for preparatory ensembles (Debut Strings, Debut Winds, Concert Orchestra, Concert Winds, and Wind Symphony) throughout the year. Additional auditions for vacancies in the Symphony Orchestra or Sinfonia may be held at the Conductors' discretion.

Once a musician is placed in an ensemble they will be asked to do a Seating Audition in August. This audition will determine what seat they are placed in for their ensemble section.

Detailed requirements for entrance into each ensemble are available online at [www.sdys.org](http://www.sdys.org) or from the Orchestra Coordinator. The Orchestra Coordinator will determine audition times and schedules.

**TUITION**

Fees for the 2010-2011 season include a \$35 non-refundable registration fee, (registration forms that arrive after May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 will be charged a \$10 late fee), a \$60 materials fee and a tuition fee between \$450-\$520, depending on ensemble placement (**materials fee and tuition fee are both non-refundable after September 1**). A limited number of financial aid are available for qualifying musicians. Financial Aid is awarded by the Board of Trustees. Information and applications are included in the registration packet.

### **PREPARATION & SUPPLIES**

Musicians are expected to attend all rehearsals fully prepared. This means practicing their parts and learning music at home. This will make each rehearsal enjoyable and productive for all. Musicians are required to bring sharpened pencils with erasers, extra strings, reeds, valve oil, proper percussion mallets, and all music parts. Musicians also may be occasionally asked to bring wire music stands to rehearsal.

### **PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS**

Musicians are all encouraged to take private music lessons on their instrument. Admission to advanced ensembles is by audition and can be extremely competitive. If you need a list of teachers in your area, please contact your Conductor or the Orchestra Coordinator.

### **SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAMS**

Musicians are encouraged to participate in their school or university music programs. Please indicate both your private and school music instructor on your registration form so that we may recognize them in our Celebration of Music Educators concert program. Please be aware of possible schedule conflicts – refer to Attendance Policy.

### **PARKING**

Parking in Balboa Park is free but often quite full, especially on weekends and holidays. To avoid tardiness, please feel free to use the curbside drop off area outside of the Casa del Prado on Village Place, just off of Park Boulevard. Arriving early to rehearsal is essential to the success of all students in the ensembles. **If the park is full, musicians and parents should consider parking in the Veteran's Memorial parking lot (east on President's Way off of Park Blvd.) and taking the free Balboa Park tram to El Prado.**

Parents are required for prompt pickup after all rehearsals. Please do not wait at the curb in the dark – wait in the SDYS office.

### **CONCERT ATTIRE – REQUIRED**

#### **Philharmonia, Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonia, Wind Symphony**

**Gentlemen**—black tuxedo, white tuxedo shirt, black bow tie, black socks and black shoes. Please no tails.

**Ladies**—black dress (long and covering arms) and black dress shoes. Pants are permissible if dressy and full length. If in doubt, ask. No backless or spaghetti straps without a jacket. Please no sparkles.

#### **Concert Winds, Concert Orchestra, Debut Strings, Debut Winds**

**Boys** - Black pants, white shirt, black bow tie, black shoes, black socks.

**Girls** - Long black dress or black skirt and white blouse (long or  $\frac{3}{4}$  length sleeves, not sleeveless), black dress shoes and black nylons or white socks for very young girls. Please no sparkles.

If you need assistance locating proper concert attire, please contact the Orchestra Coordinator.

## **CONCERT TICKET POLICIES**

### **GENERAL**

SDYS sells concert tickets from the administration office up to 3 days before the concert. The sale of the tickets is then transferred to the Concert Hall. SDYS accepts cash, checks, Amex, Visa and MasterCard credit cards. SDYS does not charge a service fee for ticket sales. Tickets ordered from the Monday prior to the concert are placed at **WILL CALL**. Tickets ordered from the Concert Hall are subject to a price increase (except student tickets). Tickets ordered by phone from the Concert Hall are subject to a **\$5 service charge** per order.

### **PRE PAID TICKETS**

Parents and other patrons are encouraged to pre-buy tickets in order to avoid a delay at the Box Office and the late start of the concert.

### **CHILDREN**

SDYS abides by the policies of the Concert Hall for children's tickets at family concerts. **Children 3 and older** must have a ticket. **Children under 3** can sit on a parent's lap.

### **SENIOR & MILITARY & MUSIC EDUCATOR DISCOUNTS**

There is a senior, military and music educator discount available for tickets ordered through SDYS. Those people age **60** or older are eligible for the senior discount. The discount is also available for tickets purchased through the Concert Hall. Valid ID must be shown for purchases at the Concert Hall. Tickets ordered by phone from the Concert Hall are subject to a **\$5 service charge** per order.

### **UNDER AGE 25 - STUDENT TICKETS**

Discounted student tickets are for guests 25 and younger. Student ticket prices remain the same when the tickets are sold at the Concert Hall. Valid ID must be shown for purchases at the Concert Hall. Tickets ordered by phone from the Concert Hall are subject to a **\$5 service charge** per order.

## **SHOWCASE AND OVATION CONCERTS**

Families are expected to purchase tickets to **either the Showcase concert or the Ovation Concert.**

Families who have purchased tickets for one concert will be given free tickets to the other concert.

**Musicians are required to attend the entire length of SDYS concerts.**

### **SHOWCASE CONCERT**

Students will stay with their ensemble after their performance and will be seated in the hall with parent chaperones. Please do not purchase tickets for your student to the concert at which they are performing.

**Musicians are required to attend the entire length of SDYS concerts.**

### **VOUCHERS WHICH CAN BE EXCHANGED FOR TICKETS**

Vouchers are sent to new families for the June concert. Vouchers are also issued to **FULL** financial aid recipients, partner schools and organizations which can be exchanged for free tickets in the concert hall lobby prior to the concert.

### **CONCERT SCHEDULE**

Saturday, November 13, 2010      California Center for the Arts, Escondido

Sunday, January 30, 2011      Copley Symphony Hall, San Diego

Saturday, June 11, 2011      Copley Symphony Hall, San Diego

Sunday, June 12, 2011      Copley Symphony Hall, San Diego



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The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory is a recreational program of the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department and is funded, in part, by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, the San Diego County Community Enhancement Program and the California Arts Council