

2019-2020 Annual Audition Brochure

Registration Forms due April 15, 2019

MEMPHIS YOUTH SYMPHONY PROGRAM

Youth Symphony – Andrew Crust, Conductor

String Orchestra – Andrew Crust, Conductor

String Sinfonia - Karla Philipp, Conductor

String Ensemble - Karla Philipp, Conductor



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THE MEMPHIS YOUTH SYMPHONY PROGRAM (MYSP)

The MYSP is comprised of 4 performing orchestras which hold open auditions each spring for the following season. Auditions for the 2019-2020 season will be held **May 29, 2019** for all ensembles. The MYSP encourages a broad base of support; over 200 students from over 50 different schools across the Tri-State region participate each year. Review the following descriptions and check with your teachers to determine the best fit for you.

Youth Symphony (YS)

- ∇ Full orchestra: strings, winds, brass, percussion, harp
- Advanced experience level
- Performs standard orchestral repertoire
- Ages 13-18 approximately
- Four concerts per season, including a possible Side-by-Side concert or rehearsal with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra.
- Annual Concerto Competition - winners featured as soloists on the winter concert
- Rehearses Sundays September-May



String Orchestra (SO)

- All string instruments - violin, viola, cello, bass
- Training group for Youth Symphony
- Intermediate to advanced experience level
- Performs reductions of orchestral literature
- Ages 12-18 approximately
- Four concerts per season
- Rehearses Tuesday evenings September-May



String Sinfonia (SS)

- All string instruments -- violin, viola, cello, bass
- Training group for String Orchestra
- Intermediate experience level
- Performs High School level orchestral repertoire
- Ages 10-16 approximately
- Four concerts per season
- Rehearses Tuesday evenings September-May



String Ensemble (SE)

- All string instruments – violin, viola, cello, bass
- Training group for String Sinfonia
- Beginner to intermediate experience level
- Performs Middle School orchestral repertoire
- Ages 8-14 approximately
- Four concerts per season
- Rehearses Tuesday evenings September-May



Why Join the MYSP?

Performing in school ensembles, private lessons, chamber music, All West, Youth Symphony – each one provides a unique and valuable learning experience. If you are able, we encourage you to do them all! At the MYSP you will learn advanced repertoire, play with advanced students, perform with a full symphony orchestra (YS), learn great music with gifted conductors and make new friends. Join the MYSP and be a performer, a leader and a future patron of the Arts.

Who can audition?

Mid-South students through the 12th grade can audition. Everyone auditions each year, regardless of previous MYSP participation. Auxiliary instruments including alto, tenor and baritone saxophone, bass clarinet and piano/celesta are occasionally needed by the YS. Potential applicants on these instruments are encouraged to call the MYSP office to indicate their interest, and they will be advised as to how they may audition should the need arise for their participation based upon literature selected each year by the YS conductor.

Am I ready for the YS, SO, SS or SE?

Age and grade level varies, especially in the String Ensemble. Number of years of study, daily practice, and private lessons make a big difference in how fast skills are learned.

Players should seek advice from their private teachers and school music teachers regarding their current skill levels and audition requirements. Indicate on your registration form in which orchestra(s) you would like to perform. After a successful year in one group it would be appropriate for your own musical development to audition for the next ensemble in our program.

What steps are required to audition?

Complete and send in the Audition form for YS, SO, and SS, or the Open Enrollment registration form for String Ensemble with a check for \$25.00 to the address at the bottom of the form. Make checks payable to the Memphis Youth Symphony Program. The form and non-refundable fee must be received in the MYSP office on or before **April 15, 2019**. The required audition time and location will be sent via e-mail in May.

The Open Enrollment Registration form may be submitted in lieu of the audition form for those entering String Ensemble. The difference between String Ensemble auditions and auditions for the other ensembles is the absence of the orchestral excerpt requirement.

What fees are involved?

A non-refundable audition fee of \$25.00 is required, due with the registration form.

2019-2020 Season Tuition Fees (non-refundable)*

*No accepted student will be turned away due to the inability to pay.

Youth Symphony	\$490
String Orchestra	\$390
String Sinfonia	\$290
String Ensemble	\$290

The MYSP is happy to offer financial aid to families that demonstrate need. Limited work study scholarships are also available for students that would like to apply. More details will be made available upon acceptance into the program.

Miscellaneous: Members are responsible for concert dress and a music stand. If the MYSP organizes a tour, MYSP members are responsible for their own tour expenses.

Attendance Policy

Membership in an ensemble requires commitment and responsibility. It is the responsibility of each musician to attend all rehearsals, concerts and events. Four rehearsal absences, two per semester, are allowed, and two late arrivals count as one absence. No absences are allowed for concerts or dress rehearsals.

How Does the Audition Work?

YS and **SO** applicants audition behind a screen anonymously. An audition monitor relays communications between the judges and the player. Judges and players do not see one another during auditions. At least two professional musicians serve as judges.

SS and **SE** applicants audition with no screen; they play live in person for the judges.

How Will I Know the Audition Results?

Everyone who auditions receives a notice by e-mail

What Do I Prepare for the Audition?

The audition consists of four parts and lasts less than ten minutes. The order, depending on your ensemble, may vary. Here are the **four parts of the audition**:

1) **Solo piece of your choice**: It can be a solo (or a portion thereof), etude or exercise which is no more than three minutes long. It does not need to be memorized. Accompaniment is not permitted.

2) **Scales**:

Please see the requirements for each ensemble below:

Youth Symphony

Intonation and tempo are very important. All scales must be memorized. Scale sheets, books and/or materials with scales written out are not permitted. Practice with a metronome. The suggested metronome speed is quarter note =120 beats per minute. ALL INSTRUMENTS prepare all 12 major scales. The following melodic minor scales are required for strings:

- Violins – G minor;
- Violas and Celli – C minor;
- Basses – E minor.

All winds and percussion are required to play a chromatic scale. All scales must be performed at least 2 octaves.

String Orchestra

Intonation and tempo are very important. All scales must be memorized. Scale sheets, books and/or materials with scales written out are not permitted. Practice with a metronome. The suggested minimum metronome speed is Quarter note =120 beats per minute. All scales must be performed at least 2 octaves.

- Violin Major Scales: C, G, D, A, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, E
- Viola Major Scales: C, G, D, A, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, E
- Cello Major Scales: C, G, D, A, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, E
- Bass Major Scales: C, D, A, Bb, Eb, Ab, (min. 1 octave), and E, F, G (2 octaves)

MYSP Audition Scale Requirements (continued)

String Sinfonia

Intonation and tempo are very important. Practice with a metronome:

Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass: C, G, D, A, F, B flat, E flat
(as many octaves as you can).

Students must be proficient in first position and able to play higher than first position.

String Ensemble

Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass: D Major scale-1 octave

3) Orchestral Excerpts:

Available on the website at www.mysp-music.org

Orchestral excerpts are **NOT** required for String Ensemble.

4) Sight Reading:

Provided at the audition.



Andrew Crust is in his second season as Assistant Conductor of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra where he conducts Pops, education, ballet, corporate concerts, Classic Accents concerts, among others. In the 17/18 season, Mr. Crust conducted over 35 performances with the MSO. Mr. Crust also serves as a key representative in the community and in the schools, acts as cover conductor for every MSO

concert, and serves as conductor of the vitally important Memphis Youth Symphony. In February of 2018 he stepped in to replace an ailing guest conductor for two successful MSO subscription performances featuring Bernstein's *Serenade After Plato's Symposium* with violinist Charles Yang.

Previously the Assistant Conductor of the Portland Symphony Orchestra in Maine, Andrew conducted a variety of concerts, helped coordinate the orchestra's extensive educational programs, and helped lead a program for concertgoers under 40 called "Symphony and Spirits".

Mr. Crust is an orchestra and opera conductor most active in the US and Canada. Some of his recent conducting positions include Cover Conductor of the Kansas City Symphony and Nashville Symphony, Assistant/Cover Conductor of the Boulder Philharmonic, Music Director of the CU-Boulder Campus Orchestra, and Assistant Conductor of Opera McGill. Mr. Crust was selected as Assistant Conductor for the Carnegie Hall Weill Institute's National Youth Orchestra of the USA in 2017, where assisted the orchestras and Giancarlo Guerrero in a side-by-side performance with the Philadelphia Orchestra, and a final concert at Carnegie Hall. He was invited back for the summer of 2018 to assist Michael Tilson Thomas for the tour of Asia. As a winner of the 2018 Ansbacher Fellowship, selected by members of the Vienna Philharmonic, Mr. Crust attended the Salzburger Festspiele throughout August 2018 with full access to all Festival performances and rehearsals. Furthermore, Mr. Crust was the only American invited as a semi-finalist for the 2018 Nestlé and Salzburg Festival's Young Conductors Award and conducted the Austrian Ensemble for New Music in May of 2018. He spent the summer of 2018 at the Salzburg Festival, having won the Ansbacher Fellowship of the American Austrian Foundation.

Mr. Crust has performed as a conductor on three continents. Recent guest engagements include concerts with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Hartford Symphony, Lima Symphony Orchestra, l'Orchestre de la Francophonie in Québec, the Boulder Opera Company, the Colorado New Music Ensemble, the Pendulum New Music Series, and the Colorado College Summer Music Festival. Abroad, he has led concerts with the Orchestra Giovanile Italiana in Italy, Hamburger Symphoniker at the Mendelssohn Festival in Germany, the Moravian Philharmonic in the Czech Republic, the Filharmonia "Mihail Jora" of Bacau, Romania, and the Orquesta Sinfónica de Chile in Santiago. In 2017 he was awarded first prize at the Accademia Chigiana by Daniele Gatti, and received a scholarship and an invitation to guest conduct the Orchestra di Sanremo in Italy.

Andrew Crust, (cont.)

Mr. Crust has been influenced by a number of teachers and conductors from around the world, most notably Daniele Gatti, Marin Alsop, Alexis Hauser, Scott Yoo, Gustav Meier, and Markand Thakar. In 2016 he was selected to audition for Riccardo Muti and Renata Scotto for Muti's Italian Opera Academy in Ravenna. He completed his doctorate at the University of Colorado Boulder in 2016 with academic emphasis on Brahms performance practice and made a French-to-English translation of Igor Markevitch's analysis of Beethoven's symphonies.



Karla Philipp holds the B. M. in Music Education from the University of Arizona, and the M. M. in Double Bass performance from Memphis State University (now the University of Memphis). An active performer, she has performed with the Tucson Symphony, the Arizona Light Opera, the Memphis Symphony, the Tupelo Symphony, and is currently in the Jackson, TN. Symphony. In addition, she is a freelance performer in the Memphis area. Ms. Philipp is a 1998 recipient of the Rotary Award for

Teacher Excellence. She is also a three time recipient of the Outstanding Teacher Award from the Governor's School for the Arts. Karla has had the privilege of doing clinics, summer music camps and workshops around the Country including The American Suzuki Institute in Stevens Point Wisconsin, and the Intermountain Suzuki String Institute in Salt Lake City, Utah. In 2009 Karla retired after 30 years of teaching strings for the Memphis City Schools. She is currently the conductor of two Memphis Youth Symphony Program orchestras, the String Ensemble and the String Sinfonia. She maintains a private studio of double bass players, and is also the director of the Calvary Ringers, the handbell choir at Calvary Episcopal Church in downtown Memphis. In addition she is an adjunct instructor in music education at the University of Memphis where she teaches the strings method class and supervises student teachers.