

About Texarkana Youth Symphony Orchestra

The Texarkana Youth Symphony Orchestra (TYSO) promotes music appreciation and performance opportunities for the younger audiences. TYSO auditions are open to all qualified middle and high school students (ages 10 to 19) who are prepared to make a commitment to the Youth Orchestra's rigorous rehearsal and concert schedule.

Eligibility:

For participation in TYSO, students must successfully pass an audition each year. Student must be a member of his/her school instrumental program, if provided. Non-participation in school program requires approval from school band or orchestra director and TYSO Director.

Age Limits:

TYSO members must be between the ages of 10-19. Exceptions for younger ages will occur only with the approval of private lesson instructor and at discretion of TYSO director.

Auditions:

Interested students may contact the TSO office at 870.773.3401 to schedule an audition time.

All students must audition each Spring.

All students must provide his/her own instrument for audition, rehearsals, and performances. TYSO will provide timpani and keyboards, but students must bring their own sticks/mallets.

String Auditions will include:

Scales – D, G, C, F, A; 2-octaves; quarter = 92

Prepared piece; chosen and issued by TYSO through TSO website

Wind Auditions will include:

Scales – be prepared to play any major scale up to 4 # and 4 b;

in eighth notes; quarter = 120

Prepared piece; chosen and issued by TYSO through TSO website

Tuition:

Tuition for TYSO will be \$125/year and shall be paid in full by the first rehearsal. All payments to TYSO are non-refundable. Limited financial aid and scholarships are available to those with demonstrated need as verified by the Federal Free and Reduced Price Lunch Standards. To apply, student must request and complete a financial aid/scholarship form.

Rehearsals:

Rehearsals are on Monday evenings 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the Stilwell Building

Music Hall on the Texarkana College Campus, 2500 N Robison, Texarkana, TX 75501.

Rehearsal will take place in Music Hall rehearsal room.

For each rehearsal students must:

- * Have a pencil
- * Have music (if lost, there will be an additional fee for music replacement)
- * Be in seat 5 minutes prior to rehearsal time
- * Observe policy of no drinks, snacks, gum, candy
- * Turn cell phones OFF or put on SILENCE

All rehearsals are mandatory. Absences excused at director's discretion.

Conduct:

Students are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior during rehearsal and performance, as defined by TYSO Director. Continual inappropriate conduct could result in dismissal from the group. Tuition payments are non-refundable.

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. Students should notify director of illness, death in family, religious observance, required school functions. Excessive absences could result in loss of chair placement or dismissal from group. All payments to group are non-refundable.

Concert Attire:

Concert Dress is mandatory. Concert dress is as follows:

Male – black dress pants, long-sleeve white dress shirt, black bow-tie, black socks, black leather shoes, black belt

Female – long black dress or black slacks, white dress blouse, black shoes

Black or dark jeans are not appropriate concert attire.

For additional information, contact Texarkana Symphony Orchestra at 870-773-3401.