



1. **Acceptance of a position in any CYSO program is a *yearlong* commitment, and students are expected to participate during the entire season. A list of all the season's specific dates will be sent to accepted members in July. The following outlines the basic requirements for membership:**

#### ORCHESTRA PROGRAMS

##### **Symphony Orchestra (SO):**

- Weekly Sunday rehearsals: 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm or occasionally 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm (if double rehearsal), includes sectionals & seating auditions
- SO Performances: 2 Orchestra Hall concerts (may include 2 weeknight dress rehearsals), Performance at annual CYSO Gala (includes 1 weeknight dress rehearsal), 2 Community concerts, Other special concert opportunities as they arise
- Mandatory SO Labor Day weekend retreat: **09/01/2017 – 09/03/2017**
- Percussion Ensemble rehearsals (required of all SO percussionists): 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm, see Chamber Music Program for Percussion Ensemble performances
- CYSO International Tour: Location and exact dates pending (June, 2018) details including costs forthcoming
- Optional Concerto Competition

##### **Philharmonic Orchestra (PO):**

- Weekly Sunday rehearsals: 12:00 pm – 2:30 pm, includes sectionals & seating auditions
- PO Performances: 2 concerts at various Chicago venues, 1 performance at Orchestra Hall w/Symphony Orchestra, 2 Community concerts, 1 Student Composition Reading Session (works by students in CYSO's Composition Seminar), Other special concert opportunities as they arise
- Percussion Ensemble rehearsals (required of all PO percussionists): 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, see Chamber Music Program for Percussion Ensemble performances
- Optional Concerto Competition

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

- Weekly Saturday rehearsals: 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm except for first rehearsal of season, extended 12:30 pm – 5:00 pm, includes sectionals & seating auditions
- Performances: 2 concerts at various Chicago venues, 1-2 education concerts, Other special concert opportunities as they arise
- Audition Seminar with the Music Director during regularly scheduled rehearsal in January

##### **Debut Orchestra (DO):**

- Weekly Saturday rehearsals: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, includes sectionals & seating auditions
- Performances: 2 concerts at various Chicago venues, 1 education concert

##### **Accelerando Strings (AS):**

- Weekly Saturday rehearsals: 1:15 pm – 3:15 pm, includes theory, sectionals & seating auditions
- Performances: 2 concerts at various Chicago venues, 1 Community concert

##### **Preparatory Strings (PS):**

- Weekly Saturday rehearsals: 10:30 am – 12:45 pm, includes theory, sectionals & seating auditions
- Performances: 2 concerts at various Chicago venues, a selected group of approximately 15 PS musicians will perform at annual CYSO Gala (includes 1 weeknight dress rehearsal)

##### **Overture Strings (OS):**

- Weekly Saturday rehearsals: 9:00 am – 10:15 am
- Performances: 2 joint concerts w/The Jumbies (CYSO's youngest Steel Orchestra) in CYSO's Curtiss Hall

##### **Jazz Orchestra (JO):**

- Weekly Wednesday rehearsals: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm includes sectionals
- JO Performances: 2 Jazz Showcase concerts (may include 2 additional dress rehearsals), Other special concert opportunities as they arise



**SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAMS**

**Chamber Music Program (CHM) – available to SO & PO members only:**

- Sunday rehearsals: 12:30 – 2:30 pm (SO) or 3:00 – 5:00 pm (PO), groups placed based on Fall seating auditions and placements are locked in for full season, includes Principal Players (Principal Players is a string quartet of specially selected SO students – they receive a tuition waiver for CHM)
- Performances: 2 Chamberpaloozas at the Fine Arts Building, multiple Chamber Showcases, Other special concert opportunities as they arise
- Principal Players Only Performances: Frequent gigs and concerts for various events in Chicago and suburbs
- Chamber Music groups may choose to compete in Rembrandt, Fischhoff, and other competitions (optional)

**Steel Orchestras (STL) – Supplemental:**

- Kairo Steel Orchestra (audition-based, available to SO, PO, CO, & AS students): 3:15 pm – 5:15 pm, 2 performances per year, 4 in-school performances requiring two school absences in early spring, Other concert opportunities as they arise
- Junior Steel Orchestra (available to DO & PS students): Saturdays 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, 2 performances per year, Other concert opportunities as they arise

**Composition Seminar (CMP) - Supplemental:**

- Composition Seminar (available to SO, PO, CO, & AS students): Sundays 10:45 – 11:45 am, prerequisite: demonstrated interest and experience writing music; includes reading/recording by professional chamber ensemble, reading/recording by Philharmonic Orchestra

**2. Agree to adhere to the CYSO attendance policy:**

**Symphony Orchestra:** Students are allowed three excused absences in each fall and spring concert repertoire cycle and one excused absence in the winter cycle (gala); there are three cycles per season.

**Philharmonic Orchestra:** Students are allowed two excused absences per concert repertoire cycle; there are three cycles per season.

**Concert Orchestra, Accelerando Strings, Steel Orchestras, & Jazz Orchestra:** Students are allowed three excused absences per concert repertoire cycle; there are two cycles per season.

**Debut Orchestra, Preparatory Strings, & Overture Strings:** Students are allowed two excused absences per concert repertoire cycle; there are two cycles per season.

**Dress Rehearsals & Concerts:** Attendance at all dress rehearsals and concerts is mandatory.

**Chamber Music & Composition Seminar:** Students are allowed two excused absences per semester; there are two semesters per season.

**3. Pay the annual tuition fee.** Below are the proposed 2016-2017 tuition fee rates:

<b>Symphony Orchestra:</b> \$1,400	<b>Accelerando Strings:</b> \$600	Chamber Music: \$500
<b>Philharmonic Orchestra:</b> \$1,000	<b>Preparatory Strings:</b> \$700	Steel Orchestras: \$400
<b>Concert Orchestra:</b> \$800	<b>Overture Strings:</b> \$400	Composition Seminar: \$400
<b>Debut Orchestra:</b> \$700	<b>Jazz Orchestra:</b> \$750	

Rates for 2017-2018 are subject to change. Financial assistance is available for all programs. Assistance application forms will be available upon acceptance into CYSO.

**4. Student Fundraising**

**Symphony Orchestra:**

- Sell a minimum of 8 tickets to each Orchestra Hall concert.
- Participate in CYSO’s annual fundraiser, the Noteworthy Campaign.

**All other orchestras:**

- Participate in CYSO’s annual fundraiser, the Noteworthy Campaign.



**5. Participation in your school music program:**

CYSO recognizes the importance of school music programs in their communities and strongly recommends and encourages its members to be active participants in those programs. CYSO and the schools share a common goal of educating student musicians.

**6. For further details about the requirements for membership please peruse the current year 2016-2017 Parent & Student Handbook available on our website under the 'Auditions' tab at [CYSO.ORG](http://CYSO.ORG). The 2017-2018 Parent & Student Handbook will become available in May.**