

Absence Reminder

If you will be absent for any reason, please submit an Absence Request form online at least 24 hours in advance. Thank you!
www.evysaz.org

Support Us

EVYS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that relies on fundraising endeavors to keep tuitions affordable. There are many opportunities to contribute to EVYS, and any participation would be greatly appreciated!!!

Annual Play-a-thon

Please note that the Play-a-thon in April is a mandatory rehearsal for all musicians, though participation in the fundraising activity is optional.



East Valley Youth Symphony
P.O. Box 1195, Higley, AZ 85236
www.evysaz.org / info@evysaz.org

East Valley Youth Symphony
Making Beautiful Music for OVER a DECADE!
www.evysaz.org
Encouraging & Inspiring
Young Musicians
come play with us...

A promotional banner for the East Valley Youth Symphony. It features a green and black color scheme with a musical staff and notes. The text includes the organization's name, a tagline, the website, and a call to action.

ORCHESTRA HANDBOOK
2018 – 2019

THANK YOU to our 2018-19 season SPONSORS!

Dear Fellow Parents and EVYS Members:

We pride ourselves in maintaining a culture that fosters the growth and development of our children to both inspire and encourage these young minds to become some of the best musicians in the valley. As an organization, we are entering our 12th season and I could not be more proud of the accomplishments by our board and conductors. Our team is working hard to provide an amazing experience that will challenge your children. They will work through the guidance of skilled conductors to take on difficult literature while learning the secrets of the masters. As Ludvig van Beethoven once said, "Don't only practice your art, but force your way into its secrets; art deserves that, for it and knowledge can raise man to the Divine." As we look to build our program in the coming years, I can assure you there will be one constant: we will work hard to provide your children with an amazing experience. But don't take it from me, take it from our alumni. Those who have come through our doors and because of their hard work, your support, and the work of our staff, have gone on to do amazing things. Many have become musicians performing around the world. Some have returned to our community to teach and pass the good work forward to others. As a proud parent of an EVYS participant, I too look forward to the amazing things our children will accomplish through this program. Thank you for your membership and continued support of EVYS.



Edwin Reyes
President



MUSIC
CELEBRATIONS
INTERNATIONAL

East Valley Youth Symphony MEDIA RELEASE 2018 - 2019

Over the course of this year's practices and concerts, opportunities will arise to photograph/videotape musicians actively engaged in practicing and performing. These photos/videos may be used for a variety of purposes, including, but not limited to, advertising, design, and social media. Musician names will not be associated with photos or postings.

If you approve of the use or posting of photos/videos of your musician, please sign the following media release:

I give permission for my musician,

(EVYS Member)

to appear in all media as noted above.

Print: _____
(EVYS Member's Parent)

Signed: _____
(EVYS Member's Parent)

Date: _____

Please read and sign this media release and then detach and return to EVYS at the first rehearsal.

REHEARSALS

Our mission is to encourage and inspire young musicians in the East Valley by providing an uplifting and challenging orchestral experience.

Monday Evenings at Cooley Middle School (CMS)

4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Concert Orchestra

4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Chamber Orchestra

6:15 - 8:15 p.m. Symphony Orchestra

In order to maintain our high standard of performance, it is the policy of the EVYS Board of Directors that each member of East Valley Youth Symphony is expected to attend every EVYS rehearsal and performance.

Punctuality is of utmost importance. Musicians are required to be in their seats, with their music out, and their instruments tuned, at the rehearsal start time.

If you will be absent for any reason, please complete an Absence Request form online at www.evysaz.org within 24 hours of the absence. Only absences due to school orchestra or band events, illness, or family emergency will be excused. Recurring absences or tardies, though they may be excused, may result in a written warning, a request to play your music for your conductor, loss of chair, ineligibility to perform in a concert, or possible dismissal from EVYS.

Please refer to the EVYS policies in this handbook and online at www.evysaz.org for further information.

MAKE SURE TO "LIKE" US ON FACEBOOK !!!

CALENDAR

August 27 – First Rehearsal at CMS – Tuition & Contract Due

September 3 – No Rehearsal (Labor Day)

September 10 – Rehearsal (Board Meeting)

September 17 – Rehearsal

September 24 – Rehearsal

October 1 – Rehearsal

October 8 – No Rehearsal (Fall Break)

October 15 – Rehearsal (Board Meeting)

October 22 – Rehearsal

October 29 – Rehearsal

November 5 – Rehearsal (Dress Check/Photos – Wear concert attire!)

November 12 – Dress Rehearsal (On stage HCPA) (Board Meeting)

November 16 – Concert (FRIDAY) – HCPA

November 19 – Rehearsal

November 26 – LAST Rehearsal of 2018!

December 10 – Winter Auditions/Board Meeting

Break for the Holidays

January 7 – Rehearsal

January 14 – Rehearsal (Board Meeting)

January 21 – Rehearsal

January 28 – Rehearsal

February 4 – Rehearsal

February 11 – Rehearsal (Board Meeting)

February 18 – No Rehearsal (President’s Day)

February 25 – Dress Rehearsal (Not on stage)

March 2 – Concert (SATURDAY) – Gilbert High School

March 4 – Rehearsal (Board Meeting)

March 11 – No Rehearsal (Spring Break)

March 18 – Rehearsal

March 25 – Rehearsal

April 1 – Rehearsal

April 8 – Rehearsal (Board Meeting)

April 15 – Rehearsal

April 22 – Rehearsal

April 29 – Dress Rehearsal (Not on stage)

May 3 – Final Concert (FRIDAY) – Chandler Center for the Arts

May 13 – Final Board Meeting

***Board meetings are open to parents.**

PARENT VOLUNTEER FORM

How will YOU help out?

EVYS is run by Parent Volunteers. We have many different ways that Parents can contribute to the success of EVYS. Please indicate how you are able to volunteer by checking one or more of the following boxes. A Board Member will contact you with details regarding assignments.

- Board Member** – Attend Board Meetings once a month, 2nd Mondays 5:30pm PLUS:
 - Auditions** – Coordinate the orchestra auditions three times a year.
 - Recruiting** – Contact local High Schools and Jr. Highs to distribute EVYS materials to the Orchestra and Band conductors.
 - Historian** – Help capture moments during rehearsals and concerts for our use.
 - General Board Member** – Serve where needed most when available.
- Rehearsal Aide** – Attend at least one or more of the orchestra rehearsals on Mondays and help as needed, i.e. take attendance, distribute music, collect forms. Please indicate Orchestra below.
 - Concert Orchestra 4:30 – 6:00 PM
 - Chamber Orchestra 4:30 – 6:00 PM
 - Symphony Orchestra 6:15 – 8:15 PM
- Concert Volunteer** – Assist with flower/candy sales, facilitate musicians to the stage, or put away chairs and music stands after the concert. Assignment will not interfere with you hearing your children perform. Choose at least one concert:
 - Winter Concert – November 16
 - Spring Concert – March 2
 - Final Concert – May 3
- Assist with Chair Auditions** – Help facilitate chair auditions during rehearsal three times. Assist with flow of musicians into audition room and recordings as needed.
- Assist with April Play-a-thon**– Collect forms and donations, distribute prizes, etc.
- Assist with Prizes or Donations** – Contact businesses and organizations to solicit donations and prizes for the Play-a-thon or raffle baskets.
- Fundraising Committee** – Help coordinate our family dinner nights, raffle baskets, April Play-a-thon and assist with other creative ways to raise funds for EVYS so that we can avoid raising tuition.
- Recruiting Committee**– Help contact High Schools and Jr. highs to distribute EVYS materials to the Orchestra and Band conductors.
- Reception Support** – Assist with set-up or clean-up of refreshments and tables for the reception after any of the concerts.
- Flexible** – Willing to help as needed if available.

Thank you in advance for your help at least once this season. The more volunteers we have, the less work it is for everyone! Please provide your preferred contact information below:

Parent Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Email: _____

Musician Name: _____ **Orchestra:** _____



Dear Teacher or Conductor,

Members of the East Valley Youth Symphony are required to participate in their school's band or orchestra program as dictated by their respective instrument. Please sign this form to provide verification of membership in good standing (OR to give consent for participation in EVYS even though the student is not enrolled in a school music program this year).

Student Name:

School Name:

Teacher Name:

Teacher Signature:

Teacher Email: _____

Date: _____

Thank you teachers for encouraging and inspiring the young musicians of the East Valley Youth Symphony!

Musicians - please remove this school participation letter and have your teacher/conductor sign it. Then bring it to the first rehearsal.

HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS - PARENT CAN SIGN INSTEAD OF MUSIC TEACHER

EVYS needs your FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

Your support can provide the youth in our community tremendous musical opportunities and experiences. Please consider making a donation to EVYS. Also, please consider asking grandparents, neighbors and community members who love and support the arts in our community.

Link your Amazon account to EVYS

Instructions are on our website – evysaz.org/smileamazon. Amazon donates 0.5% of eligible purchases to your favorite non-profit org: EVYS!

Family Dinner Nights

Please join us for family dinner nights scheduled at local restaurants that will donate a percentage back to EVYS. Upcoming dinner nights:

Monday 9/24 at 4-8pm – Chipotle (Power and 202)

Monday 10/22 at 4-8pm – Panera (Williams Field and 202)

Raffle Baskets

We invite you to donate movie tickets/gift cards/passes to fun family venues for baskets to be raffled at upcoming concerts. More info to come!

Scholarship Sponsor

There are always families who have difficulty paying tuition. Please consider donating \$\$ to provide tuition assistance to an EVYS musician.

Annual Play-a-thon Prize Donations

Do you work for a company that would be willing to donate prizes (gift cards/movie tickets/electronics, etc.) for the musicians to win at our April Playathon? Please find out what you can get donated to our youth organization!

Advertise in EVYS Programs

We would love to advertise your place of business in our concert programs. If you, or anyone you know, would like to advertise in our concert programs, please contact us: publishing@evysaz.org. We will have 3 concerts this season.

Price for advertising spaces, which includes all three concerts:

Back Cover (color)	\$350	<u>ARTWORK DIMENSIONS</u>
Inside Cover (color)	\$300	Back/Inside Cover and Full Page:
Full Page (b/w)	\$200	5.5 wide by 8.5 tall
Half Page (b/w)	\$100	½ page: 5.5 wide by 4 tall
Quarter Page (b/w)	\$ 50	¼ page: 2.25 by 4 tall or 5.5 by 2 tall

Please visit www.evysaz.org to make an online donation or you may send a check to EVYS at P.O. Box 1195, Higley, AZ 85236.

EVYS is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization and a receipt will be returned to you for tax purposes.

EVYS ORCHESTRA POLICIES 2018-2019

The mission of EVYS is to encourage and inspire young musicians in the East Valley by providing an uplifting and challenging orchestral experience under the guidance of skilled conductors and supportive parents.

I. Cost

The cost for the year, September through April, is \$280 for Concert and Chamber Orchestra, and \$300 for Symphony Orchestra. Payment can be made using one of the following methods:

- a. Write a check to East Valley Youth Symphony.
- b. Pay online using Visa or MasterCard using the PayPal payment system at www.evysaz.org. If paying online, please add a 3% service fee.
- c. We offer a payment program. Just contact the President of the EVYS board if you would like to make arrangements to pay in (up to three) equal installments.

II. Eligibility

All students who are able to perform the minimum audition requirements as stated on www.evysaz.org, are eligible to audition to become a member of EVYS.

As an EVYS member, students are required to participate in and support their school band or orchestra program.

Each member must have his/her school conductor sign the School Participation Letter indicating participation or consenting to participation in EVYS. If your school does not offer band or orchestra during regular school hours, a school counselor may sign the release form indicating no program is available. If you are a home school student please indicate on the form and a parent can sign.

The following items will be due at the first rehearsal in order to participate in EVYS:

1. Tuition - full payment or first installment payment
2. Member Contract - signed by musician and parent
3. School Participation Letter - signed by teacher/conductor
4. Parent Volunteer Form
5. Media Release

East Valley Youth Symphony MEMBER CONTRACT 2018 - 2019

Every member matters in the realization of the East Valley Youth Symphony (EVYS) mission, *"...to encourage and inspire young musicians by providing an uplifting and challenging orchestral experience..."* Once you have read the handbook and understand EVYS policies as printed therein, please sign this contract signifying your commitment to conduct yourself according to those policies, and turn it in to your rehearsal aide at the next rehearsal.

Thank you for being a part of EVYS excellence!

1. I have read and understand the Orchestra Handbook 2018-19 and will honor the policies as stated therein.
2. I will further promote EVYS excellence by learning my instrument and EVYS music to the best of my ability.
3. I understand that I must have signed and returned this Member Contract along with my tuition, School Participation Letter, Parent Volunteer Form, and Media Release by Monday, August 27th, the first scheduled rehearsal.
4. I understand that I will not be allowed to play in any EVYS concert unless my Member Contract has been signed and submitted and my tuition has been paid.
5. I understand that by not keeping this contract my participation in EVYS may be discontinued.

Signed: _____
(EVYS Member)

I will support and facilitate my child's good standing in EVYS.

Signed: _____
(EVYS Member's Parent)

PLEASE LIST any HEALTH ISSUES / ALLERGIES:

Please read and sign this contract and then detach and return to EVYS at the first rehearsal.

CONDUCTORS

Cindy Petty
Symphony Conductor

Richard Chelpka
Chamber Conductor

Laura Reed
Concert Conductor

Richelle Shultz
Strings Specialist

Jon Gomez
Wind Specialist

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Edwin Reyes
President

Rafael Pacheco
Treasurer

Jen Casey
VP & Fundraising

Mary Holzwarth
Secretary

Esther Marrujo
Concerts/Auditions

Traci Cucitro
Social Media Director

Starnet Solutions
Website Administration

Sheridan Chumley
Publishing

WE NEED YOUR HELP
Auditions Director

WE NEED YOUR HELP
Recruiting Director

WE NEED YOUR HELP
Historian

WE NEED YOUR HELP
General Board Member

EVYS
P.O. Box 1195
Higley, AZ 85236
(480) 269-1440
info@evysaz.org

III. Auditions

All eligible applicants will be auditioned by a fair and qualified adjudicator. Orchestra placement will be determined as a result of each student's EVYS audition performance only.

Orchestra placement auditions will take place at the beginning of each school year. At the discretion of the conductor and EVYS board, additional orchestra placement auditions may be scheduled throughout the year. In rare circumstances, and by invitation only, adjustments may be made following the first concert.

Chair auditions for all orchestra members will be held prior to each concert. Dates are posted, but are subject to change at Conductor's discretion. Auditions will consist of current concert literature. Excerpts will be selected by either the conductor or the adjudicator.

Members absent for their chair audition forfeit their current ranking and will be placed last in their section. Exceptions for missed chair auditions due to school concerts may be arranged prior to chair audition date. Late chair auditions will not be given under any circumstances except those deemed extreme and excusable by the Board of Directors and/or conductor.

The conductor reserves the right to schedule additional chair auditions with any or no amount of notice at all – be prepared!

IV. Attendance

In order to maintain our high standard of performance, it is the policy of the EVYS Board of Directors that each member of East Valley Youth Symphony be expected to attend every EVYS rehearsal and performance.

Punctuality is of utmost importance. Musicians are required to be in their seats, with their music out, and their instruments tuned, at the rehearsal start time.

Absences due to a school concert, personal illness, or a family emergency are considered to be excused absences. We do realize our members might occasionally have a conflict with a scheduled rehearsal. Each of these occurrences will be reviewed on an individual basis. However, you must understand that reoccurring absences or tardies, though they may be excused, may result in a written warning, a request to play your music for your conductor, loss of chair, ineligibility to perform in a concert, or possible dismissal from EVYS.

Each and every absence, regardless of the reason, must be reported through an absence request form. These forms can be found on the website at www.evysaz.org and must be submitted within 24 hours of the date in question.

V. Rehearsal Rules

- EVYS members will respect the property of rehearsal and concert facilities.
- Food is not allowed in the rehearsal room. Water is the only beverage allowed.
- No running or rough play.
- Guard your instrument and do not play or tamper with anyone else's instrument.
- Use and care for equipment appropriately, i.e. do not lean on music stands or tilt back on chairs.
- Be courteous and respectful to your conductors and other EVYS employees and volunteers.
- No cell phone usage during rehearsals or concerts. Text messaging is specifically prohibited during these times.
- Be punctual and seated early for rehearsals, performances, and after breaks.
- Always bring your own music; do not assume your stand partner will bring it.
- Music should only be marked with light pencil markings. Do not use ink or colored pencils to mark EVYS music!
- Music must be returned at the specified time. Lost music will incur a replacement fee.

VI. Concert Conduct

Part of the EVYS experience is to learn proper concert etiquette as a musician and an audience member. Please show respect to all our musicians by turning off your electronic devices, and by remaining quietly in your seat during performances. Also show your support to all of our orchestras by staying through the end of the concert.

In the event that you must enter or exit the performance hall during a concert, kindly wait until the music has stopped to discreetly enter or exit.

These policies may also be found online at:
www.EVYSAZ.org/policies

VII. Concert Attire

In order to provide an atmosphere of professionalism and excellence the following attire will be required for concerts.

All girls: Black, closed-toe dress shoes and black nylons or tights. Bare legs and feet will not be allowed. **Concert & Chamber Orchestras:** Long, black, ankle-length skirt; no denim and no slits; long-sleeved white blouse (cannot show cleavage, must cover elbows and no T-shirts); only Cellists may wear dressy, long, black slacks; no denim. **Symphony Orchestra:** Long black dresses; no denim, no slits.

All boys: Black dress slacks; no denim; long-sleeved, white, button-up dress shirt (tucked in); black bow tie, black shoes, black socks and black belt. **Concert & Chamber Orchestras:** No Jacket. **Symphony Orchestra:** Jacket.

Concert dress will also need to be approved on November 5th, when there will be a "concert dress" check and group photos taken.

Additionally, inappropriate and unapproved concert attire will not be allowed on the stage during a concert.

VIII. Parental Support

In order to accomplish the goals and aims of EVYS, each family is requested to donate service each season. Please read and turn in the Parent Volunteer Form at the back. Opportunities to serve will be available and your assistance will be requested at one event at least this year.

If you have additional talents or interests that would benefit EVYS, please contact an EVYS board member.

Music is the universal language, and it is our desire to facilitate the learning of that important language in our society. We believe that can be best accomplished by providing a nurturing environment of supportive parents, families, teachers, and communities.

IX. Additional Information

EVYS members' photos may be taken occasionally and published in EVYS-related publications such as brochures, newspaper articles, or www.evysaz.org. Please see the Media Release at the back.

EVYS does not provide insurance for musical instruments. Members are responsible to provide their own insurance against damage or theft as they may deem necessary.