

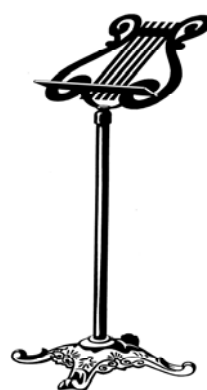
The Pinellas Youth Symphony

Proudly Celebrates

52 Years of

“Musicians In The Making”

2009-2010 Season



Pinellas Youth Symphony, Inc.

2009/2010 Handbook

Mailing Address:

Post Office Box 4106
Seminole, Florida 33775

Email:

pysdirector@yahoo.com

Voicemail Number:

(727) 438-3149

Website:

www.pysmusic.org

Rehearsals held at

The Marcia P. Hoffman Performing Arts Institute
At Ruth Eckerd Hall
1111 McMullen Booth Road
Clearwater, Florida

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*The Pinellas Youth Symphony
Proudly Celebrates
Its 52nd Anniversary Concert Season
2009-2010 Season*

*****Schedule is subject to change*****

Check website for updated concert information: www.pysmusic.org

Evening At The Murray

Saturday, October 17, 2009 – 7:30 p.m.
Serenade Strings & String Chamber Ensembles
Murray Studio at Ruth Eckerd Hall -1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater

Wallace Gause Memorial Concert

Wednesday, December 2, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.
Pinellas Youth Symphony
First United Methodist Church - 411 W. Turner Street, Clearwater

Holiday Chamber Ensembles Concert

Saturday, December 12, 2009 – 7:30 p.m.
String, Woodwind and Brass Chamber Ensembles
Murray Studio at Ruth Eckerd Hall -1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater

Holiday Orchestra Concert

Sunday, December 13, 2009 – 4:00 p.m.
Symphonic Strings, Pinellas Youth Philharmonic,
Serenade Strings & Pinellas Youth Symphony
The Palladium Theater - 253 Fifth Avenue North, St. Petersburg

String Orchestra and Chamber Ensembles Concert

Saturday, February 13, 2010 – 7:30 p.m.
Serenade Strings and All PYS Chamber Ensembles
SPC Music Center – 6055 Fifth Avenue North, St. Petersburg

Annual Spring Concert

Saturday, March 6, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.
Serenade Strings and Pinellas Youth Symphony
SPC Music Center – 6055 Fifth Avenue North, St. Petersburg

String Recital (date tentative)

Tuesday, April 27, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.
Symphonic Strings Orchestra, all Beginning Strings & String Consorts
Murray Studio at Ruth Eckerd Hall - 1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater

Finale Chamber Ensembles Concert

Saturday, May 1, 2010 – 4:00 p.m.
String, Woodwind and Brass Chamber Ensembles
SPC Music Center – 6055 Fifth Avenue North, St. Petersburg

Finale Orchestra Concert

Saturday, May 8, 2010 – 3:00 p.m.
Symphonic Strings, Pinellas Youth Philharmonic,
Serenade Strings and Pinellas Youth Symphony
The Palladium Theater – 253 Fifth Avenue North, St. Petersburg

3. Board of Directors

2009-2010 Season

Leo Meirose, President

Bruce Haire

Tom Jacobus

Laura Leneweaver

Dorothy Loeb

Jean Reynolds, Music Supervisor
K-12 Pinellas County Schools

Frederick Wagner

Carolyn Wahl, Musician
The Florida Orchestra

Aileen Chapman, Honorary and Co-Founding Member



4. ARTISIC & ADMINSTRATIVE STAFF

CONDUCTORS:

Pinellas Youth Symphony: Dr. Susan B. Robinson

Serenade Strings Orchestra: Mr. Lei Liu

Pinellas Youth Philharmonic: Dr. Susan B. Robinson

Symphonic Strings: Ms. Sandra Kitts

STRING CLASS INSTRUCTORS:

Beginning Strings and String Consort: Ms. Linda Gaines

Beginning Cello and Cello Consort: Mr. Fred Gratta

Beginning Bass and Bass Consort: Mr. Roger Funk

ENSEMBLE COACHES:

String Quartet(s): Mr. Lei Liu

Brass Ensemble(s): Ms. Carolyn Wahl

Woodwind Ensemble: Ms. Katherine Young

Flute Choir: Ms. Kay Wood

Percussion Ensemble: Mr. Kurt Grissom



SECTIONAL COACHES:

Violin I: Mr. Lei Liu and Ms. Sandra Kitts

Violin II: Ms. Ruth Klukoff

Viola: Mr. Karl Bawel

Cello: Mr. Fred Gratta

Bass: Mr. Roger Funk

Brass: Ms. Carolyn Wahl

Woodwinds: Ms. Carmen Bannon

and Mr. Anthony Georgeson

Percussion: Mr. Kurt Grissom

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Ms. Jane Hine: Executive Director

Email: pysdirector@yahoo.com

Mr. Wayne Raymond: Operations Director, CFO

Email: pysoperations@yahoo.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

The following information is a general introduction to the guidelines for our program. Conductors provide additional specific rules pertaining to their individual orchestras and ensembles. As the season progresses, the Administrative Staff or the Board of Directors may make decisions that alter or add to the information contained herein. Any specific information given by the Conductors, Administrative Staff, or decisions made by the Board of Directors automatically become a part of this handbook.

5. MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Pinellas Youth Symphony, Inc. is to:

Offer the community a program for the youth of Pinellas County that will support and enhance the music education of the individual through participation in a challenging group setting.

Encourage children to focus their extracurricular energy on a positive activity that will nurture appreciation for the arts.

Provide students with an environment that will support the development of positive self-esteem and self-discipline and promote the spirit of cooperation through an orchestral setting.

6. NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of Pinellas Youth Symphony, Inc. that no person shall, on the grounds of race, sex, handicap, national origin, religion, marital status, or political belief be discriminated against as a participant or volunteer in the Pinellas Youth Symphony or any of its programs or activities.

7. MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

The qualifications for orchestra membership are as follows: All interested students and previous PYS members must audition for acceptance before each season. For past PYS students, acceptance into the same ensemble is not guaranteed. Those students must maintain the standard of their ensemble. The Artistic Director and/or the audition adjudicators determine the initial seating placement. The orchestra conductors may rotate the seating during the season at their discretion and/or hold occasional "chair" auditions. The Artistic Director and/or conductors for each ensemble use their discretion to fill any seating vacancies during the year. Each student is assessed a tuition based on placement in the program.

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in their school music programs where available and encouraged to seek private instruction. Study of assigned music and practice outside of rehearsal insures the advancement of the orchestra as a whole during rehearsal time.

ORCHESTRA INFORMATION

See Dress Codes for each orchestra on subsequent pages

8. THE PINELLAS YOUTH SYMPHONY

The Pinellas Youth Symphony is the most advanced full orchestra in the Symphony and performs major orchestral repertoire. Highlights from the 2008-2009 season included *Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 in C Minor, Op. 67*, *Tchaikovsky's Francesca da Rimini*, *Mozart's Clarinet Concerto No. 4 (Mov't 1)*, *Wagner's Overture to Die Meistersinger*, *Hindemith's Der Schwanendreher (Mov't 1)*, *Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms*, and *Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4*.

Students rehearse two hours Sunday evenings with conductor Dr. Susan B. Robinson and at various times of the year with professional musicians, who coach sectional classes. This orchestra presents a number of concerts each season, including the Annual Wallace Gause Memorial Concert in conjunction with the First United Methodist Church of Clearwater, Holiday, Spring, and Finale Concerts, at times a Side-by-Side Concert with The Florida Orchestra, and the occasional collaborative performance with a community organization. The Pinellas Youth Symphony performs in major halls in Pinellas County, including Ruth Eckerd Hall, Mahaffey Theater, St. Petersburg College Music Center, and The Palladium Theater.

Rehearsals: The Pinellas Youth Symphony rehearses on Sunday evenings from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the Murray Studio of Ruth Eckerd Hall. *The PYS Strings program is funded in part with the support of the Pinellas County Cultural Affairs Department, the Cultural Council, and the Pinellas County Board of Commissioners. All PYS events and programs in St. Petersburg are funded in part by the City of St. Petersburg.*

PINELLAS YOUTH SYMPHONY'S OVERSEAS TOUR

European Tour in June 2008: As part of the 50th Anniversary Celebration a tour orchestra comprised of 52 senior level student musicians traveled to and performed in Italy and Austria in June 2008. These students experienced firsthand the cultures of Italy and Austria. They performed concerts in remarkable venues and explored historically significant landmarks in Rome, Florence, Venice, Salzburg, and Vienna. For more photos, videos, and concert performances about the tour visit our website at www.pysmusic.org.

The Symphony is considering another overseas concert tour in the near future.

SYMPHONY OPPORTUNITIES:

Concerto Competition: The Pinellas Youth Symphony Concerto Competition is open to 12th grade students in the Pinellas Youth Symphony. To qualify, one must prepare one movement of a concerto or a piece not to exceed 12 minutes in length. The piece must be pre-approved by the Pinellas Youth Symphony Conductor and must have an orchestral accompaniment. Applications must be submitted to the Pinellas Youth Symphony Conductor at the assigned deadline. Finalists will prepare for a live audition with piano accompaniment in January. Winner(s) perform at a Pinellas Youth Symphony concert designated by the Conductor. It is at the discretion of the Conductor to choose one winner, more than one winner, or no winners.

9. THE SERENADE STRINGS ORCHESTRA

The Serenade Strings is an orchestra comprised of primarily advanced string players. Under the direction of Mr. Lei Liu, Second Assistant Concertmaster of The Florida Orchestra, the string orchestra rehearses for 2 hours on Sunday afternoons and performs a wide range of string orchestra repertoire. String players are members of the Pinellas Youth Symphony (orchestra) and are invited to join the Serenade Strings at no extra tuition charge. Members have the opportunity to perform solo pieces in concert accompanied by the Orchestra. Assisting Mr. Liu are musicians from the area's professional orchestras.

Rehearsals are scheduled in the afternoons in order to enable Serenade Strings musicians to participate in the Pinellas Youth Symphony. Highlights from the 2008-2009 Season included *Elgar's Serenade for Strings Op. 20*, *Tchaikovsky's Andante Cantabile from String Quartet Op. 11*, *Handel's Concerto Grosso in D. Major No. 5, Op. 6*, *Grieg's Holberg Suite Op. 40 for String Orchestra*, and a number of concertos performed by orchestra members and accompanied by the Serenade Strings.

Rehearsals: The Orchestra rehearses on Sunday afternoons from 2:30-4:30 PM in the Education Performing Arts Institute of Ruth Eckerd Hall. *Funding for the Serenade Strings is provided in part by employees of the St. Petersburg Times through the Employee Giving Program, matched from the St. Petersburg Times Fund, Inc. and the Pinellas County Cultural Council.*

10. THE PINELLAS YOUTH PHILHARMONIC

The Pinellas Youth Philharmonic is comprised of intermediate to advanced string, wind, and percussion students. This Orchestra rehearses for 2 hours on Sunday afternoons under the direction of Dr. Susan Robinson. Professional musicians provide sectionals at various times throughout the year. This orchestra presents at least two concerts each season. Highlights from the 2008-2009 season include *R. W. Smith's Rites of Tamburo*, *Isaac's arrangement of Ivanov's Procession of the Sardar*, *Leidig's arrangement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony Finale*, *R. W. Smith's The Great Steamboat Race*, and *T. Kennedy's edited version of Bizet's Carmen Suite*.

Rehearsals: The Pinellas Youth Philharmonic meets Sunday afternoons from 2:30PM to 4:30 PM in the Murray Studio of Ruth Eckerd Hall.

11. THE SYMPHONIC STRINGS ORCHESTRA

The Symphonic Strings Orchestra includes students from early to intermediate level string musicians. Rehearsals are scheduled for 1-1/2 hours on Sunday evenings under the direction of Ms. Sandra Kitts. Sectionals conducted by professional musicians are held at various times throughout the year. Students in this orchestra perform in two concerts each season. Highlights from the 2008-2009 season include *Robinson's Estrellitas*, *Dabczynski's December Fanfare*, *Pordon's Midnight Tango*, *Hopkin's Avalanche*, and *Del Boirgo's Danza Antico*.

Rehearsals: The Symphonic Strings Orchestra rehearses on Sunday evenings from 5:00-6:30 in the Education Institute at Ruth Eckerd Hall.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM OFFERINGS

12. CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

Chamber music ensembles, comprised of advanced level students, rehearse for one hour weekly under the direction of the PYS artistic staff. Students benefit from the experience of working together in small groups to learn and perform ensemble music. All ensemble students must be members in a PYS orchestra, with membership in an ensemble based on orchestra audition and the need for instrumentation in an ensemble. Chamber ensemble students are required to submit a letter of commitment signed by both the student and the parent(s) before becoming a member of an ensemble. The ensembles perform in a variety of settings throughout the season and are popular with many charity organizations in the community. The Chamber Ensembles also perform several recitals in the "Evening At The Murray" Series at Ruth Eckerd Hall and in a Finale Recital. **Rehearsals:** Chamber Ensembles rehearse for 1 hour on Sunday afternoons prior to orchestra rehearsals at Ruth Eckerd Hall.

13. STRING CONSORT

The String Consort is an advanced beginner level instructional violin/viola class. Students begin instruction in this class as early as the age of five with at least 9 months prior experience. String consort class meets for one hour on Sunday early evenings under the direction of Ms. Linda Gaines. The String Consort performs in an end-of-the year recital.

Rehearsals: The String Consort class meets on Sunday evenings from 5:00-6:00 PM at the Education Institute of Ruth Eckerd Hall.

14. BEGINNING STRINGS

Beginning Strings is an instructional class for students from 5 to 14 years of age, with no prior strings knowledge. The only requirements are that the student has his/her own instrument and that the young student has an attention level, which will allow him/her to take part in the one-hour small group lesson without becoming bored or disruptive. This class is taught by Ms. Linda Gaines and performs in one recital at the end of the year.

Rehearsals: Beginning Strings meet on Sunday afternoons from 3:00-4:00 and 4:00-5:00 PM at the Education Institute of Ruth Eckerd Hall, provided there is enough student enrollment to warrant forming 2 beginning classes.

15. CELLO CONSORT

The Cello Consort is an advanced beginner level instructional cello class. Students begin in this class as early as the age of five with at least 9 months prior experience. This class meets for one hour under the direction of Mr. Fred Gratta and performs in at least one recital.

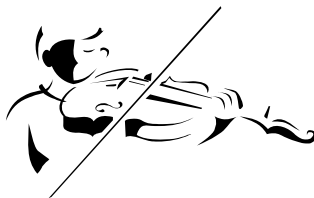
Rehearsals: The String Consort meets on Sunday evenings from 5:00-6:00 PM at the Education Institute of Ruth Eckerd Hall.

16. BEGINNING CELLO

Beginning Cello is an instructional class for students from 5 to 14 years of age, with no prior cello experience. The only requirements are that the student has his/her own instrument and that the young student has an attention level, which will allow him/her to take part in a one-hour group lesson without becoming bored or disruptive. The Beginning Cello class is under the direction of Mr. Fred Gratta and performs in one recital at the end of the year.

Rehearsals: Beginning Cello meet on Sunday afternoons from 5:00-6:00 PM at the Education Institute of Ruth Eckerd Hall.

Please Note: String classes may be offered at alternative north and south county sites as determined by the number of interested students who register.



17. CONCERT DRESS CODE

The Pinellas Youth Symphony, Serenade Strings Orchestra:

Female students: **Black Concert Dress attire chosen from several pre-selected styles** (go to www.concertblack.com for preview of styles). PYS will measure/order garments, once student has selected and pre-paid for the concert attire. Female musicians wear black nylons and black dress shoes with low heels. **No colored accessories.**

Male students: Black tux jacket, black tux pants, white tux shirt, black bow tie, black socks and black dress shoes.

Pinellas Youth Symphony & Serenade Strings: (Casual Performance Dress)

Female and Male Students: green PYS polo shirts with khaki-colored pants (or khaki calf-length skirts for females). Dark or khaki socks (for males), brown or dark-colored shoes or leather sandals (**No flip-flops**). **PYS will provide each PYS or Serenade Strings student with a polo shirt at no charge.**

PYS Chamber Ensembles

Female students: Same formal attire as PYS or Serenade Strings

Male students: Same formal tux dress as PYS or Serenade Strings

Male students Alternate Attire When Announced: black long sleeve, button down shirts with collar.

Pinellas Youth Philharmonic:

Female students: **Solid black top with any length sleeves...NO** sleeveless tops, bare shoulders, or bare backs are allowed. **Mid-calf to ankle-length black skirts (NO** short skirts or slit skirts) **OR black full-length dress pants (NO** Capri pants or Jeans). Black hose and black dress shoes with low heels. **NO** colored accessories.

Male students: Black jacket and black pants (tux or regular), white long sleeve shirt (tux style or regular, white collar) black bow tie, black socks and black dress shoes.

Symphonic Strings, String Consort, and Beginning Strings:

Female students: White blouse with any length sleeves, black skirt or black dress pants, and black dress shoes. Skirt must cover the knees when student is seated.

Male students: White dress shirt, long black tie, black dress slacks, black socks and black dress shoes.

18. ATTENDANCE POLICIES

Attendance at all rehearsals and concerts in which the student performs is mandatory, with the exception of illness, religious holidays, death in the family, or mandatory attendance at a school function. We suggest attendance at Pinellas Youth Symphony concerts in which the student is not performing.

PLANNED ABSENCE OR TARDINESS:

Any student who anticipates being absent or tardy from a rehearsal or concert must submit a Planned Absence Form, detailing the reason(s) and date(s) for each anticipated absence or tardiness. This form must be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to an absence. In addition if a student must be absent from a concert, he or she must discuss this with the student's orchestra Conductor as far in advance of the concert as possible.

UNPLANNED ABSENCE:

Any unexpected absence requires the student to call the PYS Voicemail (438-3149) before 1:00 p.m. on the day of the rehearsal (regardless of reason for absence, excused or unexcused). Leave a clear message as to the nature of the absence on Voicemail, which the Director checks before rehearsals.

REPEATED ABSENCES:

Repeated absences, excused or unexcused, result in a reduction in performance ability and may cause reseating, exclusion from an upcoming concert or dismissal from the program with no tuition refunded. **A *third unexcused absence in a semester may result in dismissal with no tuition refunded.***

TARDINESS: Students who are late to a rehearsal must immediately report to their orchestra with as little disruption as possible, unless asked to wait. *Sit in any available chair until break*, at which time you may speak to your conductor concerning moving into your chair. **Students who report late to a rehearsal shall report to the conductor or room parent at the break to account for their tardiness.** Repeated tardiness may be cause for disciplinary action or loss of performance opportunity. A second unexcused tardy constitutes one unexcused absence.

An absent student's music must be present during a missed concert, regardless of the reason for a student's absence

19. NON-MEMBER REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE

Rehearsals are open to parents and visitors, unless specifically announced by the Conductor or Administrative Staff. The Conductor does not tolerate disruptive behavior during rehearsal. Disruptive behavior, such as talking or continued noise, is cause for the dismissal of the disruptive individual(s) from the rehearsal. Please, no verbal or physical contact with the student during a rehearsal unless necessary.

20. TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING

Transportation is the responsibility of the student and his/her family. Please arrange for the timely arrival of students and for prompt pick up at rehearsals' end. For possible car-pooling opportunities, direct inquiries to the administrative staff. **All PYS students and families have been assigned parking in the furthest northeastern lower parking lot, across the street from the Marcia P. Hoffman Performing Arts Institute.**

21. REHEARSAL FACILITIES AND POLICIES

Rehearsals are held on Sunday afternoons/early evenings at the Marcia P. Hoffman Education Institute at Ruth Eckerd Hall, located on 1111 McMullen Booth Road in Clearwater. Beginning Strings and String Consort classes may be offered at alternative sites with locations TBA once enrollment is determined. **String class offerings at alternative sites are determined by the number of interested students who register.** PYS reserves the right to cancel classes serving less than 6 students. Any changes in class location or time will be announced to the students by email, flyers, and on the website.

Leaving Rehearsal Site: Students may not leave the rehearsal site during rehearsal or go to the parking lot without specific permission from the orchestra room parent and/or the PYS security checkout volunteer parent. *If it is necessary for a student to leave the facility, the student first must notify the room parent or Administrative Staff.*

Room Set-Up/Take-Down: Although your rehearsal room may be set up for you, it is the responsibility of each student to assist with set-up and break down (where applicable) of rehearsal areas. Student responsibility includes remaining in the rehearsal area until the room is back in its original condition. ***Before percussion students leave the facility, all percussion equipment must be stored properly.***

Refreshments other than bottled water are prohibited in rehearsal rooms; this policy includes staff, parents, students, and visitors. **All rehearsal facilities are non-smoking areas.** This policy includes staff, parents, students and parking areas.

22. PERFORMANCE FACILITY RESTRICTIONS

Performance Facility Restrictions: The various performance facilities utilized by our organization have specific rules regarding recording devices, photographic equipment, etc. Notification will be given before concerts to address any rules that pertain to specific concerts. Please direct questions to the Executive Director.

23. ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

Concert opportunities arise throughout the year. A **preliminary calendar, included in this handbook, is subject to updates during the season.** Check for concert announcements well in advance and look for information published on our website at www.pysmusic.org. Each student will receive an informational flyer at least one week prior to any concert. If there are any questions not answered by the flyer, please speak with the conductor, or email queries to pysdirector@yahoo.com or call PYS Voicemail (727) 438-3149.

24. TUITION AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Tuition charges are according to the placement of the student. The tuition for specific programs is as follows:

Beginning Strings	\$250 per season
String Consort	\$250 per season
Beginning Cello	\$250 per season
Cello Consort	\$250 per season
Symphonic Strings	\$325 per season
Pinellas Youth Philharmonic	\$400 per season
Pinellas Youth Symphony	\$475 per season ***
Chamber Ensemble	\$150 per season
Flute Choir	\$100 per season

****Note:** A student who plays in two orchestras will be charged one tuition; the tuition amount will be the higher tuition rate of the 2 orchestras in which a student is playing.

**Example: Student who plays in the Pinellas Youth Philharmonic and
The Pinellas Youth Symphony: \$475 total**

Tuition for the program is reasonable. If there is difficulty paying the tuition, please see the Registrar at registration to arrange for a payment schedule that meets your family budget. All members, unless they are recipients of a scholarship, are responsible for full payment of tuition. **No student begins a new season or new semester until payment in full of the previous year's/semester's tuition.** Non-payment of tuition is cause for dismissal, pending other arrangements with the Executive Director.

Minimum 1/3 Tuition and Music Deposit - due at 1st rehearsal, Sept. 13, 2009

Minimum 2/3 Tuition Paid - by Nov. 1, 2009

All Tuition accounts paid in full by Jan. 10, 2010

VISA & MASTERCARD ACCEPTED

***Payment by credit card involves additional expense for PYS.
We would appreciate payment by cash or check if at all possible***

If you receive a tuition account statement that you believe is in error,
Contact the Operations Director: pysoperations@yahoo.com

Mail payments to:
Pinellas Youth Symphony, P.O. Box 4106 Seminole, Fl. 33775

\$25 MUSIC FOLDER FEE IS AN ADDITIONAL FEE

25. MUSIC/MUSIC FOLDER

Music/Music Folder Non-Refundable Fee: All orchestra students pay a \$25 non-refundable fee for their music and music folder. The \$25 helps covers the cost of music rental fees, Xeroxing rehearsal/practice music, replacement of music folders and other expenses.

Please remember that the only marks you should make on your music are pencil marks noting musical directions. Do not draw pictures or write notes on your music or you may be required to purchase replacement parts for the pieces in your folder.

26. TUITION FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Listed below are opportunities in which families can raise funds to help defray the cost of their child's tuition and at the same time help raise funds for PYS. Your family can.....

1. **Earn tuition credit** by working concession stands at Tropicana Field for baseball and other events. Inquiries regarding these opportunities may be directed to the Tropicana Coordinator's email address: Tropicana@pysmusic.org or accessing Tropicana information from our website or from the PYS Information Table during rehearsals.
2. **Work a weekly job assignment** (when available), in which a parent volunteer is assigned a specific job to work at each rehearsal throughout the season. Work jobs can include manning the front entrance information or check-in tables, being a room parent or hall monitor. Consistent, weekly job attendance at rehearsals will result in a one-time \$50 family tuition credit for the season.
3. **Solicit tax-deductible contribution(s)** from sources outside your immediate family (use the Adopt-A-Student form).

27. NEED-BASED TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS

Tuition Assistance Scholarship Applications are available for students who have an economic need for assistance with orchestra or instructional class tuition. ***All tuition scholarships are need-based, and do not cover the music fee and in most cases, an ensemble tuition. The amount of the scholarship will NOT exceed two-thirds (2/3's) of the regular annual tuition amount.*** The scholarship may require the student and/or the student's parents to perform tasks in conjunction with the PYS program.

At the time of final registration for orchestra (1st rehearsal) or string classes, all students (including those applying for scholarships) will pay 1/3 of the tuition as well as the \$25 music fee. If there is difficulty paying this tuition, please see the Registrar at registration to arrange for a payment schedule that meets your family budget. **Also note there are fundraising opportunities posted on the website.**

Applications may be obtained online at our website, at the time of orchestra auditions or during registration for the Beginning Strings and String Consort classes. **Complete and return Tuition Assistance Scholarship Applications for orchestra membership by first rehearsal** unless there are extenuating circumstances. The scholarship committee will review all applications and may request documentation verifying family income. **Scholarships must be applied for at the beginning of the season due to limited funds.**



28. INSTRUMENT LOAN

If you have difficulty obtaining an instrument please contact the Executive Director for possible help. You may either Email: pysdirector@yahoo.com or call the PYS Voicemail (727) 438-3149.

29. SUMMER MUSIC CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year the Pinellas Youth Symphony awards a number of partial scholarships to deserving students in PYS who desire to attend an instrumental summer music camp. It is the responsibility of the student to gather information concerning any summer music camps they are applying for (in-state and out-of-state). Proceeds from the free-will collection taken at the Wallace Gause Memorial Concert and other fundraisers provide the funding for this program.

Applications are available in January 2010; application deadline for summer music camp scholarships is April 18, 2010.

30. PYS PARENT VOLUNTEER GUILD

The PYS Volunteer Guild is a group of parents and other members of the community who share an interest in helping the Pinellas Youth Symphony by volunteering their time and talents. The Guild provides a pool of volunteers willing to assist the artistic staff and the Board of Directors by actively participating in the various committees and special projects that keep the Pinellas Youth Symphony program running efficiently. Parents are encouraged to be active Guild members. Please sign-up as a volunteer on audition day.

31. FUNDING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The PYS Strings program is funded in part with the support of the Pinellas County Cultural Affairs Department, the Cultural Council, and the Pinellas County Board of Commissioners.

The Serenade Strings program is funded in part by employees of the St. Petersburg Times through the Employee Giving Program, matched from the St. Petersburg Times Fund, Inc. and the Pinellas County Cultural Council.

All PYS events and programs in St. Petersburg are funded in part by the City of St. Petersburg.



Pinellas Youth Symphony 2009-2010 Chamber Ensemble Student Guidelines

Membership in an ensemble is based on a student's orchestra audition and the need for instrumentation in an ensemble. The chamber ensemble tuition for this season remains at \$150, with each student receiving one-hour weekly ensemble instruction and performing in several chamber ensemble concerts during the season.

1. All ensemble students are required to submit a signed copy of the ensemble rules (below) to the ensemble coach or PYS director at the beginning of the semester.
2. Each ensemble musician must be a student in good standing in a PYS orchestra.
3. Rehearsal/Concert Schedule: Each student will receive a written schedule of known ensemble rehearsals and concerts dates at the beginning of the season. A student's and parent's signature below signify that they agree to student attendance at all rehearsals and performances listed on the schedule. Each ensemble student agrees to be available for ensemble performances as is reasonable, generally about twice per semester.

Ensemble students are required to come to rehearsals on time, prepared, with the appropriate music, instrument, and music stand.
4. All general rules contained in the PYS Student Handbook apply to ensemble students, including notifying the ensemble coach of an unavoidable, planned absence at least 2 weeks prior to the absence.
5. Excused/Unexcused Absences: (see handbook defining excused/unexcused absences). Any ensemble student who has 2 unexcused absences from rehearsals or performances, including attending without music or instrument, may (at the discretion of the ensemble coach) forfeit performing in the next scheduled concert.
6. Performances (concert and non-concert) usually occur on weekends but may take place on an occasional weekday evening. Performances will include scheduled PYS Chamber Concerts (usually 3/season) and may also include non-concert performance "gigs" for service/charity organizations within the community. Chamber ensemble students playing for service/charity organizations may earn volunteer hours towards school graduation and scholarship requirements. Performances for these organizations will be scheduled by PYS and could include playing in Hospice residences, homeless shelters, food banks, veterans' hospitals, soup kitchens, etc.
7. Notification of Non-Concert Performances: Each ensemble student will receive notification of additional performance opportunities as soon as PYS receives such requests. PYS requires the student to notify his/her ensemble coach of availability for any additional performances within 48 hours.
8. Rehearsal Room Set-Up: Ensemble students are required, when necessary, to set up and break down their rehearsal room, leaving the room in its original condition.
9. Ensemble students who meet/rehearse prior to their orchestra rehearsal must arrive on time for the orchestra rehearsal.
10. The dress code for ensemble members is the same as for their respective orchestras, unless otherwise instructed.

I fully understand the rules for the Pinellas Youth Symphony Chamber Ensemble Program. I agree to attend all rehearsals and performances provided on the written schedule given to me, except in case of serious illness or emergency. Whenever possible, I will notify my ensemble coach of such illness or emergency before the rehearsal or performance. ***I will also submit a signed PYS Unplanned Absence form to my coach at the next meeting of the chamber group.***

Student: _____ Date _____

I fully understand the rules of the Pinellas Youth Symphony Chamber Ensemble Program. I give permission for my son/daughter to be a part of this program and will assist my child as needed so that he/she may participate in this special opportunity.

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Pinellas South Symphony

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