



**Inizio Strings  
Youth Sinfonietta  
Youth Orchestra  
Small Ensembles**

**Handbook  
2019-2020**

## **Mission Statement**

The Fox Valley Youth Orchestra was founded to provide quality orchestral training that enriches and inspires the lives of young musicians in and around the Fox Valley area. The Fox Valley Youth Orchestra ensembles consist of several different music groups under the direction of some of the area's most highly esteemed educators and conductors.

The young musicians of FVYO are challenged artistically and technically to cooperatively learn, rehearse, and perform music of high quality and caliber in an encouraging and engaging environment.

Through our season concert series and outreach performances, students will spread the joy of music and music-making by being ambassadors for the arts throughout our communities.

## **Eligibility, Auditions, and Seating**

Membership in the FVYO is by audition, with the exception of Inizio Strings. Through the audition process, the music directors will decide in which ensemble students will be accepted based on musical ability. Seating decisions are determined by the Director, either through observation or through pre-arranged video seating auditions/playing check ups.

## **Commitment**

Membership in the FVYO is a commitment to the organization and the fellow musicians of the orchestra. It is expected once a student has joined the ensemble that participation, preparation, and regular attendance will be a priority.

## Attendance

Regular attendance is necessary for all rehearsals and concerts. Every player is important, needed, and is missed when absent. Tardiness is extremely disruptive to the flow of rehearsals. Please plan on arriving at least 10 minutes prior to rehearsal for proper unpacking and warm up. Should you need to miss a rehearsal, the following policy applies:

Musicians will be allowed up to three (3) absences per concert cycle. Missing more than 3 rehearsals will result in a probation period where the student will need to re-audition for the Director to maintain participation in the concert. Excessive absences are grounds for dismissal from the orchestra.

Report an absence by emailing the Director of your child's ensemble:

Rebecca Rudy, Inizio Strings

[iniziodirector@fvouthorchestra.org](mailto:iniziodirector@fvouthorchestra.org)

Katheryn Barrett-Brown, FVYS

[fvysdirector@fvouthorchestra.org](mailto:fvysdirector@fvouthorchestra.org)

Andrea LaFranzo, FVYO

[fyodirector@fvouthorchestra.org](mailto:fyodirector@fvouthorchestra.org)

## Conduct

Kindness, patience, and positive attitudes will only benefit the ensemble and its final product. Students, please help, support, and encourage each other.

## Music

The orchestra librarian will distribute folders and music for practices and performances. Music for each ensemble will be distributed either ahead of or at the first rehearsal of each concert. Original parts must be returned by the student after the applicable performances have completed. Any unreturned parts will incur a fee equal to the cost of replacement plus \$5. **PENCILS!** Please always have a pencil with you at rehearsal.

### Concert Attire

Young Ladies: Black skirt (mid-calf length or longer) or dress pants, white blouse, black hose, and black dress shoes.

Young Men: Black dress pants, white dress shirt, tie (or bow tie), black socks, black dress shoes.

### Combined Orchestra

FVYS students, through successful video audition, can join the FVYO in a combined piece to be performed during our season concerts. It is not required that FVYS students audition for this opportunity, but strongly encouraged. Combined orchestra rehearses from 7:30-8pm after regular Monday rehearsals. FVYS students must stay until 8pm to participate.

### Cello Choir

FVYO Cellists are invited to join the FVYO Cello Choir. The cello choir rehearses Mondays 6:30-7pm and performs on the regular concert cycle, as well as possible additional outreach performances in the community.

### Woodwind Choir

FVYO Woodwind players are invited to join the Woodwind Choir. This group will rehearse on select Mondays from 6:30-7:30pm and performs on the regular concert cycle with other possible performance opportunities.

## Contact Information

### Rehearsal Location:

Aurora Christian Schools  
2255 Sullivan Road, Aurora, 60506

### Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 2138  
Aurora, IL, 60507

### Phone:

630-891-2525

### Email:

[info@fvyouthorchestra.org](mailto:info@fvyouthorchestra.org)

### Website:

[www.fvyouthorchestra.org](http://www.fvyouthorchestra.org)

### **Audition Fee (not applicable to Inizio Strings):**

There is a non-refundable fee of \$15 due upon submission of an application for an audition.

**Tuition Payments:** Ensemble tuition is per student per ensemble, at the rates posted below and on the registration forms online. For each new academic year, full tuition is due by the **second** scheduled rehearsal of that student's ensemble. For any summer session, tuition is due by the first scheduled rehearsal of that summer session. **\*All paid tuition is Non-refundable\***

**Youth Orchestra Tuition:** \$300 per year

**Sinfonietta Tuition:** \$250 per year

**Inizio Strings Tuition:** \$230 per year

**Cello Choir:** \$80 per year (\$160 for non-ensemble members)

**Woodwind Choir:** \$80 per year (\$160 for non-ensemble members)

## **Tuition Discounts and Incentives:**

**Sibling Discounts:** A 10% tuition discount is available for students with a sibling enrolled in an FVYO ensemble for the academic year. The discount applies to all siblings if more than one is enrolled. Please note that tuition discounts will not compound, so the maximum discount each student can receive per ensemble is 10%.

**Refer-a-friend incentive** A student who successfully recruits another student into a full academic year program will receive a one-time \$25 AMAZON gift card. A student may receive this incentive up to two (2) times in a season (once each for up to two recruited friends). **Restrictions:** A new referral/member may only be claimed by a single existing student. A new referral/member may only be considered 'recruited' once to the FVYO ensembles. Referrals should be noted on the registration form of the newly referred ensemble member.

**Summer Session Tuition and Discount:** Summer session tuition is per student per ensemble. Sibling discounts apply for summer camp tuition as well.

**Financial Assistance:** FVYO works to ensure that students are not turned away due to financial status, and assistance is available to students/families who qualify. Funding is limited, so we encourage those who need assistance to register early and to complete the financial aid application at that time.

**Ticket Sale Participation:** In our 2019-2020 season, each student will receive two (2) tickets per concert. Additional tickets will cost \$5 each with payment due upon receipt. Tickets may also be purchased at the concert event.

## Parent Volunteers

The FVYO depends upon the support of our committed parent community. There are many ways that you can help out either the organization as a whole or the individual ensembles. Some opportunities include:

Assistance at concerts, receptions

Fundraising

Publicity / Recruiting

Set up and tear down at rehearsals

Video/photography

Greeter at Open Houses

Social Media

## Financial Support

The Fox Valley Youth Orchestra is a recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Your generous donations are tax deductible.

**COMMUNICATION IS KEY! PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS! Please be on the lookout for weekly email updates from your Director!**

## 2019 FALL SEMESTER Rehearsal and Concert Dates

*(Full year schedule can be found at [fvyouthorchestra.org](http://fvyouthorchestra.org), under “schedule”)*

### MONDAY REHEARSALS at Aurora Christian School

2255 Sullivan Road, Aurora

FVYO Cello Choir, 6:30-7pm

FVYO Woodwind Choir, 6:30-7:30pm (tentative)

Inizio Strings, 6:00-7:00pm

Youth Sinfonietta, 6:30-7:30pm

*(select advanced Sinfonietta students may rehearse until 8pm)*

Youth Orchestra, 7:00-8:45pm

26-Aug FIRST REHEARSAL

2-Sept *No Rehearsal, Labor Day*

9-Sept REHEARSAL, *Open House and Bring a Friend!*

16-Sept REHEARSAL

23-Sept REHEARSAL

30-Sept REHEARSAL

7-Oct REHEARSAL

14-Oct REHEARSAL

21-Oct REHEARSAL

28-Oct REHEARSAL

4-Nov REHEARSAL

11-Nov REHEARSAL, *FVYO extended to 9pm*

18-Nov DRESS REHEARSAL, *FVYO extended to 9pm*

### ***\*SERVICE CONCERT\****

*Saturday, Nov. 23, 2pm, musician's call 1pm, location TBD*

### ***\*PERFORMANCE\****

*Sunday, Nov. 24, 2pm, musician's call, 1pm, St. Mark's Church, Aurora*