



Houston Youth Symphony

MEMBERS' HANDBOOK

2026/2027

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About Houston Youth Symphony 2026/2027 Season

Established in 1946, Houston Youth Symphony (HYS) is a nationally recognized nonprofit music education program whose mission is to nurture personal growth through exceptional music education. HYS envisions a world where exceptional music education is accessible to all.

HYS holds annual auditions for young musicians between the ages of seven and 19. Each season, approximately 420 students are placed in one of five HYS orchestras based on the level of skill shown in that audition. HYS's young musicians come from across the greater Houston area; this season members come from 142 different schools.

Professional conductors and instrument section coaches rehearse HYS orchestra members on Sunday afternoons throughout the school year to prepare them for three scheduled concerts. The HYS artistic staff has the experience, expertise, and knowledge needed to work with repertoire that challenges each member's musical ability. The artistic staff consists of an artistic director/conductor and four conductors. In addition, HYS hires outstanding music professionals on a per session basis to coach members in each of their specific instrumental groups. Young musicians in the three most advanced orchestras are extended opportunities to enhance their orchestral experience through the HYS Chamber Music Program. Any HYS musician will be able to compete in the HYS annual concerto competition with cash prizes, a winner's recital, and the grand prize winner(s) performing with the HYS Symphony in the spring.

Many of our members continue their education at some of the country's top music schools and conservatories. Each year, approximately half of HYS graduating seniors go on to be music majors at such notable conservatories as Curtis, Juilliard, Eastman, New England, Colburn, and Oberlin as well as highly respected universities including Rice, Houston, Texas, Baylor, Indiana, Southern California, and Michigan, to mention only a few. Others take their love of music to prestigious academic institutions such as MIT, Harvard, and Stanford, and pursue music as a lifetime commitment in addition to their interests in other fields.

In the community, HYS also provides quality music instruction for free to 275 children through two programs targeting low-income families. The HYS Melody Program provides free private lessons to talented youth without the financial means to further their instruction, so that they can become better musicians while helping to improve their school music programs. Since 2015, the HYS Coda Music Program, an *El Sistema*-inspired after-school music education and community-building program, takes place in four Houston ISD schools in the Near Northside neighborhood and four Fort Bend ISD schools in southwest Houston.

Houston Youth Symphony has been recognized with numerous national awards, including selection as the Honored Artist of the American Prize, 2024, for demonstrating "sustained excellence" over more than a decade as laureates of The American Prize competitions. Visit [HYS on A440](#) for recent videos and concert performances.

POLICIES and PROCEDURES

HYS Communications (Website, Clef Notes, Text Notifications)

All members and parents/guardians are expected to read information that is sent out through the website, by email, and by text notification.

The website address is **www.HoustonYouthSymphony.org**. All information for members can be found under the "Members" tab on the homepage. This section contains important announcements, all forms, and the season calendar.

The e-newsletter **Clef Notes** is sent weekly on Thursday afternoon to members and their designated parent or guardian via Constant Contact. *Clef Notes* contains important information regarding rehearsals, concerts, and special opportunities. Musicians and parents are expected to read *Clef Notes* every week. If you do not receive the *Clef Notes* email, please inform the office staff by email.

Text notifications will be sent through the **Remind App**. More information will be shared through *Clef Notes*.

Tuition & Financial Aid

Tuition covers such costs as rent for rehearsal space and concert hall, fees paid to the conducting and coaching staff, music purchase, rental and copying costs, and administration. Tuition for the season is \$1100, which breaks down to approximately \$14 per hour of instruction and performance time.

No one is turned away from Houston Youth Symphony because of an inability to pay the tuition. Tuition assistance is available in the form of payment plans and full or partial tuition waivers for qualified Financial Aid applicants. Financial aid requests are made through the Parent Portal and will require a completed financial aid form plus a copy of the first two pages of your most recent Federal Income Tax Return. Each request is reviewed promptly and under the strictest confidentiality.

School Band or Orchestra Participation Policy

To support school music programs, HYS requires all members to have written approval from their school band or orchestra director when such a program exists. In order to uphold this policy, HYS has a School Participation Form that your band or orchestra director must sign. A student who is unable to participate in their school band or orchestra program may join Houston Youth Symphony only if the band or orchestra director chooses to sign the School Participation Form. This is completed through the Parent Portal by sending a request to the school director who then responds directly through the platform. If approval is not received, the musician will not be eligible to participate.

Note: A band or orchestra director may rescind their school participation form if a musician withdraws from their school program once the season begins.

Attendance Policy

An orchestra is a unique team requiring faithful attendance by every one of its members. **Any absence has an adverse impact on the quality of preparation and performance.** Check your calendar **before** the first rehearsal of each concert cycle and notify the office staff if you are unable to meet the requirements. To help you plan, please review the season schedule posted on the website. Abuse of the attendance policy is grounds for a member to be dismissed from the organization without a tuition refund. Therefore, please abide by the following policies:

- Attendance at all concerts and concert-day dress rehearsals is required. In addition, all members are required to attend the Sunday rehearsal the week prior to each concert. Please schedule college visits or other extra-curricular activities accordingly. If for an unexpected reason a member cannot perform at a concert, it is up to the conductor to decide whether the member may continue to rehearse that particular concert cycle.
- Attendance at all rehearsals is expected. **Any absence request must be reviewed in-person by your conductor by completing the Absence Request Form.** This form can be found on the website, in Clef Notes, and at rehearsal. *In-person approval on rehearsal Sundays is preferred.* If you cannot get your conductor to sign your form in person, you must email a completed Absence Request Form to michael@houstonyouthsymphony.org, no later than the Wednesday before the expected absence. Your request will be forwarded to your conductor for approval. Absence requests submitted after this deadline will not be reviewed before rehearsal, **and may be considered unexcused, regardless of reason, due to late submission.** Whether a late absence request is excused or not is entirely at the discretion of your conductor.
- Emergency absences on the day of rehearsal (e.g. illness) must be submitted and documented through the Emergency Absence Form. The Emergency Absence Form can be found in Clef Notes and on the website.
- If a musician reaches two absences in a concert cycle, the musician will be notified that another absence will put them in jeopardy of performing in that concert. Your conductor will consider specific reasons for the previous absences, and may issue a playing test in order to decide whether you are allowed to play in the concert. Two absences during a concert cycle should be rare. Do not feel as though it is OK for each member to have two absences. If every member of a 100-person orchestra were to have 2 absences, it would result in **at least** a 25% absence rate per rehearsal. This would be unacceptable! HYS has a proud record of being one of the leading youth orchestras in the country. Good attendance is essential to keep our quality high.
- Any absence that is not reported through an absence request form or reported and approved by email is considered Unexcused. More than 2 unexcused absences during the season is considered a violation of the handbook and will result in the musician being placed on disciplinary probation.
- Any student with excessive absences (excused or unexcused) may be asked not to play the remaining rehearsals or the corresponding concert. Students may contact the office and appeal the decision if extenuating circumstances exist, such as death in the family, injury, or extended illness. The final decision will be made by the musician's conductor. Additionally, the musician's participation in future concert cycles in the season is at the conductor's discretion.
- Arriving late, leaving early, returning late after the break, or failing to sign in may be counted as one-half of an absence.

Rehearsal Details

Musicians should:

- **Arrive at least 15 minutes before rehearsal start time** to tune and warm up.
- As members arrive, they will sign in on the attendance sheet. Signing in for another musician will not be tolerated.
- **Always bring a pencil, your music, and a music stand.**
- Be ready to begin rehearsing before the conductor steps onto the podium.
- For sectionals, find your room and do not move anything until your coach arrives. Do not touch anything in the room.
- Please respect the rehearsal rooms by picking up around your chair. This includes your belongings and all trash.
- No food or beverages, except bottled water, are allowed in the building.
- All musicians are expected to help break-down the rehearsal space at the conclusion of rehearsal, i.e. stack chairs, pick-up trash, etc. and to clean-up their own space.

Rehearsal Pick-Up Times

HYS musicians must be picked up from Sunday rehearsals in a timely manner, and no later than 5:15 p.m. Orchestra dismissal times are as follows:

Debut & String Orchestra – 4:30 pm

Philharmonia – 4:50 pm

Sinfonia – 4:40 pm

Symphony – 5:00 pm

HYS staff do not depart the rehearsal venue until all musicians have been picked up. Please be mindful of the impact that late pick-ups have on both HYS and school personnel. Chronic late pick-ups could result in a financial penalty.

Equipment

Required: All musicians must provide their own music stand at each rehearsal (with your name marked on it) and a pencil. HYS will provide 1 pencil for each musician at the first rehearsal.

Required: A mute is required for all string and brass (straight mute) musicians.

Recommended: For Debut String Orchestra and String Orchestra musicians, we recommend a D'Addario NS Micro tuner for violin/viola and an Eclipse Clip-on tuner for cello/bass.

Music

- Music is distributed to members by email or at rehearsals.
- Mark parts in pencil only.
- All music must be returned at the end of each concert cycle.
- Music is provided to members for educational purposes only.

Sectionals and Seating Auditions

Sectionals and seating auditions are conducted during scheduled rehearsals, with specific room assignments available on the bulletin board at the staff table in the main lobby.

Seating auditions are held each concert cycle to determine seating assignments for the upcoming concert. Seating audition schedules are noted in *Clef Notes*. Seating auditions are

Sectionals and Seating Auditions continued

conducted by the sectional coach, and are blind, i.e. the coach has their back to the musician and only knows them by a randomly selected letter.

Seating auditions occur once per concert cycle for string and wind musicians in all orchestras. Musicians will be pulled out of rehearsal to play their seating audition for the sectional coach. Seating audition results will be published in Clef Notes the week following the seating audition.

Feedback from seating auditions is available upon request by submitting an email to michael@houstonyouthsymphony.org. Requests for feedback must be made within two weeks of the seating audition date.

Missed seating audition, or how to schedule an early seating audition: If a member is absent for a seating audition, they are placed at the back of the section for that concert cycle. A wind player who misses will have their parts assigned by the conductor. A member can arrange to take a seating audition early, but ***under no circumstances may a seating audition be taken after the designated date.*** Early seating auditions take place before rehearsal (prior to 2pm) on the Sunday preceding the seating audition date. To arrange to take a seating audition early, send an email to michael@houstonyouthsymphony.org as soon as possible, and at least one week prior to the scheduled seating audition.

Non-musicians (parents/guardians/siblings) at Rehearsal

Parents/guardians/siblings are allowed inside our rehearsal building in designated waiting areas. Like musicians, non-musicians are asked to help HYS keep our building clean. When waiting areas are set up in rehearsal rooms, non-members are asked to remain silent so as not to disturb rehearsal.

Volunteer Opportunities

HYS musicians are invited to sign-up to volunteer to assist with orchestra rehearsal set-up. Specific details and sign-up information will be shared in Clef Notes. Musicians can earn volunteer credits. All musicians are responsible for assisting with break-down at the end of rehearsals.

Cancellation of Rehearsal

Houston Youth Symphony may cancel rehearsals due to inclement weather or other natural disasters. In the event of a weather emergency or other situation where a rehearsal might be canceled, please check the HYS website. If possible, HYS will send email notifications. HYS uses text notifications through the Remind app to send important rehearsal text notices. In the event of a rehearsal cancellation, HYS may try to schedule additional rehearsal time on a following Sunday if possible.

Snack Bar and Break Parties

Each weekly rehearsal includes a 20-minute break. Snacks (chips, candy, fruit) and drinks are available for purchase. Prices are 50¢ – \$1.50 with exact change preferred. Bills over \$10 are NOT accepted. Credit cards are accepted for purchase over \$5. Each season, three Break Parties are planned at which a complimentary snack and drink are provided to musicians. These events are announced in *Clef Notes*.

Dress Code for Concert Days

HYS musician attire is **ALL BLACK**. Musicians are expected to wear clean, pressed garments. Distracting accessories and fragrances are not permitted. Necklines should be modest. Black clothing should be solid black (not sheer) and without pattern or ornament. Patches or other accessories should not be on the clothing.

Tops: Long-sleeved (at least $\frac{3}{4}$ length) black dress shirt/top OR floor-length long-sleeved black dress. A solid black cardigan, jacket, or blazer should be worn OVER a black dress shirt/top that is sleeveless or has short sleeves.

Bottoms: Long black dress slacks OR floor-length black skirt. (No leggings or skinny pants!)

Footwear: Black socks or tights (at least mid-calf height; no bare legs/ankles or feet). Black close-toed dress shoes (no sandals or sneakers).

Members must come to the final dress rehearsal on concert day in full concert attire. If attire or any accessory is deemed unacceptable, the HYS staff reserves the right to make changes to a member's attire.

Failure to dress according to the guidelines stated above for a performance jeopardizes your opportunity to perform on that day. If you would like to check if your concert dress is acceptable, please bring it to rehearsal for approval before the concert.

Concert Day

Concerts are split into two events. Concert I features the Debut String Orchestra, String Orchestra, and Sinfonia. Concert II features the Philharmonia and Symphony. See below for detailed concert day schedules.

Dress Rehearsals:

Concert day dress rehearsals are held at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music. All orchestra members must come fully dressed to their rehearsal in concert attire and must arrive at least **20 minutes before** the scheduled dress rehearsal time. Refer to the weekly e-newsletter *Clef Notes* for the most up-to-date information. Dates, times, and venues are subject to change.

Fall and Spring Concerts Schedules: October 25, 2026, and May 2, 2027

Concert I Dress Rehearsals – Sinfonia, String Orchestra, Debut String Orchestra

Sinfonia Dress Rehearsal: 12:10–12:55 p.m.

String Orchestra Dress Rehearsal: 1:00–1:30 p.m.

Debut String Orchestra Dress Rehearsal: 1:35–2:05 p.m.

Concert I 2:30–4:00 p.m.

Performance order is Debut String Orchestra, String Orchestra, Sinfonia.

Concert II Dress Rehearsals – Symphony, Philharmonia

Symphony Dress Rehearsal: 4:45–5:45 p.m.

Philharmonia Dress Rehearsal: 5:50–6:35 p.m.

Concert II 7:00–8:30 p.m.

Performance order is Philharmonia, Symphony.

Winter Concert Schedule: January 31, 2027

Concert I Dress Rehearsals – Philharmonia, Sinfonia, String Orchestra, Debut String Orchestra

11:00–11:45 Philharmonia Dress Rehearsal

11:50–12:30 Sinfonia Dress Rehearsal

12:35–1:05 String Orchestra Dress Rehearsal

1:10–1:40 Debut String Orchestra Dress Rehearsal

Concert I 2:00–4:00pm

Performance order is Debut String Orchestra, String Orchestra, Sinfonia.

80th Anniversary Dress Rehearsal – Symphony

4:45–6:10 Symphony with Chorus and Soloists

80th Anniversary Concert 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Performance order is Philharmonia, Symphony.

Concert Tickets: General admission tickets are \$15, or \$10 for children 18 and under. *Note: the 80th anniversary concert will be a different ticket price, to be announced at a future date.* Tickets are available for purchase on the HYS website starting three weeks prior to each concert date. HYS members do not need a concert ticket to listen to the concert. Group discounts are available for purchases of 10 or more tickets. Email the HYS office for group discount details. Chamber Music concerts are Free.

Concert Video Recording and Photography: HYS engages a professional videographer to record each concert. Videos are made available on the HYS A440 page and are free for streaming and available by download for a small fee. ***Absolutely no individual video or photography is permitted in the concert hall at Rice University.***

Concert Parking at Rice University: Each HYS member is provided one FREE parking pass per concert. Passes are handed out at a Sunday rehearsal prior to each concert. Additional parking passes may be purchased for \$6 at Sunday rehearsals prior to the concert. Parking passes are NOT available on the day of the concert. Visitor parking at Rice University is available at \$2 for each 20 minutes, a credit card is required for entry and exit (maximum \$12). This information is subject to change.

Concert Etiquette: Houston Youth Symphony is committed to providing its musicians and its audience members with a beautiful and memorable concert experience. To help ensure this, we have a few requests:

- Enter the concert hall during designated pauses only. If you arrive late, please let the ushers help you enter the hall at an appropriate break, and take the first available seat. You can find your party at the next pause.
- HYS concerts are general admission seating. The saving of seats is strongly discouraged.
- A 10-minute pause occurs between each orchestra. This is the time to visit the restroom.
- Young children may not have the attention span or discipline to sit still for 20 minutes or more. Please sit toward the rear of the hall and exit quietly if your child becomes restless.
- Do not text or use tablets or smart phones that might be distracting to others (this includes video games).
- Silence all cell phones and any devices that might make a noise.
- HYS encourages audience members to take this time to disconnect from their personal devices and enjoy the beautiful music in the moment! (Professional music halls do not allow recording [audio or visual] of any kind. Filming at HYS concerts at Rice is prohibited, with a professional video made available to all.)

**This information is provided as a general guide.
Please refer to *Clef Notes* for the most up-to-date information.**

Code of Conduct and Grounds for Dismissal

Members of Houston Youth Symphony must conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of the conductors, coaches, staff, parents, volunteers, and fellow members. Disruptive, disrespectful, or mean-spirited behavior will not be tolerated. This includes all HYS-sponsored activities as well as virtual media including Zoom, Facebook, Instagram, and other social outlets.

Use care and attention in handling of instruments. Respect the property of others, especially the facilities and venues where HYS rehearses and performs.

Members are not permitted to leave the rehearsal site during the scheduled rehearsal time without proper notification to HYS staff.

All members must silence cell phones upon entering an HYS rehearsal or concert venue, put them in a secure location (purse, pocket, or instrument case), and leave them there until leaving the building. This policy is strictly enforced by conductors, coaches, and HYS staff who have the authority to confiscate a cell phone for the duration of rehearsal if necessary. Tablets may be used during rehearsal only for reading music. They will be confiscated if they are used for other purposes during rehearsal.

Members must uphold all of the terms of the Commitment Form.

An infraction of the HYS Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action or dismissal.

Immediate dismissal from Houston Youth Symphony could result for any of the following reasons:

- Engaging in undisciplined behavior or illegal activities while participating in Houston Youth Symphony functions. This includes, but is not limited to, vandalism, theft, or the use of illegal substances, including alcohol or tobacco products.
- The possession of a weapon.
- Expulsion from school.
- Missing a concert without properly notifying the conductor or administrative staff.

If a dismissal occurs, there is no tuition refund.

HARASSMENT POLICY

Since 1946, Houston Youth Symphony (HYS) has gained Houston's respect as an arts organization that champions the cause of music education for young people. HYS is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for young musicians participating in its programs so that they may study, create, and perform at the highest artistic level.

Policy:

Houston Youth Symphony does not tolerate any inappropriate behavior or contact toward its students, conductors, staff, or any other individuals associated with the organization. Inappropriate behavior or contact includes but is not limited to, physical, mental, verbal, or sexual harassment of any kind.

Complaint Procedure:

If you believe you have been subjected to conduct that violates this policy or witnessed any such conduct, or otherwise have reason to believe any such conduct has occurred, you must, as soon as possible, report the incident(s) to the Executive Director or other member of the artistic staff, or any member of the Board of Directors of HYS (contact information provided on page 12 of this Handbook).

HYS will promptly investigate all allegations of harassment and take appropriate corrective action where warranted. To the extent possible, HYS will maintain the confidentiality of all information related to the complaint and investigation. (Individuals making reports are protected under the HYS Whistleblower Policy.)

Additionally, any person having cause to believe that a student's physical or mental health or welfare has been adversely affected by abuse or neglect by any person must immediately make a report of such conduct to appropriate law enforcement and other governmental agencies of the State of Texas as required by Chapter 261 of the Texas Family Code.

No one will be subjected to any form of adverse action for good faith reporting of incidents of harassment or otherwise inappropriate behavior that may violate this policy, or for pursuing any claim in connection with a conductor, or for cooperating in any related investigation.

Additionally, no employee will be terminated, or otherwise discriminated against, for: (1) making a good faith report of child abuse or neglect through appropriate channels (including to the person's supervisor, the Executive Director or other member of the artistic or administrative staff, any member of the Board of Directors of HYS, a state regulatory agency, or a law enforcement agency); or (2) initiating or cooperating with an investigation or proceeding by a governmental entity relating to an allegation of child abuse or neglect.

Consequences:

If a complaint is found to have merit, appropriate corrective action will be taken. Such action may include immediate discipline, up to and including termination of employment or removal of the individual from all HYS programs. If warranted, including where required by law, information will be turned over to the appropriate authorities.

(Harassment Policy continued)

Communications & Monitoring:

A copy of this policy will appear in the HYS Members' Handbook, and the policy will be made available to parents and guardians of children in all HYS programs.

HYS shall conduct annual background checks on seasonal and part-time staff, to include a national felony database search and sex-offender registry search. All teaching staff will be provided with a memorandum outlining appropriate staff behavior and a copy of this policy and must acknowledge, upon hiring and annually, their receipt and understanding of the HYS harassment policy.

Full-time staff and members of the HYS Board of Directors and Advisory Board will be subjected to a background check every three years. Full-time staff will complete sexual harassment awareness training once every three years.

Adopted by the HYS Board of Directors May 2, 2018

Contact Information for Reporting

Amy Chung, Executive Director: cell 847/334-4642; amy@houstonyouthsymphony.org

HYS Board of Directors, Executive Committee – 2026/27 Season

Deborah Dunham, President: ladyobass[at]gmail.com

Avni Kapadia, Vice President/President-Elect

DaviAnn Worthington, Treasurer

Rose Ann Medlin, Secretary

Houston Youth Symphony Commitment Expectations

HYS members for the 2026/27 season must commit to the following:

Handbook Acknowledgement

- I have reviewed and understand the policies and procedures outlined in the Members' Handbook including the Code of Conduct on page 10.

Advance Preparation of Parts

- I will learn my part thoroughly **before** the first rehearsal of each concert cycle.
- I will ask my private teacher to help me with difficult passages.
- I will continue to practice my piece(s) outside of rehearsal time.
- I will seek out recorded performances of Houston Youth Symphony repertoire when available and listen as part of my preparation. (YouTube, Spotify, and Apple Music are good sources.)

Regular Attendance and Punctuality

- I have read and acknowledge the attendance policy listed on page 4 of the Members' Handbook.
- I will arrive at rehearsals at least 15 minutes before the scheduled time.
- I will be in the proper place (including sectional rooms) warmed up, tuned and ready to play at the rehearsal start time and after break time.
- I will make every effort to attend all rehearsals, especially the Sunday rehearsal the week prior to each concert.
- I will check my calendar at the start of each concert cycle, use the Absence Request Form as instructed on page 4 of the Member's Handbook, and get approval from my conductor.

Teamwork

- I understand that an orchestra requires teamwork of the highest order and gains its strength from the commitment of each individual member.
- I will faithfully attend every rehearsal (see attendance guidelines) and contribute my share to make the orchestra the best it can be.
- I will rack my chair and clean up my area of any trash at the end of each rehearsal.

The following is for Percussionists only:**Percussion Equipment and Teamwork**

- I will arrive at rehearsals 30 minutes in advance to move percussion equipment to the rehearsal areas and get it set up before other orchestra members begin arriving.
- If percussion equipment needs to be moved during break, I will help with the move before taking my break.
- If repertoire calls for small instruments that neither Houston Youth Symphony nor the rehearsal school owns, I will try to bring anything that I have access to.
- I will be responsible for ensuring that all percussion equipment needed for my ensemble's rehearsal is set up, even if I do not play that instrument.
- I understand that I will be called on to fill in on other percussion parts in the event of an absence.
- I will ensure HYS' and our host rehearsal space's percussion equipment is accounted for and in its proper place/properly stored at the end of each rehearsal.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

For Symphony, Philharmonia, and Sinfonia members:

Houston Youth Symphony Chamber Music Program

The HYS Chamber Music Program is offered to members of the Symphony, Philharmonia, and Sinfonia. It is highly recommended for students with a strong commitment to music, especially those aspiring to a professional career in the field. The Chamber Music Program allows participants to deepen their skills as musicians and leaders and creates performing opportunities that enrich the community and broaden and diversify Houston Youth Symphony's audience. Professional coachings and rehearsals for each ensemble take place on Sundays before orchestra rehearsals, with the opportunity to participate in master classes from guest artists as they become available. Chamber music ensembles perform throughout the season in area public libraries, community centers, hospitals, and assisted living communities. There are two formal recitals on Saturday, December 18, 2026 and Saturday, May 8, 2027. *Dates subject to change.* An interest form can be found on your Parent Portal. There is an additional tuition fee for chamber musicians, and financial aid is available.

For all Musicians:

Houston Youth Symphony Concerto Competition

Entry Deadline: December 1st
Entry Fee: \$55

Eligibility

The HYS Annual Concerto Competition is open to any HYS musician.

Divisions and Categories

There are two divisions: **Junior Division** (9th grade and younger) and **Senior Division** (10th grade and older).

Within each division, there are two categories: strings and non-strings

Prizes and Performances

There will be one winner in each category of each division for a total of four winners. There will be one overall winner chosen from the senior division who will perform with the HYS Symphony at the Spring Concert. If you are the overall winner, you will perform your piece with the Symphony without any cuts.

The three winners who do not perform with the Symphony will perform their pieces without cuts in a Winner's Concert on Saturday, May 9 with piano accompaniment (provided by the performer).

Senior Division Strings Winner – \$500

Senior Division Non-Strings Winner – \$500

Overall Senior Division Winner – additional \$250 and performance with HYS Symphony

Junior Division Strings Winner – \$250

Junior Division Non-Strings Winner – \$250

Full guidelines and the entry form can be found in the Parent Portal.

OFFICE PHONE: 713-785-2422

OFFICE FAX: 713-785-5261

MAILING ADDRESS: 4550 Post Oak Place Dr., Suite 245, Houston TX 77027

EMAIL: hys@houstonyouthsymphony.org

WEBSITE: www.HoustonYouthSymphony.org

Administrative Staff

Amy Chung

Executive Director

Email: amy@houstonyouthsymphony.org

Michael Craig

Operations Manager

Email: michael@houstonyouthsymphony.org

Omar Escobedo

Office and Social Media Manager

omar@houstonyouthsymphony.org

Nora Henschen

Development and Programs Associate

Email: nora@houstonyouthsymphony.org

To contact a member of the artistic staff, email hys@houstonyouthsymphony.org.

Follow Houston Youth Symphony on:



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