

2015 - 2016 Season
LRYO Welcome Packet

Please note the materials enclosed in this packet and the return dates:

- Cover Letter / LRYO Rehearsal/Concert Schedule
- Welcome Letter from our Music Director, Peter Miller

- Letter from our Staff and board
- Additional notes. LRYO Dismissal/Pick-up Guidelines
- Grace Church Retreat Information
- Parent Volunteer Form
- Student Registration Form
- 2015 - 2016 Student Contract
(Please refer to the website for the 2015 - 2016 Student Handbook)

To save on paper and mailing, all information and registration are now online. If you need printed information, please contact us. **Please read carefully!**

Repertory Strings meets at 3:35 pm RIS Room 108 - All others 4:00 pm at Castleton University FAC

I removed the draft calendar from this section

Please refer to www.lryo.org for the LRYO Calendar, latest updates and additional information!

Lakes Region Youth Orchestra

PO Box 6892

Rutland VT 05702

Phone: 802.683.0968

email: info@lryo.org

www.lryo.org



July, 2015

Dear Musicians and Parents,

Welcome back to another year of fine music with the Lakes Region Youth Orchestra. We look forward to your contribution in and support of our ensembles. It has been a busy summer planning and preparing for the upcoming season. We have exciting plans for the upcoming year. Highlights include a December Winter Concert at Castleton, an early spring Festival Concert as well as a gala concert featuring the Anton competition winner.

The first rehearsal of the season will be on Friday, September 11 at 4:00 PM in the Castleton Fine Arts Center. Repertory Strings will meet on that day at 3:30 PM in Room 108 at the Rutland Intermediate School. New members and students who would like to audition for group advancement may contact me at 802-683-0968 or vtvlnvla@yahoo.com to schedule auditions on Thursday September 10 after 3:45 PM at the Rutland Intermediate School or at another time if needed. Initial placement for the upcoming year will be in the ensemble in which you performed last year unless I spoke with you prior to the end of last season or you successfully auditioned to change groups in the spring.

New news! Our annual retreat will be held on Saturday September 12, beginning with a meeting for all musicians and parents at 9:00 AM at **Grace Congregational Church in Rutland**. Please plan on attending the 9:00 meeting, as we will clarify plans for the upcoming year. Events on Saturday include informal play-ins at 11:30 and 4:00 pm. A schedule is available along with rehearsal dates as well as scheduled concerts and activities on our website.

Please print and share or email the audition flyer found online with/to your musical friends. This will be a great year and we are hoping to recruit a number of new musicians!

We look forward to a year of renewed friendship, musical challenge and exciting performance.

Sincerely,

Peter Miller

Music Director

PS: Please note the change in processing the fundraising fee and note that registration is online unless you request otherwise. Please register by August 3, so that we can proceed with music preparation (payment may be later if needed.) And finally please come to our opening meeting at 9:00 am on Saturday 9/12 at Grace Church.

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July, 2015

Dear LRYO musicians and families,

Our Lakes Region Youth Orchestra Fall season will be starting soon!

- **First Rehearsal** - The first rehearsal is **Friday, September 11th**. Please arrive by 3:45 PM for orientation at CU (except for Repertory Strings, which meets at RIS).
- **Student Registration** - Included in this packet you will find a student Registration form for each of your children, pre-filled with our current information. Please **submit** your contract through the website.
- **Student Contract** - Please submit one contract per LRYO student.
Please review the online Student Handbook.
- **Tuition** - Tuition is \$170 per semester for those musicians in Repertory Strings/Concert Band/Philharmonic (or \$320 for both semesters if pre-paid by Kick-Off Retreat weekend) and \$275 for those in Symphony Orchestra/Wind Ensemble/Honors Strings (or \$520 for both semesters if pre-paid by Retreat weekend). **Remember, tuition is due August 7th. If this is inconvenient, please make payment arrangements.**
- **Registration Fee:** - There is a \$50/semester registration fee that will be charged when tuition is paid. You may be eligible for a refund if a parent volunteers, brings in another student, or sells an add for the program. To be eligible for the Registration Fee refund, you must connect with the Parent Committee at info@lryo.org.
- **Scholarships** - **You must notify us by September 14th if you plan to apply for Hayes Foundation or LRYO aid.** Hayes Foundation "2015/2016 School Year Grant" applications will be available at www.thehayesfoundation.org. Parents are responsible for submitting fully completed applications directly to The Hayes Foundation **the foundation deadline** in order to be considered. Hayes scholarships are available to Rutland County residents.
- **Absence Policy** - Remember, you must notify absences under "Resources" at lryo.org. Let us know of **any** absence, whether it is excused or unexcused. Notification is expected **prior** to the absence. Please report absences as soon as asap!
- **Weekly Announcements** – It is your responsibility to check lryo.org for cancellations, schedule updates and news, as well as tuition reminders. *Please provide us with an e-mail address that you monitor (and allow mail from lryo.org in your spam filter, so that we may email you if necessary).* It is **parents' responsibility** to be alert for late-breaking announcements.

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions, and enjoy the remainder of your summer!

Sincerely,

- The **LRYO** staff and volunteers

Offering talented young people the musical, educational, and social opportunities
of performing fine music in a symphonic environment...

Annual Kick-Off Retreat

Saturday, September 12, 2015

Grace Congregational Church, Rutland

For many years, LRYO has started the new season with a day of rehearsal and a preview concert. We are pleased to continue this tradition!

The Retreat is a great way for our students and parents to start the season off right! The students come to get a jump-start on the season's music selections, reunite after a summer away, meet new LRYO members and have a good time. We can't wait to see you there!

Please remember:

- This is a **mandatory** rehearsal.
- Lunch will be served for everyone! If you would like to bring some fruit or dessert to share with everyone, it would be appreciated.
- Pictures will again be taken this year! **All students and directors should wear casual clothes BUT bring their full concert attire for photographs.** (See the student handbook for attire guidelines.)

Student Checklist:

- Music
- Instrument & accessories
- Music stand • Pencil
- Concert dress for pictures (Bring, no need to wear all day!)
 - Black shoes & black socks/stockings
 - Men: white button-shirt, black pants, black jacket (*except Repertory Strings*), black bowtie
 - Women: formal, full-length, all-black attire (*dress/long skirt/pants*)

Kick-Off Retreat Schedule: (subject to change as the day unfolds)

Check-in:
8:30 am

***Meeting for all
students, directors
and parents:***
9:00 am

Rehearsals:
9:30 am

Informal Demonstration:
11:30 am

Lunches:
noon

Photographs:
morning

Afternoon Rehearsals:
1:00-4:00 pm

Concert:
4:00 pm

Lakes Region Youth Orchestra

Personal Commitment to Musical Excellence

2015 - 2016 Contract

Participants and parents are responsible for reading the student handbook and understanding the policies and procedures presented there!

LRYO Attendance Policy

1. I understand that membership in LRYO involves a commitment on my part to participate in all concerts. Failure to do so may result in suspension from the organization for the remainder of the orchestra year and possible ineligibility for the next concert year. **Any conflicts with concert dates must be submitted online and in writing to the appropriate conductor 30 days prior to the concert date.**
2. I further understand that I must attend all rehearsals. If I have more than three unexcused absences in one semester, I may be asked by the Music Director to re-audition to remain in the orchestra.
3. **Any excused or unexcused absence should be reported prior to the absence.**
This includes absences that involve more than one LRYO student; **each student is personally responsible for contacting the office to report an absence.**
4. In case of sickness or emergency situations, please report online or call 802.683.0968 once you are able.

Musicians who arrive more than 30 minutes late or leave early may receive half of an absence.

*The musician is responsible for the material covered during the missed rehearsal (**including announcements**), and should contact the stand partner prior to the next rehearsal. When a musician holds a principal part, arrangements should be made for the music to be delivered to the rehearsal.*

Code of Conduct Agreement

I have read and agree to the rules of conduct, as defined in the current year's **LRYO Student Handbook** (available on-line or by request), while at LRYO rehearsals, concerts, and while representing LRYO at special events. In summary, I:

- Will arrive on time for tuning, prepared for rehearsal/concert (music, pencil, stand, accessories, etc.)
- Will use respectful and appropriate language at all times
- Will avoid unnecessary talking during rehearsals
- Will not eat or drink during rehearsals, except at designated time and location
- **Will not use cell phones (voice, text, or games) during rehearsals**, except during break time
- Will not use drugs, alcohol, or tobacco
- Will not leave rehearsal early without express permission of the conductor and written explanation from a parent
- Will show respect for the Castleton State College facilities and treat the rehearsal spaces and equipment with care
- Will refrain from any form of bullying, intimidation or harassment
- Will commit to practicing during the week to be as prepared as possible for rehearsals.

Failure on the part of any student to behave in an appropriate manner may result in that student's dismissal from the LRYO organization, at the discretion of the Music Director. In the case of dismissal, no refund of tuition will be made.

Sheet Music

Music is loaned to each member and must be handled with great care. (One set of parts for one piece of music can cost the orchestra over \$200). Folders and music must be checked out at the beginning of the semester and checked in at the end of the semester. If music is lost, damaged and/or not returned, the musician will be assessed \$5.00 per piece. **FOLDERS WITH ORIGINAL PARTS MUST BE USED ON EACH STAND FOR ALL CONCERTS.**

HONORS STRINGS: One musician per stand will be issued original music and one will be issued a practice folder. The correct bowings will appear on the practice folder and the stand partners have a joint responsibility to see that the bowings are transferred onto the original parts **IN PENCIL** within the first three rehearsals.

Consent and Release Agreement

I understand that LRYO Orchestra activities may be recorded and photographed for later use. I hereby consent to the use of my likeness and/or recordings from rehearsals, concerts and other activities, with or without the use of my name and without remuneration by LRYO. Please notify us if you need an exemption from this policy.

School Music Program

It is expected by LRYO that students will continue to participate in their school music groups.

Tuition Policy

1. LRYO is a non-profit organization that makes every effort to keep its tuition as low as possible while still covering our own expenses.
2. I understand that all fees must be paid within two weeks following the first attended rehearsal for each respective semester. A \$10 late fee will be assessed for fees not paid 30 days after the billing date.
3. Financial help is available and may be applied for at the beginning of the semester. Any scholarship applications, or proof thereof, must be completed and submitted by the billing date to LRYO or full tuition will be assessed. Contact the LRYO office for further information (info@lryo.org).
4. If tuition has not been paid and no satisfactory attempt has been made to make financial arrangements, the student may be asked to leave the organization.
5. Prior semester tuition must be paid in full prior to any musician's participation in a new semester.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Medical Authorization Form

It is my understanding that, if medical problems arise, during LRYO activities, every effort will be made to contact parents or guardians before any action is taken. In the event, however, that we cannot be reached and immediate action or treatment is judged necessary, I hereby authorize LRYO to arrange for any such appropriate medical and/or dental treatment. I further agree to pay for any and all such treatment. Please note that students will not be transported in a private car, but an ambulance will be called to transport the student.

A few last minute notes...

Concert Attire Clothing Exchange: If you have suitable concert attire that your children have outgrown, we'll set up a corner at Kick-Off Retreat for trades/sales. Or bring a list with sizes and description of what you might like to recycle..

Parent Meetings: There will be a mandatory meeting for parents of all registered students. The primary meeting will be held at 9:00 am after morning sign-in at Grace Church.

Be on the lookout! Please help us recruit several more motivated players. We have room for several instruments in all ensembles!

Planning: We hope all of our musicians are planning to return for another great season... but if not, please help our conductors in their planning by letting us know. You can e-mail us at info@lryo.org. We would also be interested to know why you have chosen to not continue.

Auditions: Please note that we have scheduled an additional day for auditions this year - on the **day before** our first rehearsal. Please let us know (info@lryo.org) ahead of time if you would like to audition to move up to a different ensemble.

LRYO Dismissal/Pick-up Guidelines

Background: We want to ensure the safety of all LRYO participants. As you may know, the CU-FAC facility has entrances on all four sides of the building, and drop-off/pick-up occurs in the two side parking lots as well as the front entrance. With five or more rehearsal spaces to re-set and clear at the end of the day, our staff is busy at dismissal.

Procedure: We normally check each room twice and turn out lights and exit through the upper parking lot. We do not leave until all participants have been picked up. That being said, however, please note that there are many unlocked rooms, bathrooms and paths between entrances. If we do not encounter your child during the process above, we will not know to wait.

For ultimate safety, we could require that parents enter the building and meet children in one designated location. We suspect that many parents would find this inconvenient. We suggest that parents discuss dismissal plans with your children. **If we dismiss early, or if you are not at your pre-arranged pick-up location when they exit the building, we recommend that musicians return to the lobby to await pick-up** - especially if there are no other students present. You may want to point out the "blue light" locations outside the FAC in the event your child should ever feel threatened. (Once activated, they are "latched", requiring an officer to come to the phone and reset it - so they are not to be tried out or activated for fun.)

Emergency Contact Info:

Peter Miller: 802-683-0968

CU Public Safety Office - Emergency: 802-468-1215

CU Fine Arts Center Box Office: 802-468-1119 (*emergencies only; rarely manned after 5:00*)