



Peninsula Youth Orchestra

**Membership Handbook
and Season Calendar**

**2010-2011
Season**



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Introducing PYO



Welcome to the Peninsula Youth Orchestra (PYO)! We are looking forward to a creative and musically rewarding fourteenth season for every PYO musician, their families, and the communities which we serve!

This handbook has been prepared as a guide for all PYO musicians and parents. Our goal is to provide a positive atmosphere in which our musicians, at all stages of musical development, can learn the joys of the orchestral experience. If you have any questions about what is printed in this book, please do not hesitate to call the PYO Business Office.

We ask that both musicians and parents take the time to look over this information, which describes many of the orchestra's policies and procedures. **Please review carefully our rehearsal schedule and concert dates for 2010-11 to assure that your musicians can fulfill their commitments to PYO!**

Mission Statement



The Peninsula Youth Orchestra reflects and enhances the cultural diversity of its community by bringing together student musicians to rehearse and perform symphonic music in an educational setting. PYO strives for high musical standards within a supportive environment that encourages enthusiasm, knowledge, and love of music. PYO enriches the lives of its students as they progress through a challenging course of repertoire which prepares them with the skills needed to enjoy and pursue music the rest of their lives, either as professional or amateur players.

Non-Profit Status



The Peninsula Youth Orchestra is an independent nonprofit, public benefit corporation, organized under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. Our tax ID number is 94-3372998.

**Making Music with Friends . . .
and Making Friends through Music!**

About PYO



Brief History

The Peninsula Youth Orchestra was founded in 1997 by Mitchell Sardou Klein and Sara Salisbury. Based in Redwood City, PYO is the only youth orchestra program serving San Mateo County. Over the years our membership has grown to about 450 musicians. We owe our success to strong support from families and local music teachers, the breadth and diversity of our artistic program, and the expertise of our dedicated staff.

The name “PYO” actually has two meanings, depending on the context. We often refer to our entire organization simply as PYO. We also call our top-level senior-high orchestra “PYO,” as distinguished from our other groups (the three preparatory full orchestras, two string orchestras, and two flute ensembles). Regardless of your specific group, all are members of the PYO organization.

Programming

PYO musicians study and perform traditional repertoire with an emphasis on contemporary literature and American composers. Each of our ensembles present two or three formal concerts each season. Commissioned works by local composers are proudly featured on these concerts. PYO received the prestigious ASCAP Award for “Adventurous Programming of American Music on a Foreign Tour” for our first international tour in Japan in 1999.

PYO has received recognition for its sequential music education program through grants from several prominent foundations, including the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Joseph McMiking Foundation, the Bernard Osher Foundation, and Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

Tours

International and domestic tours are an important part of our program. Our musicians have performed in the Sydney Opera House, Carnegie Hall, Liszt Academy, Dvorak Hall, and in venues across Italy, France, Spain, and Austria. In 2008, the Young Artists (PYA) participated in pre-Olympic music festivals in China, and in June 2010 performed in the Disney Concert Hall in L.A. Last summer the top-level PYO performed in Paris, Normandy, Brugges, and Amsterdam, and plans to travel to England in June 2011.

Chamber Music

PYO also offers a chamber music program in which small ensembles rehearse and perform music from the standard chamber music repertoire. Two formal recitals are given annually. Many of these ensembles perform for community events throughout the year. *Interested students may enroll in chamber music during September. Rehearsals run from October through early May.*

Rehearsal Schedules & Locations



PYO sponsors eight ensembles. These include four full orchestras, two string orchestras, and two flute ensembles. **All ensembles rehearse weekly.**

Full Orchestras

Peninsula Youth Orchestra (PYO) Sundays 2:00-4:30 PM
Mitchell Sardou Klein, Director
Performs music from the professional repertoire
Rehearsal site: Carlmont H.S. music room, 1400 Alameda de las Pulgas,
Belmont

Preparatory Full Orchestras

Sara Salisbury, Director
Sinfonia Musica, Entry Level (PSM) Mondays 4:30-6:00 PM
Orchestra Nova, Intermediates (PON) Mondays 6:10-7:40 PM
Young Artists, Advanced Prep (PYA) Mondays 7:50-9:30 PM
Rehearsal site: Redwood Shores Elementary School, 225 Shearwater
Parkway, Redwood Shores

String Ensembles

Sara Salisbury, Director
Debut Strings, Entry Level (PDS) Tuesdays 4:30-6:00 PM
Chamber Strings, Int./Advanced (PCS) Tuesdays 6:15-7:45 PM
Rehearsal site: McKinley School music room, 400 Duane St., Redwood City

Flute Ensembles

Calisa Hildebrand, Director
Chamber Flutes, Intermediates (PCF) Sundays 1:00-2:30 PM
Con Brio Flutes, Advanced (PCB) Sundays 2:30-4:00 PM
Rehearsal site: Carlmont High School music wing, Belmont

Small Chamber Music Ensembles TBA with coaches

Musicians from PYO, Young Artists, Chamber Strings, and Con Brio Flutes are eligible. Students may sign up as a group or as a single player to be placed in an appropriate group. Sign-up sheets will be available at rehearsals in September for classes beginning in October.

Lost & Found



A PYO “lost & found” box is kept at each rehearsal location. If you leave something at rehearsal, *do not call any of the school offices!* Instead, call the PYO musicians’ hotline (650-325-7967). Thanks!

Financial Matters



Annual Fees for 2010-11

Peninsula Youth Orchestra	\$680	Debut Strings	\$530
Young Artists	\$570	Chamber Strings	\$530
Orchestra Nova	\$530	Chamber Flutes	\$500
Sinfonia Musica	\$530	Con Brio Flutes	\$500

Chamber Music: \$250

By enrolling in PYO, you agree to pay the full membership fees associated with the specific groups you join. We require a non-refundable deposit of \$150 at the time you return your enrollment form. Throughout the season we will periodically mail you statements showing the status of your account. Your account should be paid in full by the date rehearsals begin in September. Students enrolling during fall auditions should pay the \$150 deposit by September 30 and the balance by October 31. Other payment plans can be arranged by special request. Contact Sara Salsbury for details.

Refund Policy

Students who find it necessary to withdraw from PYO during the season for reasons beyond their control can request a refund of their unused balance (in excess of the \$150 non-refundable deposit). The unused balance may be prorated over the course of the season, based on the concert calendar. No refunds will be granted in any cases of dismissal from PYO for disciplinary reasons, or for member's dropping without cause.

Financial Aid

Financial aid is available, based on demonstrated financial need. Applications for financial aid may be requested by calling or emailing the PYO office.

Work Scholarships

A limited number of work scholarships are available each season. Through this program, your annual fee can be reduced by your family's helping on a regular basis with various tasks such as mailings, rehearsal monitoring, rehearsal setups, telephoning, sorting music, etc. Please call or email the PYO office for information regarding these opportunities.

Please return applications for financial aid and/or work scholarship to:
Peninsula Youth Orchestra, 1091 Industrial Road, #208 San Carlos 94070.

Policies and Procedures



The policies and procedures outlined in this handbook have been established as a necessary part of our program in order to maintain the highest standard of musical training. Failure to comply with the following rules may result in immediate dismissal from any PYO program, at the discretion of the director.

Membership

PYO membership is by invitation, following competitive entrance auditions. Musicians are placed in one of the PYO ensembles in accordance with our goal that students flourish and grow musically, while contributing to the overall success of the ensemble itself. Placement may also depend on the available positions for a particular instrument. Waiting lists are common. Each spring, current members may take optional promotion auditions to advance to another ensemble or move to a higher ranking within their present ensemble. **For returning members - your membership for each new season is not guaranteed until you have returned your re-enrollment form by the spring deadline, as will be indicated on the enrollment form (usually May 31).**

Artistic Standards

Each member is expected to practice at home in preparation for efficient weekly group rehearsals. The director and/or members of the coaching staff may notify members of ongoing musical deficiencies, including excessive absences or tardiness, that require improvement. Members so notified must show improvement in a reasonable amount of time as determined by the director. Failure to demonstrate improvement may result in a re-assignment to a different ensemble, or a dismissal from PYO, at the discretion of the director.

Rehearsal Conduct and Care of Facilities

PYO ensembles rehearse at one of three sites - Carlmont H.S., Redwood Shores E.S., and McKinley School. At each site, food is allowed only in designated areas. Food is specifically not allowed in the Carlmont Band Room. Students must remain in the rehearsal areas at each site - our rental contracts do not give us campus-wide access. Playground equipment at Redwood Shores or McKinley can be used during rehearsal breaks only by permission of your conductor. Playground at Redwood Shores is off-limits when in use by their after-school program. Musicians are not allowed to use any school computers or other classroom equipment. We are very privileged to have access to these sites, two of which are brand new! Please help us preserve them, and our reputation within the community, by following high standards of behavior. *Disrespectful behavior can void our site useage, and result in your dismissal.*

PYO runs closed campuses. Students must remain on the rehearsal premises from the time they arrive until they are picked up by their parents. Students who drive themselves must remain on the premises during the entire rehearsal.

Behavior Code

PYO members are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times during rehearsals, sectionals, concerts, tours, or any other events sponsored by PYO. Members are expected to treat their conductors, fellow musicians, and volunteers with respect and courtesy at all times. PYO is considered a “family organization”. Please be thoughtful and considerate of each other. *Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated and is cause for immediate dismissal, at the discretion of the director.*

School Music Programs & Private Lessons

All members should be familiar with the PYO school music and private lesson policies. An important aspect of membership in PYO is simultaneous participation by student musicians in their school’s music program. PYO strongly supports music education in the schools. The school music programs offer students opportunities for daily ensemble participation, which is then complemented by their involvement in PYO. Participation in PYO, school music, and private lessons form three elements of a well-rounded music education. We encourage and expect all musicians to be part of this important triangle!

Attendance Policy

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All musicians are expected to attend all rehearsals and concerts. Absences from rehearsals or sectionals are detrimental to the ensemble’s progress and counterproductive to your personal development, regardless of how accomplished a musician you may be. The music director and the coaches prepare their rehearsal schedules based on full attendance from every section.

We realize, however, that a rehearsal absence may be unavoidable due to special circumstances. For this reason we allow a limited number of excused absences. **A maximum of 2 absences is allowed per concert set.** Accumulating more than 2 absences per concert set is unacceptable and will require a special conference with the director to determine if you will be allowed to play that particular concert.

Examples of Acceptable Absence Excuses:

- Illness: (However, you must notify by phone or email before rehearsal).
- School music events & religious holidays. (A written request must be submitted three or more weeks in advance.)
- College visits that cannot be scheduled during vacation time.

Important family events, such as weddings, reunions, or vacations are excused **only** if we are notified no less than **two months in advance** of the event.

Attendance (continued) - Please Note!

The earlier we are notified of scheduling conflicts the better; therefore, we urge you to go through your calendars, and ask your parents and teachers **NOW** about possible conflicts.

Yellow anticipated absence cards are available at all rehearsals. For your convenience, two are included in your music folder.

Unacceptable Excuses (examples) - Read & Heed!:

- A test or project deadline for which you want to skip PYO rehearsal to study or catch up. (Plan Ahead!!!)
- A non-school music performance (includes gigs and performances with other orchestras).
- **The prom or other social engagements.**
- Routine doctor or dental appointments

Consequences of Unexcused Absences:

- Possible reassignment of parts, re-seating in the section, loss of principal status, or dismissal from PYO, at the discretion of the Director.
- Miss a dress rehearsal, and you may not be allowed to play the concert!
- Unexcused absence from a concert may result in dismissal from PYO, at the discretion of the Director.

Tardiness

In keeping with our emphasis on personal responsibility, tardiness at rehearsals will not be tolerated. Arriving late at a rehearsal is irresponsible, and is highly inconsiderate to your fellow musicians. Keep that carpool on schedule! Plan ahead - do not be late! You may submit an anticipated absence card in advance if you know you will be late - such as coming back from an SAT test.

Rehearsal Preparation

Each musician will be given a folder of music to practice. This music requires home practice to ensure productive group rehearsals. No extra rehearsals will be scheduled as long as each musician practices at home and comes to rehearsals well prepared. A detailed rehearsal schedule will be distributed to the senior PYO musicians and will include a listing of sectional dates (not to be missed!) with professional coaches. Preparatory Orchestras generally receive weekly sectionals.

Items needed for rehearsals

- Your instrument
- Music Folder with assigned music
- Pencils
- Folding Music Stand (labeled with your name)
- Optional snack for the break (or \$1 to buy snacks offered as fund raiser)

Use Of PYO Instruments



PYO owns several violins, violas, string basses, a bass clarinet, an English horn, French horn, a bass trombone, and many percussion instruments, including a set of timpani, xylophone, and a drum set. These instruments are made available to PYO musicians at no charge for use in PYO activities. Here are the guidelines for the use of these instruments.

- Assignment of the instruments will be made by the PYO staff.
- PYO musicians may request to use one of the instruments.
- PYO instruments may be used during rehearsals and concerts.
- PYO instruments, except percussion, may be taken home for practice purposes.
- The musician using the instrument is responsible for purchasing his/her own accessories such as reeds, strings, rosin, etc., at no cost to PYO.
- No instrument maintenance work, cleaning, or rehairing of bows is to be done without prior approval of the PYO General Manager, who must approve both the amount of expense and the choice of repair shop.
- Depending on the specific circumstances, members may be held accountable for damage to, or loss of, an instrument. In cases of instrument damage or loss due to negligence, PYO's insurer has the right to recover costs from the negligent party.

PYO Concerto Competition



An annual concerto competition is held exclusively for members of the senior PYO. This professionally adjudicated experience allows members to compete for the opportunity to perform their concerto with PYO during the course of the season. Applications will be distributed in October, and the competition will take place in early December.

Parent Participation at Rehearsals and Concerts



Parent volunteering is an important obligation of all our member families, and a key ingredient of PYO's success. PYO relies heavily on this parent support, essential to our providing a first-rate musical experience for all our students.

We ask that a parent/guardian from each family assist with certain duties, such as ticket sales, ushering, concession sales, rehearsal supervision, stage set-up, post-concert clean-up, etc. The duties typically involve only one or two dates during the season. Parent volunteers from PYO, PYA, Nova, and Sinfonia need to sign up online through web pages specific to your group, each powered by "Jooners." New Jooners pages are posted three times during the season, corresponding to our three concert sets. We ask each family to go to your designated Jooners web page, select the dates and duties that work best for your schedule, and sign up. We provide detailed instructions in weekly editions of eNews. (Do sign up for eNews!) If conflicts develop, you may exchange assignments with another parent (in which case, please contact Cindy Galisatus <cgalisatus@comcast.net> well in advance so we know "who's coming!")

We greatly appreciate our parent volunteers. Thank you for your help!

Clicking for Dollars with Amazon.Com



If you shop for books, software, CDs (or whatever) at Amazon.com, you can earn dollars for PYO by first visiting the PYO website, where you will find a link to Amazon.com. If you enter the Amazon website through the PYO link, then make a purchase, Amazon will contribute a small percentage of your purchase back to PYO.

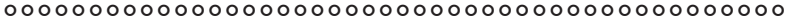
So, anytime you decide to go to Amazon to buy something, go first to <www.peninsulayouthorchestra.org> and use the link to Amazon. Any web visitor who goes from the PYO website directly to Amazon and makes a purchase will automatically help support PYO. Tell your friends!

Peninsula Symphony Concerts



All *students* enrolled in the PYO program are eligible to receive complimentary tickets to the Peninsula Symphony Concerts at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center, Fox Theatre and Flint Center in Cupertino. (This offer does not extend to parents and other family members, who would need to purchase tickets.) Concerts are generally Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00 PM. Our music director, Maestro Klein, also conducts this superb adult community orchestra. More details are provided in your fall orientation packet.

Donate to PYO!



PYO strives to keep membership fees low, to enable every qualified student to join. As a result, membership fees cover only about 60% of our costs. Therefore, we depend on individual donations, foundation grants, and concert ticket sales to balance our budget each season. We sincerely hope all members will make a tax-deductible donation to PYO during our annual Fund Drive campaign (or at *any* time the urge strikes you)!

There are other ways to support PYO, like sponsoring your student's participation in the fall "Scale-a-thon" fund-raiser, and bringing your family and friends to our outstanding concerts. Many employers provide matching donations, which is a great way to leverage your own donation. Please check with the HR department at your place of work to see if your employer offers such a program. Also, donations of stock can be easily arranged and gratefully accepted. Please contact our treasurer, Phil Salsbury, for additional details!

PYO Concert Ticket Policy



As a matter of policy, we do not issue complimentary tickets to our members. Revenue from ticket sales is an important source of funds, helping us offset theatre rental costs. Accordingly, all attendees at our concerts will need to purchase tickets*. (Except children age 5 and under, who are admitted free.)

Individual concert tickets (priced \$10/5) will be available at rehearsals prior to each concert, and at the box office the day of each concert. Buy your tickets in advance, and avoid the box office rush at concert time. Even better, for a real deal, buy the PYO CLUB CARD. Priced at \$30 for adults and \$15 for students/seniors, these cards will admit you to ALL concerts and recitals for the entire season (and give you discounts at the PYO Concert Store). Save time and money - buy your CLUB CARD at the start of the season!

Help Support the PYO and our outstanding musicians! Come to all concerts and bring a friend, neighbor, or relative!

*Exception: The Holiday Concert presented by PYO and PYO Alumni, to be presented on December 19, 2010, will be a free event for the community. Bring the family and enjoy!

2010-2011 Concerts



Peninsula Youth Orchestra - Mitchell Sardou Klein, Director

Carlmont High School Theatre
1400 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont

Fall Concert - November 14, 2010
Prelude to Spring - March 20, 2011
Season Finale - May 22, 2011
All concerts at 4:30 PM

Preparatory Orchestras - Sara Salsbury, Director

Carlmont High School Theatre
1400 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont

Sinfonia Musica & Orchestra Nova Young Artists

Autumn Notes	Nov. 13, 2010	Nov. 14, 2010
Music for March	Mar. 19, 2011	Mar. 20, 2011
Season Finale	May 21, 2011	May 22, 2011
All concerts at:	4:00 & 4:45 PM	3:30 PM

Chamber Music Recitals (winter and spring)

Sara Salsbury and Calisa Hildebrand, Directors

Dec. 11, 2010, 1:30 PM, Twin Pines Sr. Center, Belmont
May 14, 2011, 1:30 PM, McKinley School Theatre, R.C.
Featuring: Chamber & Con Brio Flute Ensembles,
PYO Small Ensembles, Debut, & Chamber Strings

Special PYO Events!

PYO Holiday Concert with PYO Alumni

Carlmont High School Theatre
1400 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont

December 19, 2010 7:30 PM
A free family concert for the community!

Bay Area Youth Orchestra Festival

Davies Symphony Hall, San Francisco

Sunday, January 16, 2011 3:00 PM
Presented by PYO and five other Bay Area youth orchestras . . .
. . . a Benefit Concert for Bay Area homeless youth!

PYO England Tour Preview Concert

Carlmont High School Theatre

Wednesday, June 15, 2011 7:30 PM
Concert before departing for England. Bon Voyage!

Venues and times are subject to change. Members are responsible for staying current with updates to this schedule, which will be announced well in advance.

PYO Staff Contact Information



Mitchell Sardou Klein, PYO Music Director
msardou@sbcglobal.net

Sara Salsbury, Prep Orchestra Director and General Manager
pyo@pacbell.net

Don Couch, Brass Specialist
translexweb@gmail.com

Jordan Webster, Woodwind Specialist
jwebster@brssd.org

Matt Germano, Percussion Specialist
mgperc@gmail.com

Calisa Hildebrand, Director of Flute Ensembles
calisahildebrand@gmail.com

Katie Sablinsky, Rehearsal Assistant
kpoeck@sbcglobal.net

Ron Miller, Webmaster
milleron@pacbell.net

Volunteer Duty Managers: *(Please contact the appropriate manager to notify them of any assignment swaps you make with other volunteers!)*

Sinfonia Music (PSM) & Orchestra Nova (PON)
Rehearsal Duty Manager: Maria Rugani, mlrsolutions@comcast.net
Concert Duty Manager: Krithika Bhat, krithi_bhat@yahoo.com
Concert On-site Manager: Helen Dalton, daltonhelenm@gmail.com

Young Artists (PYA) & PYO
Rehearsal Duty Manager: Sherill Cotter, sycotter@yahoo.com
Concert Duty Manager: Sumbul Ali-Karamali, home4school@gmail.com
Concert On-site Manager: Heidi Hagler, heidih@rael-letson.com

PYO Board of Directors



Martin Bittner, Chairman martin@bittnerfamily.net	Phil Salsbury, Treasurer philsalsbury@sbcglobal.net
Sara Salsbury, President pyo@pacbell.net	Susan Anderes Krithika Bhat
Cindy Galisatus, Vice-President cgalisatus@comcast.net	Steve Cooper John DaBaldo
Wendy Nishizaki, Secretary	

PYO Contact Information



Address

Peninsula Youth Orchestra
1091 Industrial Road #208
San Carlos, CA 94070



Phone Numbers

Business Office 650-591-2370

Use this number for general youth orchestra business during normal business hours (no voicemail at this number).

Fax (operates 24/7) 650-327-8730

Musicians' Hotline (operates 24/7) 650-325-7967

Musicians should use this number to report emergency absences, leave important messages for their director, and to check any outgoing messages related to rehearsal/concert schedules.

John Gill Emergency Phone 650-644-5200

A cell phone will be available for students to make emergency calls during rehearsals. Students should see Sara Salsbury or Katie Sablinsky.

Office Email

pyo@pacbell.net

Use this address to contact the office with general questions related to PYO. The staff email is listed separately on inside back cover.

PYO Website

[<www.peninsulayouthorchestra.org>](http://www.peninsulayouthorchestra.org)

Visit our website to check for schedule updates, read about concerts given by PYO ensembles, read newsletters, view tour photos, download forms for auditions, donations, check camp information, and more!

Subscribe to eNews

To receive email updates and PYO announcements, subscribe to the PYO eNews by registering at the PYO website. This is a great way to keep up with the latest news. To subscribe, go to [<peninsulayouthorchestra.org>](http://peninsulayouthorchestra.org) and click on the link "[PYO E-mail List](#)".

Webmaster Email (Ron Miller): milleron@pacbell.net



**Concerts - Tours - Camps
Chamber Music**

**Making Music with Friends . . .
and Making Friends through Music!**