

Audition Information



NEW MEMBER AUDITIONS

Apply on our website by April 3, 2024

Video Auditions due April 20, 2024



Audition Process for the 2024-25 Season

Auditions are held by YOUTUBE submission. Apply for an audition at peninsulayouthorchestra.org. As soon as your application is received, you will be emailed specific instructions for your YOUTUBE audition. Your audition video will be reviewed a few days after submission, and your placement results will be emailed within a day or two. **You may also attend a rehearsal with a friend and audition during the rehearsal break. This will expedite the process!**

Audition Requirements

PYO Senior Orchestra:

2 major scales, 2 minor scales, Solo Bach OR Etude and 1 solo

Preparatory Full Orchestras & String Orchestras:

2 major scales, 2 minor scales, 1 etude and 1 solo

- Beginner: Debut Strings, Sinfonia Musica (suggest 1-octave scales)
- Intermediate: Concordia Strings, Orchestra Nova (suggest 2- or 3-octave scales)
- Advanced: Peninsula Young Artists (PYA)

Note: 3 octave scales & repertoire with upper position work required for PYA strings

Flute Ensembles:

2 major scales, 2 minor scales, 1 etude and 1 solo

Membership is open to all students, ages 6-18, who wish to study orchestral repertoire in an educational setting. *PYO highly recommends its members participate in their school's instrumental music program. The school programs offer opportunities for daily ensemble participation, which is then complemented by their involvement in PYO.* On the audition application, we ask that you speak with your music teachers about enrolling in PYO. We are proudly working together to support instrumental music programs in all schools!



Financial Aid & Work Scholarships Available for Membership, Camps & Tours

Annual membership fees vary by ensemble, and range from \$915-1260 (2023-24 Season)

2024-25 fees subject to increase of 5-7% from current year.

Announcing 2024-25 Fall Auditions



Peninsula Youth Orchestra

Mitchell Sardou Klein, Music Director

Jason Kneebone, Assistant Conductor

Sara Salsbury, Preparatory Orchestras

Viviana Guzman, Flute Ensembles

4 Full Orchestras

2 String Orchestras

Flute Ensembles

Summer Camps

Concert Tours

Concerto Competition

Orchestra Nova
Prep Orchestra



Peninsula Young Artists (PYA)



Peninsula Youth Orchestra (PYO)



Mission Statement

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

Program Descriptions and Rehearsal Schedules

Full Orchestras - The Peninsula Youth Orchestra, now serving around 400 musicians, offers weekly instruction in orchestral training at the beginning, intermediate and advanced levels. All PYO ensembles study the traditional repertoire with an emphasis on contemporary literature and works by American composers. The full orchestra program includes the award winning Peninsula Youth Orchestra (PYO) under the direction of Mitchell Sardou Klein, and three preparatory orchestras under the direction of Sara Salsbury: Sinfonia Musica, Orchestra Nova, and the Peninsula Young Artists (PYA).

Full Orchestra Schedule

Peninsula Youth Orchestra (PYO)

Sunday 2-4:30 at Carlmont High School

Preparatory Orchestras at Redwood Shores ES

Sinfonia Musica (entry level) Mon. 4:30-5:45
 Orchestra Nova (intermediate) Mon. 6:00-7:15
 Peninsula Young Artists (advanced). Mon. 7:30-9:00



String Quartet

Making Music
with Friends . . .
. . . Making
Friends through
Music



Celebrate the Music Festival

Chamber Ensembles Students may enroll in the more intimate setting of our chamber ensembles which rehearse weekly and perform two formal recitals each year. These ensembles include the Debut and Concordia Strings under the direction of Sara Salsbury, and the Flute Ensembles directed by Viviana Guzman. Students are encouraged to form trios and quartets with fellow PYO musicians.



Viviana Guzman
Flute Specialist

Chamber Ensemble Schedules

String Orchestras

Debut Strings Tues. 4:30-5:45
 Concordia Strings Tues. 6:15-7:30

Chamber Flutes

Sunday afternoons at Carlmont High School (times TBA)



Matt Germano
Percussion

Tabitha Tetreault
Woodwinds



David Otey
Brass

Sara Salsbury
Prep Director & Strings



Maestro Klein

The senior-level Peninsula Youth Orchestra—which bears the same name as the organization—is PYO's most advanced symphonic ensemble, composed of around 100 string, woodwind, brass, and percussion players. Under the direction of Music Director **Mitchell Sardou Klein** and Assistant Conductor **Jason Kneebone**, the orchestra members gain the skills and knowledge needed to play challenging repertoire from the orchestral canon, as well as exciting, new works by living composers. The musicians have regular sectionals with Bay Area musicians throughout the season.

The Peninsula Youth Orchestra (PYO) performs 4-5 major concerts each season, tours biannually, and makes special appearances for community events. PYO has toured in Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Italy, France, Spain, Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Belgium, England, the Netherlands and the Baltics. The ensemble has performed twice in the Bay Area Youth Orchestra Festival at Davies Symphony Hall.



Summer Touring with our PYA and PYO musicians has been an important part of the PYO experience. PYO members who have been with us on our amazing tours to Europe, Asia or Australia have had special experiences that last a lifetime. When we tour internationally, the excitement of performing is heightened, the quality of our playing reaches a new level and we share unique, inspiring and life-changing moments. Plans are underway for a 2024 summer international tour for the senior PYO under the direction of Maestro Klein.



The Preparatory Full Orchestra Artistic Staff, all professional musicians and educators, apply their expertise by working with young musicians in a positive and respectful manner while guiding them through a sequential program of orchestral musicianship (applauded by the California Arts Council). Three preparatory full orchestras receive weekly sectionals with these specialists, in addition to full orchestra rehearsals under the direction of Sara Salsbury. The Preparatory Orchestras present three major concerts each season and often perform for community events. The Peninsula Young Artists have performed in New York City at Carnegie Hall, the Mozart Festival in Austria, China, the Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, Ireland, London, Paris and participated in the "Beethoven to Dvorak Festival" held in the Dvorak Hall in Prague.