

**Livingston Youth Orchestra Handbook**  
**2019-2020**

Livingston  
*Symphony*  
Orchestra

**Website:**

<http://lso.org>

**Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/Livingston-Symphony-Orchestra-155217437862457/>

The Livingston Youth Orchestra (LYO) under the direction of Joseph Alcocer, Music Director and Conductor, is supported by the Livingston Symphony Orchestra (LSO). The LYO is dedicated to challenging and inspiring students through high level ensemble training and the performance of standard and original repertoire. This ensemble is designed for intermediate string players learning to master bow control, vibrato, and shifting into higher positions.

## **AUDITIONS**

Auditions are held in August at 24|2 church in Brighton, MI. Students are asked to prepare 2 scales and a piece of their choice that represents their best playing under five minutes in length. Sight-reading selected by the conductor is also included.

Students may also audition to join LYO throughout the year by scheduling an audition time with Lisa.

## **TUITION**

The 2019-2020 tuition rate: \$250/year

Need-based scholarships are available to students on a limited basis. Tuition is subject to change.

Tuition is due on or before the first rehearsal in September unless other arrangements have been made. For those requiring financial assistance, contact us at [info.livingstonsymphony@gmail.com](mailto:info.livingstonsymphony@gmail.com)

## **REHEARSALS**

All rehearsals, unless otherwise noted, will be held at:

24|2 Community Church in the student auditorium (lower level near the athletic field)  
7526 Grand River Drive  
Brighton, MI 48114

Rehearsals take place weekly on Monday evenings from 5:30pm to 7pm.

When you come to rehearsal, chairs and stands will need to be set up, this is the student's responsibility. Please be aware that the LSO rehearses immediately after our rehearsal ends please pack up quickly and exit the rehearsal space. Remember that we are borrowing space from 2|42 Church, so please treat it with respect and keep our rehearsal space clean by picking up all trash, pencils, etc., even if they are not yours.

Students are expected to be in attendance for the entire duration of a rehearsal. If other arrangements are necessary, please inform the conductor ahead of time.

Dress Rehearsals take place Friday evening before a concert unless otherwise noted. All dress rehearsals are mandatory. If a student has an unexcused absence on one of these rehearsals, they may not be allowed to perform in the next day's concert. Please let Joseph or Lisa know by November 1st and/or March 1<sup>st</sup> if there is a conflict with the scheduled dress rehearsals.

Dress Rehearsals and Concerts, unless otherwise noted, take place at:  
The Naz - Brighton Nazarene Church  
7669 Brighton Rd,  
Brighton, MI 48116

## **ATTENDANCE**

Regular attendance at each rehearsal is imperative to the success of the ensemble and is required. Attendance will be promptly taken at the beginning of each rehearsal — 5:30 pm.

Please arrive no later than 15 minutes before the start of each rehearsal and 30 minutes before a concert or as determined by the conductor.

Please contact Joseph or Lisa if a rehearsal is to be missed.

Students who miss three or more rehearsals (excused or unexcused) may be asked to reaudition to perform in that semester's concert,

Excused absences include the following: a school function or performance where grades are given, or family illness or emergencies. An unexcused absence occurs when no prior notice is given.

A late arrival consists of walking into rehearsal after the start time. Attendance will be taken, and late arrivals will be noted. Two unexcused late arrivals will equal a missed rehearsal. To avoid being penalized for a late arrival Joseph Alcocer should receive an email, text, or phone call no later than 4:30 pm on the day that the student will be late.

## **REHEARSAL CANCELLATIONS**

In the event that the Brighton school district has cancelled school due to weather, the Livingston Youth Orchestra will also be cancelled for that evening. Please tune in to your local TV/radio stations for school closures. In the event of an emergency cancellation of rehearsal for reasons other than weather, please make sure LYO has your current contact information so that you are notified.

## **MATERIALS**

Please have the following items at all rehearsals and concerts unless otherwise noted:

- Your instrument
- Your own stand
- Your own music
- Pencil—Keep one in your case or in your folder.

## **SHEET MUSIC POLICY**

- Every LYO member will be given music for practice and rehearsal purposes.
- It is the responsibility of every member to bring their music, and a pencil, to each rehearsal. Do not depend on a stand partner to bring music.
- It is expected that LYO members will keep music given to them in a reasonably good condition and in keep it in the LYO music folder.

## **PRACTICE**

Practice your LYO music regularly. It is expected that each member will practice their own parts at home each week. Rehearsals are designed to work on ensemble playing and are not for individual practice. The success of an ensemble is based upon the commitment to the music of each individual player. Each week specific sections of the music will be assigned for practice; please mark these spots with your pencil. This is to help you organize your practice time. If you ever have a question, please make sure to ask the conductor before you leave rehearsal. Your private music teacher will also be able to help you on your music

## **SIDE-BY-SIDE CONCERTS**

All LYO concert programs will include at least one piece to be played alongside members of the LSO. Occasionally rehearsal times may be extended to rehearse with LSO. Advance notice will be given of any changes in rehearsal duration.

## **CONCERT ATTIRE**

For concerts students should wear all-black dress clothes i.e. black long- sleeved dress shirt, black pants, black socks, black shoes.

## **LIVINGSTON SYMPHONY CONCERTS**

All LYO students and families are strongly encouraged to attend LSO concerts.

## **PRIVATE LESSONS**

Taking private lessons is encouraged and highly recommended for all LYO students. We do maintain a list of qualified private teachers that we'd be happy to recommend. Please contact Joseph Alcocer for more information.

## **PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAMS**

LYO strongly encourages all students to participate in their own school music program and ensembles. Being a member of LYO is not intended to replace school programs but rather enhance and augment a young musician's music education by providing additional performance opportunities of challenging repertoire with professional conductors and instructors

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Joseph Alcocer, Musical Director and Conductor  
Livingston Youth Orchestra  
Email: [joseph.alcocer@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.alcocer@gmail.com)  
Cell Phone: 512.765.4459

Lisa Shipman, Board Secretary & Personnel Manager  
Livingston Symphony Orchestra/Livingston Youth Orchestra  
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