



San Diego
Youth Symphony
and Conservatory

2013-2014

**Program Descriptions
Audition Requirements**



The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory instills excellence in the musical and personal development of students through rigorous and inspiring musical training experiences.



SDYS teaches aspiring musicians commitment, dedication, to set long term goals, and a love of music. Being in this ensemble for so long, I have gladly acquired all of the mentioned. We learn a vast amount of repertoire at a very fast pace which teaches us how to sight-read efficiently.

Amanda, Cello, Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia, Chamber Orchestra — 12th Season

The level of rigor of SDYS' programs and its intense but awesome atmosphere makes it special. We play excellent music, work hard each week and I have made some great new friends who are also amazing musicians. It is a wonderful musical and social program.

Sara, Flute and Oboe, Symphony Orchestra,
Philharmonia, Chamber Orchestra,
Wind Ensemble — 7th Season

Table of Contents

Overview	3
Conductors	4
Audition Preparation and Expectations	7
Orchestra Programs	10
Wind Programs	16
Additional Programs	20
Community Program Partnerships	22

Videos of our Showcase
and Ovation Concerts can be
viewed online at
www.sdys.org/sdys_videos

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Overview

San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory (SDYS) has a sixty seven year history of setting the region's highest standards for excellence in music education through its Balboa Park Programs. SDYS has seen that student adherence to the high standards, self-discipline and teamwork required for musical success provides unparalleled training for future success in any field or educational path. As a result, SDYS is devoted to being a catalyst for community investment in student achievement through music. Through SDYS' growing collaborations with parents, educators, researchers, and community partners, music education is being restored and strengthened in local schools to improve student success and as a model for communities across the country. The Balboa Park Programs are the focal point of SDYS' commitment to building community support for student achievement through music.

Balboa Park Programs

Since 1945, the San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory (SDYS) has given thousands of young musicians the opportunity to study and perform classical music at the highest level. It is the sixth oldest youth orchestra in the United States, and the resident youth orchestra in San Diego's cultural center of Balboa Park. SDYS' programs have grown from one advanced orchestra of sixty students to over 700 students participating in 11 different orchestral and wind programs at the advanced, intermediate and introductory levels. SDYS also offers chamber music, soloist competitions, group lessons, and community partnership opportunities to students enrolled in the Balboa Park Programs, including the annual International Youth Symphony. Students with financial hardships receive tuition aid, subsidized lessons, and concert tickets for their families to see them perform.

SDYS' Balboa Park Programs are designed to give student musicians a sequential ensemble experience over multiple years. Students audition each June for program placement in the following season. New students are placed in the ensemble that matches their musical development. Returning students continue in their ensemble or advance to the next level ensemble as they demonstrate higher levels of musical skill and aptitude. The most dedicated music students participate in SDYS from elementary school through high school, and sometimes college.

SDYS allows woodwind, brass, and percussion students to participate in an orchestra and a wind program. This participation offers students the opportunity to develop their musical skills by experiencing different musical literature and playing alongside a more diverse range of instruments from strings to saxophones.

SDYS students are amongst San Diego County's highest achievers, annually graduating from high school and SDYS to attend the top universities and conservatories in the United States in all subject areas.

SDYS recognizes that many students across the region have been unable to benefit from enrolling in Balboa Park Programs because they have not had access to music in their local community. Addressing this need has resulted in the launching of the Community Opus Project with the first effort concentrated in Chula Vista.

Conductors

Jeff Edmons, Music Director

Chamber Orchestra, Philharmonia, Symphony Orchestra,
Wind Orchestra



Jeff Edmons is now in his eighteenth year with SDYS. Under his direction, the Youth Symphony has experienced tremendous growth, both in enrollment and in its level of musical achievement. Performing the most difficult works in the classical repertoire, SDYS achieves the highest standard attainable by a youth orchestra. SDYS' exemplary standards of skill and musicianship have afforded it the opportunity to participate in the most prestigious international festivals and perform with eminent guest artists and musicians from around the world.

Under Mr. Edmons direction, the Youth Symphony boasts a strong international presence as well as setting a benchmark for excellence in the United States. San Diego Magazine named Jeff Edmons as "50 People to Watch in 1997."

Mr. Edmons has dedicated himself to promoting youth music and youth education. He has led youth, collegiate and professional orchestras in critically acclaimed performances throughout the United States, as well as Mexico, Spain, France, Germany, Austria, Finland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Switzerland. He has received numerous local and national invitations and awards for his achievements in music education. Mr. Edmons has also been featured in articles and journals honoring his work and has been the subject of documentaries on CNN, Fox Television, National Public Radio and many more.

He studied violin performance with Michael Davis, former Concertmaster of the Scottish National Orchestra, String Pedagogy with renown Pedagogue Dr. Robert Gillespie, and he studied Wind, Brass, Percussion Pedagogy and Wind Ensemble conducting with Craig Kirchoff, Principal Guest Conductor of the Tokyo Wind Orchestra and past President and Chair of the National College Band Director's Association.

Juan Cristóbal Palacios, Conductor

Sinfonia, Concert Orchestra, Wind Symphony



Juan Cristóbal Palacios is a native of Caracas, Venezuela. He received his Master of Music in Conducting and Composition from Yale University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Boston University.

In his native Venezuela he founded, managed and conducted the Orquesta Sinfonica Juvenil de Chacao. He also conducted the Chamber Orchestra of the Universidad Central de Venezuela, where he taught Music History and Music Theory. Mr. Palacios has guest-conducted youth and professional orchestras in Venezuela, Brazil and the U.S.

As President of the Chacao Cultural Foundation he produced exhibits and events including traditional arts and urban street art, music and community theater. Since 2006, Mr. Palacios has been Principal of JCP Cultural Advisory, a group of professionals that help organizations create, improve, develop, and implement cultural programs.

Brent Osner, Conductor

Concert Winds



Brent Osner is a native West Texan. He has taught band and choir at all levels including eighteen years as Professor of Music at Palo Alto College in San Antonio, Texas. He received his BMed from Abilene Christian University and a MMed from Angelo State University where he was a teaching assistant. Further graduate study has been at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. He has been an active woodwind clinician and judge for the Texas Music Educators Association District and All-State Band competitions. For the past twelve years, Mr. Osner has been teaching online music appreciation courses for colleges in Texas and Georgia.

In 2004 he met his beautiful wife Terri, who is a LCDR in the Navy and began teaching music in Newport, Rhode Island, Beaufort, South Carolina, and now in San Diego, California. Alongside leading SDYS' Concert Winds, Mr. Osner is also the music instructor for the SDYS Community Opus Program's pilot music in the school day program and the woodwind specialist for the after school program, both in Chula Vista. He is excited to bring his many years of teaching and conducting experience to SDYS.

Ulli Reiner, Conductor

Concert Strings



Ulli Reiner is an adjunct faculty member of Palomar College, Concertmaster with the Palomar College Symphony Orchestra, Conductor and founder of the Poway Community Symphonette, founder and Concertmaster of the Poway Symphony Orchestra, and a Middle School Orchestra Director with the Poway Unified School District. A graduate of the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music, she received the degree of Bachelor of Music Education with emphasis in violin and viola performance and went on to graduate study at San Diego State University, the University of Southern California, and the University of San Diego.

Ms. Reiner is a member of the Suzuki Association of the Americas, served on the Board of Directors of the American String Teachers Association and also served as an adjudicator for the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association. She currently hosts and founded the Poway Unified School District Orchestra Festival with Jung-Ho Pak, and also founded and hosts the PUSD Solo/Ensemble Festival.

More recently, Ms Reiner has performed as a soloist with the Maryville University Symphony Orchestra in St. Louis, Missouri for the past two years and performs regularly as soloist with the Poway Community Symphonette.

Ramón Negrón, Conductor

Overture Strings



Ramón Negrón was born and raised in Puerto Rico. He started his career in music at the tender age of nine with Guillermo Figueroa Sanabria. He graduated Cum Laude with his Bachelor of Arts in Viola Performance from the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music. He has attended music festivals such as the Casals Festival Prades, France; Reina Sofia Summer Program in Santander, Spain; Luzerne Summer Festival in Albany, New York and the Festival of the Youth Symphony Orchestra of the Americas (FOSJA).

A member of the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra for 16 years, Mr. Negrón performed under the direction of conductors Rafael Frübeck de Burgos, Sergiu Comissiona, Yoav Talmi, Giancarlo Guerrero, Guillermo Figueroa and Maximiano Valdez. He has shared the stage in live performances with Yo-Yo Ma, Sara Chang, Sholomo Mintz, Lynn Harrel, Elmar Oliveiras, Emerson String Quartet, Joshua Bell, Roberto Díaz, Paul Neubauer, Olga Kern, Andrea Bocelli, Plácido Domingo.

Mr. Negrón has participated in Master Classes with Gérald Caussé, Bruno Pasquier, Harmut Rohde, Roberto Diaz, Marta Gulyas, Evan Wilson, Luis Biava Sr., Tokio String Quartet and Jesse Levine. He has served as principal viola of the Greater San Diego Community Orchestra, member of the La Jolla Symphony Orchestra, California Chamber Orchestra, Música de Camará Chamber Orchestra NY, New Britain Symphony Orchestra and the Yale Philharmonia.

He is a Chamber Music faculty member at the University of San Diego, Department of Music. He has served as faculty member at the Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico and the School of Fine Arts in Carolina, Puerto Rico as Violin and Viola Teacher and Conductor of the School Strings Orchestras.

Alongside leading SDYS' Overture Strings, Ramón Negrón is also a Community Teaching Artist for the SDYS Community Opus Program in Chula Vista.

Michael Gray, Conductor

Overture Winds



Michael Gray studied at Northern Arizona University with Dr. Jonathan Bergeron and received his Bachelor of Music in Saxophone Performance in 2007. While attending NAU, he had the privilege to perform in varied ensembles, including twice with the NAU orchestra as a featured saxophone soloist and for nine semesters as an integral part of the twelve-part NAU Saxophone Orchestra.

Since moving to San Diego in 2008, Mr. Gray has performed and taught as a freelance musician and coach throughout San Diego County. He completed his music teaching credential at San Diego State University in 2011, during which time he had the privilege of performing the Concerto for Saxophone Quartet and Orchestra by Phillip Glass with the Corporeal Saxophone Quartet and the SDSU Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Gray also served as the graduate assistant for the California Music Project, which places upper-division Music Education students with master teachers around San Diego. From 2010-2012 he taught beginning instrumental music in the National School District as part of its before-school program.

Mr. Gray currently teaches instrumental music at six elementary schools in the San Diego Unified School District, in addition to performing as a freelance saxophonist and woodwind specialist. He is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, National Music Fraternity, and Kappa Kappa Psi, National Honorary Band Fraternity.

All artistic faculty are subject to change.

Audition Preparation and Expectations

Students auditioning for both an orchestra and a wind program will be scheduled for two separate auditions.

AUDITION PREPARATION

- Read all of the information!
- Discuss with your private teacher and/or school music teacher all the criteria and skill levels for the ensemble that would be best suited to your current abilities.
- Revisit the audition requirements to understand the different program levels and prepare the solo you will play for the judges.
- Turn in your application by the due date of May 24.
- Make a plan for how and when you will practice.

PRACTICE TIPS

- All areas of the audition - Scales, Solo, and Sight Reading are important!
- Practice with a metronome for even tempo and accurate rhythms.
- Scales: Prepare all scales required at the level for which you are auditioning. Maintain an even tempo throughout each scale.
- Solo: Choose the two to three minutes of a solo of your choice that best represent your level of ability (length depending on ensemble). Bring two copies of that section for the judges.
- Sight reading: Work with your teacher on a variety of sight reading materials.

DAY OF THE AUDITION

- Put your best foot forward when auditioning. Dress nicely!
- Make sure your instrument is in top shape. Bring extra strings and or reeds just in case.
- Checklist: instrument and accessories, your solo music, two photocopies of the section of the solo you are preparing to play for the judges.
- Arrive 20 to 30 minutes before your audition so you have plenty of time to check in and warm up.
- Auditions usually run on schedule. If parking is a problem, have a parent drop you off first. Check-in is outside Room 207, at Casa del Prado.
- Warm up and have your music out of its folder so you are ready to be escorted to the audition room.
- Please do not play your instrument in the halls or outside the audition room as the sound may interfere with other auditions.

DURING THE AUDITION

- When you enter the room, introduce yourself to the judges and hand them your copies of the section of the solo you will be playing.
- Before playing your solo, state the title, composer and movement (if applicable).
- Take about 10 seconds to look at the sight reading excerpts before you begin to play. Think about the tempo in your head. Play for accuracy. If you make a mistake, keep going!
- Audition time is limited so come prepared. Make the best of every minute you have.
- Judges may stop you before you complete your solo piece and or sight reading.

GENERAL CRITERIA

Every student auditioning for SDYS is required to prepare materials from the categories listed below. Specific requirements within each category are determined by the instrument the student plays and the various program levels. Please check the audition requirements for your group(s).

- 1 Scales for woodwinds, brass, and percussion: The goal is to demonstrate different tonalities, tone quality and range development. Different scales are required for each ensemble level.
- 2 Scales for strings: The goal is to demonstrate knowledge and expertise of different tonalities, tone quality, range development, bowing styles, and articulations. Different scales are required for each level.
- 3 Prepared solo: Two to four minutes, depending on your instrument and the level you are attempting. All students must bring two photocopies of the section of their solo music for the judges.
- 4 Sight reading: Provided by judges during the audition.

SPECIFIC AREAS OF EVALUATION

- Articulation:** Does student perform articulations clearly and as marked?
- Intonation:** Are pitches in tune, or is there a tendency to go sharp or flat?
- Musicianship:** How well does the student make dynamic contrasts, phrase and interpret the music?
- Rhythm:** How precisely can student play rhythmic figures in the context of a piece?
- Tempo:** Is the student following and keeping the proper tempo in the context, style and period of the piece?
- Technique:** How strong is the student's technical facility?
- Tone:** Is the tone focused and does it have character?
- Sight Reading:** How well can the student play a previously unseen piece of music? Is the student able to play the right notes and rhythms?
- Transposition:** May be required in some orchestral passages for horn, trumpet and clarinet.
- Other Clefs:** May be required in some orchestral passages for strings, bassoon and trombone.

PRINCIPALS

Currently enrolled musicians in Philharmonia, Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonia, and Wind Orchestra may audition for a Principal Chair.

The Principal Chair is not only an artistic position but also a leadership position. Choosing to audition for a principal chair is an important decision. Principals serve as artistic leaders and role models in their ensemble. They must exhibit exemplary musical preparation, maturity and leadership as representatives of their sections. The principal chair students work directly with the conductor to facilitate rehearsals and to interact with the members of their sections. Principal chair students must have outstanding regular attendance and must put their participation in SDYS at the priority of their musical activities. In addition, they must serve as outstanding representatives of the organization in all respects. They are also required to participate in Chamber Orchestra and may be asked to enroll in a chamber ensemble and to perform in the community.

These ensembles focus on development of musical and technical skills in a small ensemble environment, while introducing musicians to important works of music unique to the chamber ensemble genre.

SDYS artistic faculty or the Music Director will provide regular instruction for these ensembles. Musicians rehearse according to schedules determined by the individual chamber ensemble's needs. These groups perform at annual recitals and public outreach events when appropriate.

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRINCIPALS

Symphony Orchestra principals will receive a merit scholarship for full tuition. If a Symphony Orchestra principal cannot fulfill their responsibilities both in large ensembles and small ensembles they will be required to pay the full tuition.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Students may also apply to be an Assistant Principal by using the Principal/Assistant Application Form. Musicians given this distinction are those who have shown special musical promise and leadership potential in their auditions for SDYS, and accordingly, they must in return support the musical and educational leadership of their section and the orchestra by demonstrating stellar weekly rehearsal preparation, exemplary behavior, excellent attendance, and model citizenship. Assistant principals are expected to facilitate a respectful and cooperative environment in the orchestra, and to assist the Conductor and Principal players in musical areas as needed or requested. They should also be prepared to take over the duties of their respective principal chair for any given rehearsal, including solo passages, if necessary due to an illness or absence of the principal player. Symphony Orchestra and Wind Orchestra Assistant Principals are expected to participate in Chamber Orchestra.

AUDITION AND APPLYING

All candidates for principals and assistant principals must prepare a memorized solo piece (no longer than 3 minutes), required scales, and sight reading for auditions

In order to become a principal or an assistant, the student musician must observe the following guidelines:

1. Student must have demonstrated exemplary technical and musical skill in all areas on their instrument as evidenced by audition.
2. Student must have consistently demonstrated themselves to be a outstanding role models for other students to emulate in both musicianship and behavior.
3. Student must have a demonstrated history of outstanding and consistent attendance in the SDYS programs they have participated in.
4. Student must have always maintained good standing in all program and communication expectations in the SDYS programs.
5. Student must demonstrated themselves to be cooperative and respectful to both peers and adults at all times.
6. Student must make SDYS the musical priority of their activities.
7. Principals in Symphony Orchestra are required to play in Chamber Orchestra. Assistants and Section Leaders in Symphony Orchestra are also expected to play in Chamber Orchestra.
8. If the student musician is invited to join the Chamber Orchestra, s/he must agree to the Monday night rehearsal schedules. Please find Chamber Orchestra rehearsals schedule on our website. Chamber Orchestra musicians are allowed up to 2 absences from the ensemble per concert prep period.

The following documents must be submitted together with your application.

- A letter of recommendation from current private or school music teacher.
- A resume of previous musical and non-musical leadership and performance experience.
- A short essay of 250 word limit, describing how you will fulfill the specific requirements and expectations listed above.

Orchestra Programs

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Jeff Edmons, Music Director

The Chamber Orchestra is an artist level, invitation only ensemble comprised of principal and top seated musicians from Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia and Wind Orchestra. This orchestra rehearses and performs a variety of repertoire unique to this type of ensemble from multiple historic periods, for both string orchestra and full chamber orchestra. This ensemble rehearses on Monday evenings. Musicians in Chamber Orchestra are excused from Thursday Symphony Orchestra rehearsals but must attend occasional Thursday full orchestra rehearsals.

PHILHARMONIA

Jeff Edmons, Music Director

A high school and college aged orchestra comprised of the most advanced musicians in SDYS, open to string, woodwind, brass and percussion musicians. This flagship SDYS orchestra rehearses and performs advanced orchestral literature. The size and instrumentation of the ensemble may vary during the year based upon requirements for specific repertoire. Some woodwind and brass parts are doubled. Solo parts are assigned within each section according to seating and repertoire needs. Admission to Philharmonia will be by audition. If you are auditioning for or currently in Symphony Orchestra and want to be considered for Philharmonia please prepare based on the Philharmonia audition requirements. All musicians placed in Philharmonia will also be placed in Symphony Orchestra, though participation in a single orchestra is optional.

Minimum Age: 15, or those musicians who have reached the tenth grade by September 1 of the new school year

Audition Requirements:

All requirements for Symphony Orchestra plus the additional items listed below

All instruments: Three-minute solo, scales, sight reading (provided at audition).

- Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass

Fluency in all positions and all requisite clefs. Fluency in all advanced bowings for Symphony Orchestra plus saltando, ricochet, loure and up and down bow staccato. Fluency in arm, wrist and finger vibrato for cello and double bass. All three-octave Major scales (Double bass two octave), and Melodic, Harmonic and Natural minor scales, ascending and descending- quarter note=80bpm, separate bows and eight notes per bow, and spiccato 16th notes (4 of each note) separate bows. Fluency in compound and irregular meters.

- Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon

All two and three-octave Major and Melodic, Harmonic and Natural minor scales, and three octave Chromatic scale to the upper range of the instrument - quarter note=144bpm single breath ascending and single breath descending. Clarinet – A, C, D and E flat transpositions. Fluency in compound and irregular meters. Experience on requisite specialty instruments i.e. Piccolo, E flat clarinet, English horn, Bass Clarinet etc.

- French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba

All two-octave Major and Melodic, Harmonic and Natural minor scales and two-octave Chromatic scale to the upper range of the instrument -quarter note=144bpm, single breath ascending and single breath descending. French Horn: fluency with stopped horn technique; E flat, C, A, D and G transpositions.

Trumpet: A, F C, D and G transpositions. All Brass: fluency in requisite applicable tonguing i.e. single tongue, double tongue, triple tongue etc. Fluency in compound and irregular meters

- Timpani and percussion

Three-minute solo for timpani and two-minute solo for melodic percussion. Prepared snare solo or etude. All snare rudiments. Fluency in compound and irregular meters

- Harp

Three-minute solo and two-minute etude and pedaling exercise. Fluency in compound and irregular meters

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Jeff Edmons, Music Director

An orchestra for advanced string, woodwind, brass and percussion players. Musicians accepted to this orchestra will study and perform a wide range of advanced symphonic repertoire. Some woodwinds and brass parts are doubled and tripled. Solo parts are assigned within these sections according to seating and repertoire needs.

Minimum Age: 13, or those musicians who have reached the eighth grade by September 1 of the new school year

Audition Requirements:

All Instruments: Three-minute solo, sight reading excerpt (provided at audition). Principal and Assistant Principal chair auditions require the solo to be memorized. Instrument tuning ability. Fluency in basic irregular and compound meters i.e. 5/4, 12/8 etc.

All Strings

All three-octave Major and natural minor scales (Bass two octaves) quarter note=80bpm single bows, and quarter note=120bpm slurred. Fluency in all advanced bowings and techniques including spiccato, martele, left hand pizzicato and sul ponticello

- Viola

Treble clef fluency

- Cello

Tenor and treble clef fluency; Proficiency in all positions including thumb position

- Double Bass

Tenor clef fluency

All Woodwinds

All two and three-octave Major and natural minor scales quarter note=120 slurred; three-octave Chromatic scale

- Flute

Experience on piccolo encouraged with separate audition of above requirements

- Oboe

Experience on English Horn encouraged with separate audition of above requirements

- Clarinet

A, C and G transpositions

- Bassoon
Tenor clef fluency
All Brass
All two-octave Major and natural minor scales to upper range limit of requisite instrument
- French Horn
Range to high C. Transposition C, E flat, D and G. Bass clef fluency
- Trumpet
Range to high D. Transposition fluency in F, C, G and D. Fluency in all keys
- Trombone
Range to high C. Alto and Tenor clef fluency
- Timpani and percussion
Three-minute Timpani and two-minute melodic percussion solo or etude. All snare rudiments. Timpani tuning exercise
- Harp
Three-minute solo; two-minute etude, and pedaling exercise

SINFONIA

Juan Cristóbal Palacios, Conductor

An orchestra providing training for upper intermediate/advanced string, woodwind, brass, and percussion musicians; this orchestra performs a range of moderate length orchestral works, symphonic movements and concert pieces. All woodwind and some brass parts are doubled and tripled. Solo parts are assigned according to seating and repertoire needs of the ensemble.

Minimum Age: 11, or those musicians who have reached the sixth grade by September 1 of the new school year

Audition Requirements:

All Instruments: Three-minute prepared solo and sight reading (provided at audition). Principal and Assistant chair auditions require the solo to be memorized. Instrument tuning ability. Experience in triple meter, i.e., 6/8.

- Violin I
All three octave Major scales; Three octave G, A and C minor scales in any form (Melodic, Harmonic or Natural)
- Violin II
Three-octave C, G, D, A, E, B flat and E flat Major scales. 5th position facility, vibrato
- Viola
Three-octave C, D, E flat, and F Major scales; Two-octave G and A Major scales; 3rd position facility, vibrato
- Cello
Three-octave C, D, E flat, and F Major scales; Three octave C and D minor scales in any form; Two-octave G, A, E, B flat Major scales. Upper position facility, vibrato, and tenor clef knowledge
- Double Bass
Two-octave E, F, G Major scale and all other one-octave Major scales; half position facility; established vibrato

Brass and Woodwinds

All Major and natural minor scales; transposition knowledge where applicable; French horn to high A; trumpet to high C; trombone to high A.

- Timpani/Percussion

Two-minute Timpani solo and tuning exercise; snare rudiments, prepared two-minute snare or melodic solo

- Harp

Short solo and pedaling exercise

CONCERT ORCHESTRA

Juan Cristóbal Palacios, Conductor

Designed to provide a high quality initial full orchestra experience for developing string, woodwind, brass and percussion players. This orchestra performs a range of moderate length arrangements of orchestral works and symphonic movements. In addition to developing skills in blend and balance, all musicians focus on areas of fundamental right and left hand skill development, vibrato, articulation, intonation, rhythm, tone production, embouchure, range and dynamics as appropriate to their individual instrument within the group context.

Minimum Age: 8, or those musicians who have reached the third grade by September 1 of the new school year

Audition Requirements:

All Instruments: Two-minute prepared solo, instrument tuning ability.

- Violin I

Three-octave G, A and C Major Scales

Two-octave C, G, D, A, E, F, Bb and Eb scales; 3rd position facility;

Developed use of vibrato, staccato, spiccato, leagato, slurred bowings.

- Violin II

Two-octave C, G, D, A, E, F, B flat and E flat Major scales; 3rd position facility, introductory up to 5th;

Developed use of vibrato, staccato, spiccato, leagato, slurred bowings

- Viola

Three-octave C Major scale;

Two-octave C, G, D, A, E, F, B flat, E flat Major scales; 3rd position facility; introductory up to 5th;

developing use of vibrato, staccato, spiccato, leagato and slurred bowings

- Cello

Three Octave C Major;

Two-octave C, D, E, F, G, A, B flat and E flat Major scales; 4th position facility

- Double Bass

Two-octave G and F Major scales, one-octave D, E, F, G, A, B flat and E flat Major scales

- Woodwinds

All two-octave Major scales

- Flute

Three-octave C Major scale in addition to all two-octave Major scales; Two-octave minor scales inform of choice (Melodic, Harmonic or Natural) in the following keys: G, C D, A and F minor

- Brass

All two-octave Major scales, two-octave A minor scale in form of choice (Melodic, Harmonic or Natural). Upper range required: Trumpet up to A; French Horn up to G; Trombone up to F; Tuba up to 3rd line D

- Percussion

Snare Rudiments; timpani prepared solo or etude; timpani tuning exercise

CONCERT STRINGS

Ulli Reiner, Conductor

A string orchestra providing performance experience for beginning-intermediate level string players. Musicians will learn important concepts of left and right hand technique, vibrato, shifting, and bowings, articulation, tone production, intonation, balance and blend. Repertoire will include arrangements of music for string orchestra representing various periods and styles.

Minimum Age: 8, or those musicians who have reached the third grade by September 1 of the new school year

Audition Requirements:

All Strings: Two-minute solo piece, and sight reading (provided at audition). Instrument tuning ability. Developed knowledge of staccato, spiccato, legato, slurred staccato and slurred concepts.

- Violin

Two-octave D, G, C, A and F Major scales; shifting to 3rd position facility and introductory vibrato (Violin I, II and sequential seating order will be determined during the rehearsal season)

- Viola

Two-octave D, G, C, A and F Major scales; introductory shifting

- Cello

Two-octave D, G, C, A and F Major scales; introductory shifting

- Double Bass

One-octave D, G, C, A and F Major scales

OVERTURE STRINGS

Ramón Negrón, Conductor

A beginning level string orchestra providing a first ensemble opportunity to musicians in their second year of playing and above. The orchestra focuses on enhancing beginning level skills such as fingering, tone quality, intonation and sight reading as part of an ensemble. Musicians will learn to follow the conductor, play together, group intonation, and section cohesion by integrating technique into ensemble playing; Fluency in staccato and legato bowings.

Minimum Age: age 8, or those musicians who have reached the third grade by September 1 of the new school year

Audition Requirements:

All Strings: Two-minute solo and sight reading (provided at the audition)

- Violin

One-octave G, C and D Major scales (Violin I, II and sequential seating order will be determined during the rehearsal season)

- Viola
One-octave G, C and D Major scales

- Cello
One-octave G, C and D Major scales

- Double Bass
One-octave scale in G, A and C Major scales

DEBUT STRINGS CLASSES

SDYS Artistic Faculty

The Debut Classes are SDYS' entry level group instruction. Geared to those students in their first or second year of playing who need more development to be prepared for a full ensemble. Two different classes are offered: upper strings (violin/viola), lower strings (cello/bass),

Students will work on basic technique of their individual instruments, develop sight reading skills, and beginning ensemble techniques, such as following a conductor and playing together. Students in these classes will be eligible for mid-year auditions, and those students that qualify will be placed in Overture Strings.

Minimum Age: 8, or those students who have reached the third grade by September 1 of the new school year.

Audition Requirements:

All Strings: Two-minute prepared solo and sight reading (provided at audition)

- Violin
One-octave G, C and D Major scales

- Viola
One-octave G, C and D Major scales

- Cello
One-octave G, C and D Major scales

- Double Bass
One-octave G, A, and C Major scales

Wind Programs

WIND ORCHESTRA

Jeff Edmons, Music Director

A high school and college aged ensemble designed to study and perform advanced repertoire of multiple styles and genres, written for Wind Orchestra. Instrumentation will be based on the professional Wind Orchestra, with requisite doubling and tripling of parts. This ensemble will perform traditional full length concert pieces for wind orchestra, as well as multiple movement works, and traditional concert marches.

Minimum Age: 13, or those musicians who have reached the eighth grade by September 1 of the new school year.

Audition Requirements:

All instruments: Three minute prepared solo demonstrating mastery of technique and musicality including areas of tone, phrasing, articulation, range, dynamics, double and triple tonguing (brass and flute), mixed or compound meters, and interpretation. Instrument tuning ability. Principal and Assistant chair auditions require the solo to be memorized. Sight reading will be provided at the audition

All Woodwinds

All two and three-octave Major and natural minor scales, slurred and tongued, at quarter note=120; three-octave chromatic scale

- Flute

Experience on piccolo encouraged with separate audition of above requirements

- Oboe

Experience on English Horn encouraged with separate audition of above requirements

- Clarinet

A, C and G transpositions

- Bassoon

Tenor clef fluency

All Brass

All two-octave Major and natural minor scales to upper range limit of requisite instrument

- French Horn

Range to high C. Transposition C, E flat, D and G. Bass clef fluency

- Trumpet

Range to high D. Transposition fluency in F, C, G and D. Fluency in all keys

- Trombone

Range to high C. Alto and Tenor clef fluency

- Percussion

Prepared mallet solo, timpani solo and mastery of timpani tuning, prepared snare etude or solo demonstrating compound meters, all snare rudiments, mastery of all battery instruments.

WIND SYMPHONY

Juan Cristóbal Palacios, Conductor

A symphonic band for intermediate and advanced wind and percussion musicians; this ensemble will study advanced wind symphony repertoire and focuses on areas of techniques, musicality, balance, blend, and other areas of development. This ensemble will study and perform traditional and contemporary literature for Wind Band.

Minimum Age: 12, or those musicians who have reached the seventh grade by September 1 of the new school year.

Audition Requirements:

All Instruments:

- Prepared two to three minute solo piece and sight reading (provided at the audition), instrument tuning ability
- All two or three octave Major scales, two or three octave natural minor scales to 4 flats and 4 sharps, Eighth note = 120bpm, tongued and slurred; Chromatic scale demonstrating full range

Percussion: Snare rudiments, prepared solo, timpani roll from piano to forte, timpani tuning exercise to be provided at the audition.

Range Requirements:

- Trumpet
Up to written A
- Horn
Up to written G
- Trombone
Up to written F
- Euphonium
Up to written F
- Tuba
Up to written C

CONCERT WINDS

Brent Osner, Conductor

An intermediate-level symphonic band for wind and percussion musicians covering areas of articulation, intonation, rhythm, tone production, and dynamics in an ensemble setting. Musicians should have two years of school band experience and/or private instruction. Musicians will advance important concepts of technique, articulation, tone production, intonation, balance, and blend. Repertoire will include arrangements of music representing various periods and styles.

Minimum Age: 10, or those musicians who have reached the fifth grade by September 1 of the new school year.

Audition Requirements:

All instruments:

Sight Reading (provided at the audition), two to three minute prepared solo, instrument tuning ability

All Winds and Brass:

Concert Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, F, C, and G scales, two octaves, eighth notes = 80 bpm, tongued and slurred
Two octave natural minor scales to 3 flats and 3 sharps, eighth notes = 80 bpm, tongued and slurred
Full Chromatic scale, to demonstrate range, eighth notes = 80 bpm, slurred

Additional Requirements for Flutes and Piccolos:

A Major, 2 octaves, eighth note = 80 bpm, tongued and slurred

- Percussion

Basic rudiments; prepared solo, timpani roll from piano to forte, timpani tuning exercise, open and closed rolls, flam, drag and paradiddle. Mallet players see scale and sight reading requirements above.

Range Requirements for Instruments:

- Flute

Up to High E (6 lines above staff)

- Clarinet

Up to High E (3 lines above staff)

- Saxophones

Up to High D (Space above 2nd ledger line)

- Trumpet

Up to High G (space above staff)

- French Horn

Up to High F (top line)

- Trombone

Up to F

- Baritone

Up to F

- Tuba

Up to F

- Euphonium

Up to F

OVERTURE WINDS

Michael Gray, Conductor

A wind ensemble that provides a progressive and accelerated opportunity for woodwind, brass, and percussion musicians in their second year of playing and above. Instruction focuses on teaching ensemble skills such as tone production and quality, musicianship, blend, balance, rhythm, and sight reading as part of an ensemble. Students will enhance their ability to follow the conductor, play together, achieve group intonation as well as section cohesion by integrating technique into ensemble playing.

Minimum Age: 8, or those musicians who have reached the third grade by September 1 of the new school year.

Audition Requirements:

- All instruments:

Sight reading (provided at audition)

Concert Bb, Eb and F Major scales, one octave, quarter note = 120 bpm, tongued and slurred.

- Percussion:

Note reading in treble clef

Basic snare rudiments: snare drum roll, flam taps, paradiddle

DEBUT WOODWINDS, DEBUT BRASS, DEBUT PERCUSSION CLASSES

SDYS Artistic Faculty

The Debut ensembles are designed as a first group experience for students in the SDYS program. Three different classes will be offered: woodwinds (flute/oboe/clarinet/bassoon/saxophone), brass (trumpet/French horn/trombone/euphonium), and percussion. Students will focus on instrument techniques, develop sight reading skills, and improve beginning ensemble techniques such as following a conductor and fellow musicians. Students in Debut classes will gear toward mid-year auditions which will either place the student into Overture Winds by audition and instructor recommendation; or group students to form a performance-based Debut Winds.

Minimum Age: 8, or those musicians who have reached the third grade by September 1 of the new school year.

Audition Requirements:

Concert Bb Major scale, one octave, quarter note = 120 bpm, tongued.

Short solo piece.

Additional Programs

PREMIER CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

Jeff Edmons, Music Director

Principals and Assistant Principals from advanced ensembles may be assigned to a chamber ensemble coached by the Music Director with regular rehearsals and public performances.

CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

Dr. Sidney Yin, Artistic Administrator

Chamber music is a form of classical music that is performed by a small number of musicians with one performer to a part and generally without a conductor. Because of its intimate nature, it has been described as “the music of friends.” Playing chamber music requires special skills, both musical and social, which are different from those required for playing solo or symphonic works. SDYS’ Chamber Music Program is open to all SDYS musicians who want to learn chamber music literature and perform in small groups. Musicians can form their own group, or request assistance to form one.

SDYS conductors and music coaches will be assigned to work with the groups. Placement is not guaranteed, and is dependent upon the combination of instrumentalists. SDYS musicians who also play piano may apply to participate in piano chamber ensembles. Groupings can range from the common chamber music ensembles such as piano trio, string quartet, woodwind quintet, brass quintet, to other less traditional groupings such as clarinet choir, flute choir, saxophone quartet, percussion ensemble, etc.

CONCERTO COMPETITIONS

Jeff Edmons, Music Director

SDYS offers a yearly Concerto Competition to further its individual members’ opportunities at the highest level. Winners perform their solos accompanied by their respective ensembles. The competitions are open to members of Philharmonia, Symphony Orchestra, Wind Orchestra, Sinfonia, and Wind Symphony. Candidates can select a single movement concerto, a single movement from a multi-movement concerto, or approved pieces that have original orchestral or symphonic band accompaniment. These selections must be approved. The competition takes place in two rounds: a Preliminary Round for all entrants. A limited number of candidates will be advanced to a public performance Final Round.

MASTER CLASSES

Jeff Edmons, Music Director

SDYS provides Masterclasses to musicians enrolled in the advanced ensembles from time to time. Master teachers of different instruments will join us, and interested students and spectators will watch and listen as the master teacher works with advanced SDYS students. Students benefit from the master’s comments and guidance. Announcements of these events are made throughout the season.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SYMPHONY

Jeff Edmons, Music Director

In collaboration with Rotary International Youth Exchange, SDYS hosts music students from around the world, ages 16-24, to join select SDYS musicians for a three week summer experience performing orchestral and chamber repertoire. There will be performances in different venues, including La Jolla Summerfest. IYS is by invitation only for Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia and Wind Orchestra musicians.

MENTOR PROGRAM

Dr. Sidney Yin, Artistic Administrator

SDYS offers a multi-tiered program as an opportunity for students to become mentors. Peer teaching allows students to become further engaged with music and enhances the kinship within the SDYS community. Students who become part of the mentor program will have the opportunity to attend a training session with Artistic Administrator or Education and Community Program Manager.

These student volunteers will be able to log program hours for community service and will be recognized with a certificate at the year-end concert.

NEW PROGRAMS

SDYS is continuously evaluating and designing new course offerings. Our goal is to enhance SDYS educational programs to support our institutional goal of instilling excellence in musical and personal development of students through rigorous and inspiring musical training experiences.

Programs in development will provide opportunities for students who are aspiring to advance their musical studies at a music conservatory or college/university music departments. New program offerings that are currently in development include Music Theory, Ear Training, and Music History.

Other program offerings such as Youth Choir Program and Early Childhood Music will provide entry points for students of all ages and musical levels to develop their talents and love of music. Additional pathways for entry into our wind and orchestral ensembles are also in development.

Community Program Partnerships

PARTNERSHIPS

Dr. Sidney Yin, Artistic Administrator

SDYS has partnered with schools and community organizations since its founding. SDYS regularly partners with leading professional music, theater and arts organizations, including La Jolla Music Society, San Diego Symphony, San Diego Opera, The Old Globe, and La Jolla Playhouse, to give students access to unique performance experiences, professional music mentors, and concerts by the world's leading artists. Please watch the Weekly News for notification of concert ticket offers, performance opportunities, or master classes from our partners.

COMMUNITY OPUS PROJECT

Lauren Widney, Community and Education Program Manager

San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory is taking its stature as the leading youth music education program in San Diego County into neighborhoods across the region to build community support for giving all students access to the benefits of music participation. The Community Opus Project is inspired by the El Sistema youth orchestra program in Venezuela, which reaches over 300,000 children in that country each year and has had a transformative social impact on students and families.

Along with teaching instrumental music at the high standard of the Balboa Park Programs, the Community Opus Project engages families in the education process and builds confidence and leadership in children who may have had few opportunities to shine. It creates social bonds between students and families while building parent enthusiasm for strong music programs at their local schools. Students perform concerts monthly throughout their community, teach family members and friends how to play their instruments, and experience the value of constant improvement through dedication and hard work.

The Community Opus Project is underway at six elementary schools in Chula Vista in partnership with Chula Vista Elementary School District and Sweetwater Union High School District as well as at Oak Park Elementary School in Southeast San Diego. During the 2012/13 school year the Community Opus Project served 250 students. For the 2013/14 school year Chula Vista Elementary School District is returning full time music instruction to multiple campuses with assistance from SDYS.

Students and ensembles from the Balboa Park program represent the aspirational goal for many Community Opus Project students and families. SDYS is building connections between the two efforts through performances, student mentor opportunities, and enrollment of the highest achieving Community Opus Project students in Balboa Park Programs.

RESEARCH

Dalouge Smith, President and CEO

SDYS is committed to building the case for music education through rigorous scientific based research and measurement that tracks the impact of music participation on students. Toward this end, SDYS is partnering with the UC San Diego Center for Human Development to track the cognitive and developmental changes related to long-term musical study. SDYS is a lead partner in SIMPHONY (Studying the Influence Music Practice has On the Neurodevelopment of Youth), a five year longitudinal study that tracks 5 to 10 year-olds just beginning the study of a musical instrument.

To learn more about SIMPHONY please visit: <http://www.chd.ucsd.edu/research/simphony-study.html>



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