



**Musician / Parent
Handbook
2020-21**



The Kawartha Youth Orchestra

P.O. Box 53, 150 King St., Peterborough, ON K9J 6Y5

www.thekyo.org info@thekyo.org 705.927.6017

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Contact Information

Music Director and Conductor:

Michael Newnham 705.876.8368 wildlarkdrive@gmail.com

Junior Orchestra Conductor:

Marilyn Chalk 705.743.9646 marilyncroteauchalk@gmail.com

Recruitment Facilitator:

Ann Millen 705.927.0768 ann@thekyo.org

Instrument Librarian:

Janet Louden 705.772.4055 janetlouden3@gmail.com

Music Librarian:

Stephanie Harnden 705.868.9788 stephanieharnden@trentu.ca

2020-21 Board of Directors (elections of Directors to vacant positions to be held in September, 2020)

Maggie Goldsmith	President	705.927.6017	changescape@sympatico.ca
Helen Thompson	Vice-President	705.917.0814	htathompson@cogeco.ca
Vacant	Treasurer		
Vacant	Secretary		
Janet Louden	Director at Large	705.772.4055	janetlouden3@gmail.com
Brett Goodwin	Director at Large		bjgoodwinhom@gmail.com
Vacant	Director at Large		
Vacant	Director at Large		
Vacant	Director at Large		



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In-Person Rehearsal Information

Rehearsal Times:

- Farm Team – Wednesday Evening 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
 - JKYO – Wednesday Evening 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
 - KYO – Sunday Afternoon 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- (Please arrive 15 minutes in advance and be ready to play)

Rehearsal Location:

- All Saints' Anglican Church Parish Hall
- 235 Rubidge St., (corner of Sherbrooke St. Peterborough, ON K9J 3N9)
- Telephone: 705-876-1501
- Parish Hall main door to be locked at all times for security purposes. If unlocked, a parent chaperone will be watching the door to facilitate entry & sign-in/out of musicians.
- In winter months or inclement weather, please leave outdoor footwear in the vestibule outside the Upper and Lower Parish halls & Wilson lounge. Indoor shoes are encouraged.
- Sectionals may be held in the church building proper if extra spaces are required.

Parking:

- Between Parish Hall & All Saints' Church (very limited). Spaces reserved for handicap parking only.
- Behind All Saints', off Park St.
- At dental office (across Sherbrooke St. from Parish Hall) corner of Sherbrooke & Reid Sts.

Attendance:

- It is **VERY** important that musicians are committed to attending all rehearsals, concerts, masterclasses and other KYO activities.
- Musicians missing more than 3 regular rehearsals and/or a dress rehearsal will need to consult the conductor to confirm participation in concert performances.
- In the event of illness or an unavoidable conflict, please inform the rehearsal chaperone by texting (705) 927-6017 or emailing info@thekyo.org



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Sign-In/Sign-Out:

- In order to ensure the safety of members, the parents/guardians of junior or senior orchestra members under the age of 16 are asked to escort their child(ren) into All Saints' Parish hall
- Sign your children in and out at the beginning and end of rehearsal respectively.
- Again, for safety, both junior and senior orchestras parents of musicians under the age of 16 are asked to arrive promptly for pick-up at the end of rehearsal.
- If musicians under the age of 16 are to make their own way home, or will be picked up by another individual not listed on the musician registration form, the Orchestra parent representative must be notified.

Inclement Weather:

- With respect to inclement weather and cancelling rehearsals, a decision will be made by the KYO Conductor and President by 10 a.m. Sunday morning for senior orchestra rehearsal and by the JKYO Conductor and President by noon Wednesday for junior orchestra rehearsal. We will attempt to establish a text-tree in addition to a broadcast email to all musicians and families to get word out.

Snack Schedule:

- During rehearsal JKYO and KYO musicians have a 15-minute break. We ask that families contribute a snack on a rotating basis. A snack schedule will be sent to parents at the beginning of the season.

Volunteer Hours for Musicians:

- Musicians can earn volunteer hours with the KYO to contribute to their required community involvement activities as part of the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). Volunteer hours can be achieved by assisting with weekly rehearsal set-up and tear-down, special events and projects, as a JKYO mentor or other KYO activities.



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Volunteering with the KYO

A Not-for-Profit Organization – We Need You!

Thank you for choosing the Kawartha Youth Orchestra (again). You signed up because you believe playing music is the right thing for you daughters and sons. We would agree: it is well documented that making music has profound positive effects on the developing brain.

Why should you help the KYO? The orchestra was conceived and implemented and is run by volunteers, parent and friends who think like you. To maintain our program of education excellence and financial assistance, it is essential that we all try to pitch in. We strongly encourage you to share your own skills, experience and enthusiasm to help create an even better experience for our young musicians. Please get to know us better by volunteering.

We Need Specific Experience and Skills (hands-on or advice):

- Social media communications
- Design or layout of print media across all platforms
- Promotions, Marketing, and Audience development
- Funding Development (investments, sponsor and donor cultivation, grant applications)

We Need General Assistance:

- KYO Board Member (a commitment of 2-3 hrs/month)
- KYO Committee Member (Finance & Fund Development, Human Resources, Promotions & Communications)
(please specify): _____
- Assist KYO staff and Board with KYO activities (Masterclasses, Workshops)
- Assist with Outreach and fundraising events ('Soup'er Symphony, silent auction, golf tournament, garage sale)
- Concert fundraisers (bake sales, raffle)
- Concert receptions
- Concert technical assistance (transporting equipment, stage, sound, audio/visual)
- Occasional rehearsal chaperone
- Regular rehearsal chaperone
- Write thank you cards (penmanship)
- Other (please specify): _____



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OUR ORGANIZATION VISION

In the heart of the Kawarthas, our diverse KYO community challenges and inspires young people to embrace music learning and performance, be confident, and shape a better world.

OUR ORGANIZATION MISSION

We inspire our musicians and our instructors to develop and cultivate a love for music and to share their music and passion with the community.

CORE 4 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Be Inclusive

We believe in the universality of music, in its ability to cut across all social circumstances, cultures, and languages, to translate all emotions, to be made by all and enjoyed by all. Music fosters friendships and transcends barriers. Through the dedicated initiative of volunteers and staff, and the generosity of patrons and sponsors, we strive to ensure every local aspiring young musician has access to an instrument, sheet music, and instruction.

Be Open

We encourage musicians to be open to new challenges, open to being vulnerable, and open to failing forward. We want to build resilience and inspire pride in our musicians, and we ground our teaching and coaching practices, and performance opportunities in the power of believing that each person can improve.

Be Collaborative

We believe in the importance of cooperative learning structures and activities that get our musicians to play and perform together. Whether through dialogue, team building, rehearsals, or authentic performance projects like public and outreach concerts, our musicians learn how to listen deeply and respectfully, appreciate diversity, and communicate using their genuine voices and the music within them. Orchestra musicians and UPBEAT participants take advantage of opportunities to engage and collaborate with local community partners and world-class performers. Our passion for multiple genres of music is a joy we share with our broader community.



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Be Passionate

We want our members to be life-long musicians, to have the instrumental and music appreciation skills to be enthusiastic, imaginative, engaged Arts supporters and citizens of the world. We believe this starts with passion. Passion for the music that expresses the deep meaning of being human. Passion for actions that build toward personal and community excellence. Passion for the well-being of others is behaviour that is reinforced in the KYO. Our programs teach musicians what it means to be more mindful and help cultivate a practice of being present. In lessons, sectionals, and rehearsal, and through special performance events, KYO musicians learn about the importance of building a more sustainable world.

The Orchestras Program Vision

Providing outstanding orchestral music experiences for local children and youth.

The Orchestras Program Mission

To ensure the experience of performing orchestral music is accessible for all young musicians in the City of Peterborough and surrounding area, providing them with the opportunity to learn symphonic music and perform in an orchestral ensemble, and to nurture and celebrate the self-actualization of each musician.



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Our Organizational Profile

Founded in 2002 by visionary community members, the KYO has become an institution of music education and performance excellence for youth in the Greater Peterborough community. The KYO is a charitable not-for-profit community-focused organization managed by an operational Board of Directors with membership drawn from across Peterborough County and includes parents, professional musicians, and working and retired business people and professionals.

Moving into its 18th season, the KYO is a beacon of growth and inspiration within the local performance arts community. The organization includes a beginner ensemble – the Farm Team, and two youth symphonies – the non-auditioned Junior Kawartha Youth Orchestra (JKYO) and the auditioned ‘senior’ ensemble the Kawartha Youth Orchestra (KYO). The combined membership is approximately 60 youth musicians and growing. Music Director and KYO Conductor Michael Newnham and JKYO Conductor Marilyn Croteau Chalk, with the assistance of Recruitment, Education & Outreach Coordinator, Ann Millen, and eighteen instrument coaches are the backbone of our program leadership team. They are joined by a cadre of adult musician mentors who play alongside youth musicians offering guidance and confidence as necessary.

Our performance season runs September through May/June and includes three main public concerts, educational outreach concerts, community outreach concerts at residential and business venues, participation in the Peterborough Kiwanis Music Festival, and public master classes and workshops.

The usual expense of running the KYO is the equivalent of \$2,500 per musician per year. Annual membership fees account for almost 25% of our operating costs. Fees are universally subsidized to ensure affordability. Even so, over 80% of our membership receives an additional level of bursary to assist with fees, lessons, and instrument maintenance costs. The KYO is made possible through provincial, municipal and foundation grants, as well as corporate and individual donations. Annual fundraising initiatives also help to ensure the financial health of the organization. Musicians’ families play a significant role in the support of the KYO throughout the year, and the Board of Directors welcomes your interest and inquiries for ways to become involved. Chaperone assistance is required for all rehearsals, concerts and events. Concert production always requires strong bodies and large vans. Silent auctions and the Gilmour Street Sale, main fundraising events, coincide with fall and spring concerts; donations of product and volunteer time are always most welcome.



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Our Strategic Direction

The Kawartha Youth Orchestra is growing. Our visionary leadership is enthused about new opportunities to support this growth. We are exploring avenues for programming and community partnership and engagement that will place the Kawartha Youth Orchestra at the forefront of the Peterborough region music and arts community.

Our vision for programming is outward-looking and community-inclusive. Supporting school music and arts programs, the KYO is designing, developing, and providing accessible music education opportunities. We are actively building an instrument-lending library. We are pursuing financial partnerships and relations that help to subsidize membership fees, sponsor music lessons and attendance at specialized music camps, underwrite instrument maintenance and repairs, fund guest artists and clinicians, and support operational costs. We are building collaborative relationships with community organizations, service providers, and arts professionals to ensure that access to music learning, performance, and enjoyment is available to all. Our conductors work in the area high schools as guest instructors in music classes, effectively offering students insight to genres of music and composition which lie outside the usual school band repertoire. Our masterclasses and music workshops are open to the public. Clinicians and facilitators are drawn from top orchestras and universities; bringing them to Peterborough offers the local amateur and professional music community remarkable access to world class talent.

As a response to the particular demographic character of Peterborough, the KYO is spearheading UPBEAT - an initiative to deliver a music education program to promote community and social justice for children facing cycles of poverty in the City of Peterborough. Our desire is to enrich the life of children in our community by giving them voice, passion, and joy through the common language of music. Our goal is to establish a fully-funded child-centred after-school social program in Peterborough. This music focused program will be offered to low income and new Canadian children aged 6-10 years of age. Funding by the Ontario Trillium Foundation has been received to launch UPBEAT in September 2021. Meanwhile, the UPBEAT Executive Management Team is working in the background to ensure all operational logistics are in place to welcome local children.

A greater emphasis on outreach and connectivity with regional culture groups and traditionally under-served populations inspires new avenues of KYO programming. We are currently evaluating and redesigning the companion Teacher Resource for our annual outreach concerts Orchestra Alive! The remodeled curriculum resource will offer classroom and homeschool educators engaging lesson plans, music enrichment activities, and a resource catalogue that highlights Canadian and contemporary contributions to composing, conducting, and music performance. The KYO is building relationships with local musicians and performance groups,



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especially those that emphasize a distinct ethnic or cultural tradition, or focus on a different but complementary musical genre. Our hope is to explore the dynamic interface of new cross-cultural music composition and performance. This will help to expand the KYO musical skill set and to publicly promote a new Canadian repertoire of orchestral music while encouraging a new audience for symphonic music. Opportunities for performing new commissioned works, concerts which highlight guest performers, and music workshops with guest performers and clinicians, are all avenues for extending our outreach.

The collective need for a dedicated community performance and arts facility in Peterborough is a current and ongoing concern for the KYO. Our organization recognizes our role in collaborating with community partners to proactively secure a home for the arts within Peterborough; one which is financially accessible to user groups, fiscally sustainable, and offers activity, rehearsal, and performance spaces necessary to meet the needs of our growing community. Members of our Board of Directors are busy laying the preliminary groundwork for a collective arts community response to this imposing gap in our community infrastructure.

Most importantly, the KYO recognizes its potential as a catalyst for effective positive community change and development. Together, through accessible music, the KYO and collaborative partners can craft strong nurturing inclusive community. Show your interest in and support for our community's young musical talent through your encouragement and advocacy, donations of time and talent, financial sponsorships and your donations, and by attending KYO events and concerts throughout the year.



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Orchestra Etiquette

Sectionals/Rehearsals & Performances:

- To gain the most from your orchestra make a strong commitment to attend all sectionals and rehearsals.
- Arrive at least 15 minutes early to be ready to begin on time.
- Bring your instrument and your sheet music.
- Keep a pencil on your music stand to write down bowings and instructions.
- Be sure you can clearly see the conductor, your section leader and the concert master.
- Work on listening both to your own part as well as to what is going on around you.
- Be silent if the coach or conductor is talking or rehearsing other sections and you're not playing.
- Performance dress is black on bottom and white on top.
- If you can't attend sectional or rehearsal, let your coach or conductor know in advance.

Tuning:

- First the winds will be given a Concert A to which to tune, then the strings.
- Begin by quietly tuning your Concert A until everyone has done so, and then proceed to tune the rest of your instrument.
- When you are done tuning sit quietly until all others are finished.

Stand Partners (strings only):

- Check with your stand partner that you are both sitting comfortably to see the music.
- The person on the inside (farthest from the conductor) of the stand usually turns the pages of the music.
- If a part is written divisi, the person on the outside plays the top part while the person on the inside plays the bottom.

Independent Practice:

- To gain the most from orchestra rehearsals, practice independently each day.
- Count carefully and use a metronome.
- It is helpful to listen to a recording of the piece while you follow along with your music before rehearsal.



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Being a part of the orchestra family:

- Be encouraging if a musician makes a mistake, and avoid reacting with sudden movement or sound.
- Attend KYO masterclasses to support your fellow musicians who are performing.
- Play with confidence and don't be ashamed if you make a mistake. No one is perfect and sectionals/rehearsals are exactly the time to address difficulties.
- Put away all electronics.
- Pitch in and help out – every musician should know where to find music stands and instruments, how to set up for sectional and rehearsal, and how to tidy up the rehearsal space at the end of our time playing together. Sharing the task makes it easier for everyone.

Last but not least, have fun!

If at any time you have questions or concerns,
please speak with any member of the coaching staff or Board of Directors.