



# PARTICIPATION CONTRACT 2023-2024

Congratulations on your successful audition and welcome to the ASYO!

## CONCERT ATTENDANCE POLICIES

ALL ASYO members are expected to perform, without exception, in all ASYO concert events. **Attendance at sound check and dress rehearsal is required!** Please see the rehearsal/concert schedule.

## 2023-2024 CALENDAR for ALL Ensembles

(Please note some events specify specific orchestras)

### **Sat, 9/9 - Kick off Day & Parent Orientation**

Mon, 9/11 •

Mon, 9/18 •

Mon, 9/25 # - Chamber Ens. Auditions - open to YP members

Mon, 10/2 - No Rehearsal

Mon, 10/9 •

Mon, 10/16 #

**Sun, 10/22 - Youth Phil & Concert Orchestra Retreat to APP State w/side-by-side performance @4:00pm**

Mon, 10/23 •

Mon, 10/30 - Bring a Friend Night/Fall Social

Mon, 11/6 #

Mon, 11/13 •

Mon, 11/20 #

Mon, 11/27 - Dress Rehearsal/Sound Check

**Mon, 12/4 - Winter/Holiday Concert @6:30pm**

**\*Sat, 12/11 - Winter Concert Snow Date**

Mon, 1/8 •

1/15 - No rehearsal

Mon, 1/22 #

Mon, 1/29 •

Mon, 2/5 #

Mon, 2/12 •

Mon, 2/19 #

Mon, 2/26 •

Mon, 3/4 #

Mon, 3/11 - Dress Rehearsal/Sound Check

**Mon, 3/18 - Mid- Winter Concert w/Noah Bendix Balgley @6:30pm**

Mon, 3/25 #

Mon, 4/1 - No Rehearsal

Mon, 4/8 • Sectionals for entire rehearsal - Concert/YP

Mon, 4/15 #

Mon, 4/22 - Dress Rehearsal/Sound Check #

**Mon, 4/29 - Spring Concert @6:30pm**

**Mon, 5/6 - # Honors Chamber Ensembles Concert @6:30pm**

**\*\*\*May 31-June 1-2 Spring Audition**

### **Additional Notes in addition to regular rehearsals:**

Sectionals •

Honors Chamber Ensembles receive coaching #

\*Denotes Snow Date

Divertimento, Sinfonia, & Concert Orchestras meet 5:00pm-6:30pm

Percussion Ensemble meets 5:00-8:45pm/dividing time between various ensembles

Youth Philharmonic Orchestra meets 6:45pm - 8:45pm

Small Chamber Ensembles meet 5:30pm-6:30pm

## CONCERT DRESS POLICY

Please note **REQUIRED concert dress for all performances is as follows:**

### YOUTH PHILHARMONIC & CONCERT ORCHESTRA

Musicians wear all black.

#### ***Top:***

- Solid black blouse ( $\frac{3}{4}$  length sleeves or longer) OR solid black dress shirt (long-sleeve, button-up, tucked in, with belt) OR solid black dress (at least ankle length and at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  length sleeves)
  - Please no patterns, sleeveless tops, or tank tops

#### ***Bottom:***

- Solid black pants or skirt (to ankle when seated)
  - Black socks or stockings
  - Black close-toed dress shoes
- Please no black jeans, open-toed shoes, or sneakers

### DIVERTIMENTO & SINFONIA ORCHESTRA

Musicians wear white on top and black on bottom.

#### ***Top:***

- solid white top ( $\frac{3}{4}$  length sleeves or longer)

#### ***Bottom:***

- Solid black pants or skirt (to ankle when seated)
  - Black socks or stockings
  - Black close-toed dress shoes
- Please no black jeans, open-toed shoes, or sneakers

## COVID POLICY

At this time, masks are optional, however we prefer you mask while indoors. ASYO reserves the right to enforce masking if our COVID numbers drastically spike or recommended by the CDC.

## PAYMENT POLICY

The total cost of tuition is \$500. This fee covers all expenses including rehearsals, concerts, masterclasses, artistic coaches, conductors, and a member T-shirt. The ASYO encourages ALL members to maintain membership in the ASYO and any school affiliated string/band program for the entire year. Both associations offer two different experiences that enhance the individual musician AND the entire group/ensemble. ASYO members are considered leaders in our community and having great investment in both the ASYO and a school music program is essential to the success of the musician.

### **ASYO Tuition Payment Schedule**

**\$150 Commitment Fee Due - August 1st \*all applicants**

**\$175 Payment 1 Due - September 9th**

**\$175 Payment 2 Due - October 7th**

**\*\*All payments must be made by October 9th; otherwise students will not be allowed to perform on the concert.**

## SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

All families are welcome to apply for assistance if needed. The Scholarship Google Form can be found on our website under ASYO or here: [ASYO Financial Assistance](#). Financial assistance will be granted/approved based upon various financial needs. Students who receive ASYO scholarships will be **required** to maintain membership for the duration of the season and maintain membership within their prospective school string/orchestra classes (when applicable). Students who receive scholarship funds will be asked to “volunteer” a few hours during weekly rehearsals and be present for all rehearsals/concerts for the season. Scholarship recipients will also be asked to share their experiences with donors and complete an end of year survey.

## COMMUNICATIONS

**Weekly emails** will be sent 1-2 days AFTER Monday night rehearsal. Please read the email as it will contain follow up information that will be important for the students to read and review. This email will be sent from [cmroop@ashevillesymphony.org](mailto:cmroop@ashevillesymphony.org).

For our **Monthly Newsletter**, please subscribe to:

<http://eepurl.com/hGB9ND>

This will be used to keep you informed of exciting endeavors of the ASYO!

## REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE POLICIES

Each of the three concerts performed annually by the ASYO ensembles is prepared in a cycle of fewer than ten rehearsals. Each rehearsal is a unique and unrepeatable step in preparing musicians for their upcoming concert. Absences detract not only from your preparation, but also from the experience of the other musicians and from the orchestra's ability to achieve its ultimate accuracy and artistry.

1. You (the orchestra member) are expected to attend ALL rehearsals in a given season.
2. You are allowed an absolute maximum of four (4) excused absences per year (September to May).
3. **Acceptable reasons for excused absences:**
  - a. **You must perform in a scheduled school concert**
  - b. **You must participate in an event that is a fixed part of your religious calendar**
  - c. **You are seriously ill (fever over 100)**
  - d. **Death of a family member**
4. If too many unexcused absences occur, your participation in the concert cycle is at the conductor's discretion.
5. **Look ahead in your calendar and plan for such events.** If you know you have a conflict, please let the ASYO General Manager, Cynthia Roop, know by filling out the Absence Request form, which can be found here: [ASYO Absence Request](#) and at the end of Mrs.Roop's emails.
6. **ABSOLUTELY NO ABSENCES ARE PERMITTED DURING CONCERT WEEKS.** Orchestra members who miss the dress rehearsal or the Monday rehearsal PRIOR to the concert may not be permitted to perform in the concert or continue in the program.
7. Students missing too many rehearsals or dropping out of the program does not constitute a tuition refund.
8. Having too much homework is NOT considered a valid reason for missing a rehearsal in any circumstance. We expect ASYO to be among your top priorities, and when you are absent, it is impossible to make up the work. In addition, your absence affects the whole orchestra. Plan ahead with regard to academic responsibilities.
9. In the event that there is inclement weather, you will receive an email that afternoon as to whether or not rehearsal is canceled.
10. For each rehearsal:
  - a. Arrive no later than 10 minutes before the start of any rehearsal. (In the music world, being on time is LATE. Being early is ON TIME!)

- b. **Bring your instrument (in good repair and ready to play), YOUR music, YOUR stand and pencil.**
- c. Take care of your space! You will be held accountable to care for the facilities at AHS..
- d. We would like to recommend you purchase a quality stand. The wire stands are less than ideal for rehearsals as they tend to fall easily and cannot accommodate music folders well. Two recommended brands include Peak music stands and Manhasset stands.

## PRACTICE POLICY

Rehearsal is not the time to learn your ASYO music. Rehearsal time will be used to work on ensemble, balance & blend, style, intonation, expression, technique, tone color, unity of purpose, and other aspects of orchestral performance. As an orchestra member, you are expected to do the following:

1. Arrive at the first rehearsal with a basic mastery of the music in your folder, having studied it with the assistance of your studio teacher.
2. Read and practice carefully from weekly practice notes, and stay up to date with current assigned tempos.
3. Obtain recordings of the works being rehearsed, listen to them, following and becoming familiar with individual parts in context of the work.
4. Practice EACH WEEK to incorporate what was rehearsed at the most recent rehearsal, and develop your technique according to weekly instructions.
5. Practice regularly with a metronome.
6. Perform part checks/seating auditions as scheduled (we anticipate 3 seating auditions plus additional part checks per year Youth Orchestra and informal part checks for Prelude and Chamber.)

In short, be prepared to learn and practice your music as soon as you receive it, and agree that you will continue to practice and refine your individual part over the course of the rehearsal cycle.

## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ALL STUDENTS

You are encouraged to conduct yourself in a manner that respects the rights of others, including your fellow orchestra members, the ASYO staff and guests. The following 12 rules are the ASYO Code of Conduct. Please read the following rules very carefully. Unless otherwise stated, breaking any rule listed below will result in expulsion from our program.

1. I agree to conduct myself in a manner that will be a credit to me, my community, my school, and my family. I will understand and follow any and all rules and regulations issued by the ASYO manager and staff and Asheville High School (AHS).
2. I will demonstrate cooperation and respect to ASYO staff, volunteers, AHS staff, and all visitors.
3. I will show respect for the rights, privacy and property of others. Harassment, bullying, or hazing of any nature will NOT be tolerated - unwelcome or unsolicited speech or conduct of all persons on campus regardless of their race, religion, color, creed, sex, national, sexual orientation or disability.
4. I understand that the use of cell phones, ipads, computers, tablets and other technology is strictly prohibited during all rehearsals, concerts and retreats.
5. I will not possess or use any alcohol, tobacco or drugs. I will not possess a weapon.
6. I will comply with the schedule of all ASYO functions, including events, meals, quiet hours, and curfews.
7. I will take personal responsibility for my property, instrument, stand, and music. I also take personal responsibility for the care and maintenance of AHS rehearsal and concert spaces. I agree to be respectful of all rehearsal spaces and the personal property of other students.

8. I understand that all facilities not used by ASYO are strictly off limits and that I am only allowed to be in the designated rehearsal space as determined by AHS. This includes the weekly rehearsal in the designated AHS classrooms, concerts in the auditorium and any other sectional work in other spaces that are TBD.
9. I agree to be responsible for my safety at all times. This includes traveling in groups of three or more during off campus activities such as retreats or trips.
10. I will support my fellow musicians and take responsibility for my actions.
11. I will care for my folder and music that is distributed to me during each concert cycle. Loss or damage of my folder beyond normal wear and tear will result in a \$20 fee. Any lost music will result in a \$4.00 charge per piece.
12. I understand that if I do not follow the rules, regulations and code of conduct, my parents will be contacted and I may be dismissed from the ASYO program without a tuition refund.

I have read, understand, and accept the ASYO Participation Contract and CODE OF CONDUCT for all students of the ASYO Program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Please keep on copy of this for yourself and return one signed copy to ASYO General Manager, Cindy Roop*

### ASO Contact Information

Asheville Symphony Office: 828-254-7046

**Asheville Symphony Staff**

Daniel Crupi - Executive Director  
 Sara Henley- Director of Development  
 Maddelyn Womack- Development Associate  
 Claire Allen -Marketing Manager & Creative Director  
 Alex Hill - Director of Marketing & Public Relations  
 Sally J. Keeney - Orchestra Manager  
 Cynthia Roop - ASYO General Manager  
 Sherry Blakely - Controller  
 Hannah Williams - Patron Services & Festival Manager  
 Matt Howe - Ticketing & Office Administrator  
 Michael DiTrollio - Principal Librarian