

Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon

CONTACT INFORMATION

For information about concerts, tickets, annual giving, concert program advertising, concert series partner opportunities, musician eligibility, expectations or auditions, please contact the YSSO organization:

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Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon

Connecting Hearts,
Hands, Minds &
Communities
Through
Music

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon is

“...a group where every person’s sound contributes to the music.”

(Youth Symphony Cellist)

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon believes...

- ▶ in the importance of music in the lives of citizens of all ages;
- ▶ music is an essential component of a comprehensive education;
- ▶ in the value of music in learning and achievement;
- ▶ in educational best practices and artistic excellence; and
- ▶ music must be available to all regardless of cultural, geographic or financial considerations.

builds and strengthens...

- ▶ music technique and performance skills;
- ▶ teamwork, listening and leadership skills;
- ▶ discipline, focus, empathy and respect;
- ▶ arts education programs and music opportunities;
- ▶ community partnerships and cultural networks; and
- ▶ access to affordable, high-quality cultural enrichment.





Founded in 1988, the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon (YSSO) provides exceptional performance experiences under the leadership of professional conductors and musicians and fosters lifelong appreciation of music and the arts. The YSSO organization has grown from one orchestra to a regional organization with multiple ensembles showcasing accomplished and aspiring young musicians from throughout southern Oregon and beyond. The concert season has expanded from three concerts by one ensemble to multi-performance concert series presented in the area's top professional venues as well as performances by the orchestras, chamber music groups and individual musicians in community settings.

Concerts include standard repertoire, orchestral favorites, masterworks, concerti, contemporary music, arrangements, opera literature, film and musical theater scores, and chamber music. The YSSO also commissions and premieres new works for orchestra. The organization has presented music by more than 125 composers including Brahms, Dvořák, Tchaikovsky, Beethoven, Villa Lobos, Beach, Mozart, Bernstein, Grieg, Mendelssohn, Verdi, Mahler, Adams, Hovhaness, Vaughan-Williams, Shostakovich, Jacobs, Williams, Higdon, Hensel and many others.

YSSO musicians have participated in masterclasses sponsored by the Chamber Music Concerts organization and played with the Rogue Valley Symphony. The Youth Symphony has performed at the Hult

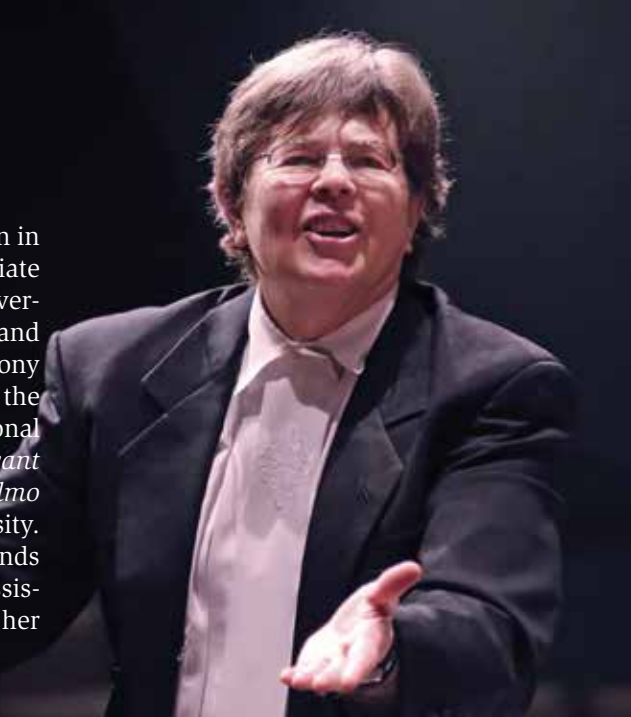
Center for the Performing Arts in Eugene as part of the Oregon Music Educators Conference and the YSSO organization has collaborated with Brava! Opera Theater and James M. Collier Young Artist Program. YSSO musicians have participated in Carnegie Hall's (Weill Institute) National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America. YSSO musicians are role models in schools and communities, and lifelong arts education advocates.

Music bridges the past and present and makes connections with other cultures and traditions. Music participation teaches people to listen and nurtures important life skills. Participation in a music ensemble helps develop empathy, motivation, discipline and self-confidence. Regardless of life or career paths, YSSO musicians will be better citizens having met the intellectual and technical challenges presented by each composer, and by mastering the music as a team. The YSSO organization increases access to high-level affordable cultural enrichment and augments programs in schools. The YSSO offers evidence of the instrumental value of music in learning and achievement and demonstrates how the arts contribute to the creative prosperity of communities.

Please support the extraordinary musicians of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon by attending the performances. Audiences are always delighted, amazed and impressed by the interpretive, technical and performance skills of the musicians, and their commitment to artistic excellence.

Music Director & Conductor

Music director and conductor Cynthia Hutton joined the organization in 1995. In addition to her work with the YSSO, Dr. Hutton is associate professor of music and director of bands at Southern Oregon University (SOU) where she teaches conducting, music theory, brass methods and instrumental music education. She is a member of the Rogue Valley Symphony and SOU Faculty Brass Quintet. She has served on the board of directors of the Oregon Music Educators Association and the College Band Directors National Association (Northwest Division). Dr. Hutton received the *Alteria M. Bryant Award* honoring women in the arts in 1993. She was awarded SOU's *Elmo Stevenson Presidential Award* in 2002 for outstanding service to the university. Prior to coming to southern Oregon, Dr. Hutton served as director of bands and horn instructor at the University of California, San Diego, and was assistant conductor of the La Jolla Civic University Orchestra. She received her doctorate in conducting from the University of Colorado (Boulder).



Annual Giving

The artistic success of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon is due to the dedication and hard work of the musicians and the professional musicians who guide them; however, it is the financial support of individuals, families, foundations, charitable funds and businesses that sustains the work of the organization and its programs and performances.

Annual gifts and contributions, concert series and season partners, and foundation/agency grants support concert venue and rehearsal facility fees, music, training, concert production and promotion, and general operations. Additionally, it is the policy of the YSSO organization that all qualified musicians may participate regardless of financial circumstances. Gifts from individuals combined with foundation support helps underwrite tuition waiver and lesson assistance. The YSSO typically extends financial assistance to 35–40 percent of the musicians every season.

Annual gifts and contributions from individuals generate 25 percent of the organization's annual revenue. Please consider investing in the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon by making a contribution or by giving a gift to honor a friend, family member, business colleague or

YSSO musician. Your gift will help the YSSO strengthen its financial position, maintain high standards and offer outstanding programming for young people, families and communities. Checks should be made payable to the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon. Donors are acknowledged in concert series programs and receive the YSSO organization newsletter.

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and contributions may be tax-deductible. Please consult a professional tax advisor for details. Please consider the impact the YSSO has on young musicians and its contribution to the success of the region's communities and give as generously as possible. All levels of giving have an impact on the mission and musicians of the YSSO organization.

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon organization is committed to thoughtful governance, artistic quality, fiscal integrity, community service, professional management and careful stewardship of resources.

Thank you.