

Bach
Vieuxtemps
Vivaldi
Händel
Mozart
Stamitz
Telemann
Purcell
Lully
Kummel
Haydn
Schubert
Rossini
Strauss
Brahms
Doorak
Tchaikovsky
Beethoven
Mendelssohn
Susato
Grieg
Sibelius
Dukas
Susato
Glière
Liszt
Kabalevsky
Prokofiev
Vaughan-Williams
Mahler
Stravinsky
Verdi
Bizet
Ravel
Bruch
Berlioz
Shostakovich
Saint-Saëns
Elgar
Wagner
Smetana
Bartok
Offenbach
Franch
Holst
Suppé
Barber
Rimsky-Korsakov
Copland
Bernstein
Gomez

*Hearts, Hands,
Minds and Music*



YOUTH SYMPHONY OF SOUTHERN OREGON

P.O. Box 4291 · Medford, OR 97501 · 541-858-8859 · info@yso.org · yso.org

Youth Symphony

of Southern Oregon

Mission and Goals

The mission of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon organization is to provide exceptional performance experiences under the leadership of professional conductors and music coaches and to foster a lifelong appreciation of classical music and the arts. The goals of the organization are to:

- ▶ provide access to high-quality music training and performance opportunities;
- ▶ develop music technique and performance skills;
- ▶ promote creative workforce and life skills such as teamwork, discipline and cooperation;
- ▶ work with professional musicians, arts organizations and cultural networks;
- ▶ supplement programs in schools;
- ▶ build audiences for classical music and provide cultural enrichment.

History & Overview

Meet the Conductors

Founded in 1988 by music educators and professional musicians, the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon (YSSO) organization's mission is to provide exceptional performance experiences under the leadership of professional conductors and music coaches and to foster a lifelong appreciation of classical music and the arts. The YSSO has grown from one ensemble to an organization with three orchestras under the leadership of a Music Director, professional conductors and music coaches, an Executive Director, an Orchestra Manager, a volunteer Governing Board and a cadre of volunteers. The season has expanded from three concerts by one ensemble to multi-performance Concert Series and special performances involving two full orchestras, a string ensemble, chamber music groups and individual musicians.

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Individuals, businesses and corporations, agencies and foundations provide funding for concerts, initiatives, education and outreach, training and operations. The YSSO organization is dedicated to artistic quality, fiscal integrity, community service, professional management, thoughtful governance and responsible stewardship of resources. The organization marks its *Silver Jubilee – 25th Anniversary Concert Season* in 2012–2013.

Musicians audition each year. Following auditions, musicians are placed in Youth Symphony (advanced), Youth Orchestra (intermediate) or Youth Strings (entry-level). Musicians begin weekly rehearsals in the fall and continue through the spring. Musicians work with the Music Director and Conductor of Youth Symphony and Youth Orchestra, or the Associate Conductor and Conductor of Youth Strings. The musicians also participate in mini-master class sessions guided by professional musicians. Concerts feature standard literature for orchestra, masterworks, contemporary music, works commissioned by the YSSO, arrangements for preparatory orchestra and string ensemble, and chamber music.

Concert Series performances are presented in professional venues in Medford, Ashland and Grants Pass. Community Outreach Concerts are presented at retirement communities and the season includes a Chamber Music Series and other special performances. The annual Concerto Competition offers eligible advanced Youth Symphony musicians an opportunity to complete to perform as soloists with *Youth Symphony*.

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon is a vital part of the Rogue Valley's vibrant cultural scene. The YSSO includes public, private and home-schooled musicians from Medford, Grants Pass, Jacksonville, Eagle Point, Central Point, Talent, Phoenix, Ashland and the surrounding area. YSSO organization musicians have participated in Britt Festival

events and performed in side-by-side performances with the Rogue Valley Symphony. In addition, the YSSO organization received the Arts Council of Southern Oregon's *Arts Education Award*. The Youth Symphony has performed at the Hult Center for the Performing Arts in Eugene as part of the Oregon Music Educators Conference.

Music engages hearts, hands and minds and bridges the past and present. Music participation teaches people to listen and collaborate, and develops motivation, discipline and self-confidence. The YSSO organization increases access to affordable cultural enrichment and augments programs in schools. YSSO musicians provide evidence of music's intrinsic and instrumental value and the concerts offer the gift of classical music to people of all ages. YSSO musicians, regardless of life or career paths, will be better citizens through their interaction with each other and by mastering and interpreting the challenging music as a team.

Please join the accomplished young musicians of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon at the outstanding performances featuring works by Brahms, Dvořák, Tchaikovsky, Beethoven, Rossini, Mozart, Strauss, Grieg, Mendelssohn, Verdi, Mahler, Vaughan-Williams, Shostakovich, Saint-Saëns, Jacobs, Higdon and many others.

See you at the performances!

Cynthia Hutton

Music Director & Conductor

Cynthia Hutton has served as YSSO Music Director and Conductor of Youth Symphony and Youth Orchestra since 1995. In addition to her work with the YSSO, Dr. Hutton is Associate Professor of Music and Director of Bands at Southern Oregon University where she teaches conducting, music



theory, brass methods and instrumental music education. She is a member of the Rogue Valley Symphony Orchestra and the SOU Faculty Brass Quintet. Dr. Hutton has served on the board of directors for both 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 at Boulder.

Faina Podolnaya

Associate Conductor

Faina Podolnaya, Associate Conductor, joined the YSSO organization in 2000–2001. She leads Youth Strings. Upon completion of her studies in violin performance and teaching at the Soviet Conservatory of Music she accepted a teaching position at Kazakhstan's most prestigious music academy where she worked privately with students, lectured and coached ensembles preparing for competitions and concerts. She has received numerous awards, including the Soviet Union's *Teacher of the Year*. Ms. Podolnaya maintains a thriving private studio for violin and viola.



Although the artistic success of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon is due to the dedication of the young musicians and the professional musicians who guide them, it is the financial support of individuals, businesses and foundations that sustains training and performance opportunities, as well as high-quality affordable concerts for the public.

Annual Giving

Funding from individuals, businesses, foundations and agencies underwrites concert venue and rehearsal facility fees, music rental, music coach fees, concert materials, staff and operations. Although nominal tuition is charged, it is the policy of the YSSO organization that all qualified musicians may participate regardless of financial circumstances. Funding from individuals combined with foundation support helps underwrite tuition waivers and lesson assistance.

Annual gifts and contributions generate approximately 20 percent of the YSSO organization's annual revenue. Please consider investing in the work of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon by becoming a member of the *Friends of the YSSO* or by giving a gift membership in honor of a friend or colleague. Gifts of any level make a difference. Donors are acknowledged in Concert Series programs and receive a 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. Gifts may be sent to the YSSO organization by mail or may be made at any concert. Please consider the impact the YSSO has on the life of each musician and the contribution the YSSO makes to the cultural life of the region and give as generously as possible. A gift of any size makes a difference.

Thank you.

For information about concerts, tickets, annual giving, concert program advertising, concert partner opportunities, corporate or business support or audition procedures, please contact the YSSO organization or visit www.yssso.org

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