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*Youth*  
Symphony  
of Southern Oregon  
2011 - 2012  
Handbook

## *Welcome to the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon.*

The 2011-2012 concert season will be another exciting year for the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon (YSSO) organization, the YSSO's twenty-fourth year of presenting extraordinary performances of classical music for Rogue Valley audiences.

The YSSO organization's governing board, staff and volunteers, as well as audience members throughout the region look forward to another season of wonderful performances by the musicians in Youth Symphony and Youth Orchestra, under the leadership of YSSO Music Director Cynthia Hutton, and the musicians in Youth Strings, guided by YSSO Associate Conductor Faina Podolnaya.

This handbook provides information about YSSO expectations, policies, requirements, procedures and programs, and general information about the organization. Please familiarize yourself with the information included in the handbook and in other YSSO materials. Information also is available online ([yesso.org](http://yesso.org)).

*Thank you for your interest in the mission,  
programs, initiatives and performances  
of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon.*

# *Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon*

## 2011-2012 Handbook

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P.O. Box 4291  
 Medford, Oregon 97501  
 541-858-8859  
 yssso@mind.net  
 www.yssso.org



## **Values**

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon (YSSO) organization believes classical music enriches the community and that music instruction is an essential component of a comprehensive education. The YSSO believes that the study and practice of music has intrinsic and instrumental value and the development of skills must be nurtured through best practices and high-quality resources. The YSSO believes that music and music education must be available to all without regard for cultural or geographic considerations or economic status. The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon seeks to inspire community support for classical music and to promote its value through public performances and music education programs. Governance of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon is characterized by integrity and honesty. The YSSO operates under the highest ethical, performance and professional standards.

## **Mission & Goals**

*The mission of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon is to offer young musicians high-quality training and performance opportunities under the leadership of professional musicians and to foster an understanding and lifelong appreciation of classical music and the arts.*

The goals of the YSSO organization are to:

- offer music classical music performance opportunities to young musicians;
- ensure access to music resources and training for young people;
- supplement programs in schools and communities;
- work with professional musicians and cultural organizations; and to
- build audiences for classical music and serve as a cultural resource for the region.

## **History**

### **1988**

Musicians, music teachers and parents founded the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon. The first season included three concerts in Ashland with a total audience attendance of 650. The 1988-1989 season marked the YSSO's first concert season.

### **1991**

Youth Orchestra (preparatory ensemble for intermediate level musicians) was formed.

### **1995**

Cynthia Hutton, D.M.A., became YSSO Music Director and Conductor of Youth Symphony and Youth Orchestra. The concert season expanded to include performances in Grants Pass and Medford.

### **1998**

Youth Strings, an entry-level string ensemble, was created.

### **2000**

Faina Podolnaya became Associate Conductor of the YSSO and Conductor of Youth Strings.

### **2000**

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon received the Arts Council of Southern Oregon's *Arts Education Award*.

The season expanded to include three multi-performance Concert Series (Fall, Winter, Spring), Community Outreach Concerts at the Rogue Valley Manor and an annual Concerto Competition.

### **2005**

Sharon Wilson joined the staff as Executive Director.

### **2006**

The YSSO board established an Endowment Partners Fund through the Oregon Community Foundation.

### **2007-2008**

The YSSO celebrated its twentieth season of concerts.

### **2010-2011**

The Youth Symphony performed at the Hult Center for the Performing Arts in Eugene as part of the Oregon Music Educators Association state conference.

### **2011-2012**

Ryan Johnson joined the staff as Orchestra Manager

### **2012-2013**

The organization will celebrate its *Silver Anniversary Season* with special activities and events, music and performances next season.

## ***Revenue & Support***

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon (YSSO) organization generates revenue for operations through annual gifts and contributions from individuals, foundation and agency grants, tuition and fees, ticket and merchandise sales, fund raising events, Concert Series program advertising and Concert Series partner (sponsor) support. Although corporate and private foundations, agencies and governments may award financial assistance to the YSSO through competitive grant programs, this type of funding typically is restricted to specific initiatives, such as Scholarship Assistance, Sectional Rehearsals, Chamber Music Series, Community Outreach Concerts, etc. The YSSO needs the ongoing support of individuals and businesses throughout the region to help sustain its programs and opportunities for young people and the public. The YSSO is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Annual gifts or contributions from individuals may be tax-deductible. Please consult a professional tax advisor for more information.

## ***Eligibility***

Musicians in the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon:

- are selected and placed in an ensemble through an annual audition process;
- are eligible to participate from age 6 through age 23;
- must devote personal time to preparing YSSO music outside of rehearsals;
- must attend all rehearsals and be seated, warmed up and ready to play 5 minutes before rehearsal begins;
- must understand and abide by all YSSO policies, including rehearsal and concert attendance, safety/supervision, behavior, concert dress, call times, etc.; and
- participate in school music programs, if available.

## **2011-2012 Tuition**

Tuition for 2011-2012 is \$275 for Youth Symphony, \$250 for Youth Orchestra and \$225 for Youth Strings. All musicians will be required to pay a \$25 registration fee beginning this season. Tuition and fees are non-refundable.

All qualified musicians may participate regardless of financial circumstances. *Scholarships* for full (excluding the \$25 registration fee) or partial tuition waivers and/or lesson assistance are available to current YSSO musicians upon submission of the appropriate and completed *Scholarship* application form. Musicians must be a current participant in the YSSO to be eligible. Lesson assistance may be used by current YSSO musicians to help defray the cost of private lessons provided by an established, teaching professional. Lesson assistance is limited to a maximum of \$75 for each of the three YSSO terms. Contact the YSSO Executive Director (yso@mind.net or 541-858-8859) for information about *Scholarships*. To obtain a current tuition *Scholarship* application form contact the YSSO or visit: yso.org

### ***Fall Extended Rehearsals*** (Retreats)

#### ***Youth Strings, Youth Orchestra & Youth Symphony Extended Rehearsals***

Due to the 2011 Labor Day holiday weekend, YSSO auditions, scheduling issues and the date of the first YSSO rehearsals, all extended rehearsals (retreats) have been suspended this year.

### ***Policies, Requirements & Expectations***

Participation in the YSSO organization requires dedication, enthusiasm and a commitment to the mission of the organization. If participants are not committed to the YSSO, the music, rehearsals, concerts and music colleagues, the levels of artistic quality, teamwork and learning will suffer. YSSO musicians must understand and comply with:

- rehearsal, concert and event arrival and call-times;
- attendance requirements for all rehearsals, retreats, sectionals, warm-up and concerts;
- one-week advance notification and approval by the Conductor for any absence (including rehearsals, retreats, sectionals, warm-up or concerts);
- immediate notification by musicians or their parents of illness or other emergency (musicians or parents must call the Conductor, contact the YSSO office (yso@mind.net), and keep in mind that after an excused absence, a musician may be asked to play his/her part for the Conductor);
- appropriate conduct and behavior at all times;
- required concert dress;
- school music program participation;
- safety/supervision policies of the YSSO and rehearsal and concert facility policies, and
- all other policies, expectations and requirements of the YSSO.

YSSO musicians are expected to respect other musicians, concert patrons, the staff and governing board of the YSSO and volunteers, as well as personal, public and private property, and facilities.

## ***Attendance***

Attendance at all rehearsals, extended rehearsals/retreats and concerts is mandatory. Musicians must contact the conductor of his/her ensemble and the YSSO office one week in advance to request approval for an absence. See the policy section for other attendance information.

Youth Symphony and Youth Orchestra musicians or parents must contact Cynthia Hutton (541-552-6546, 541-488-8471, hutton@sou.edu) to inform her of rehearsal or concert conflicts, issues or for assistance. Youth Strings parents must contact Faina Podolnaya (541-482-3780) to notify her of rehearsal or concert conflicts, issues or for assistance. Send a copy of all e-mails to the YSSO at least two days prior to the absence. Please note, no one is in the YSSO office on the weekend.

## ***Communication***

The YSSO communicates each week with musicians and families via e-mail. Those who do not have e-mail access should listen for announcements and watch for signs posted at rehearsals or call the office for information. Musicians are expected to check e-mail messages throughout the week for information about rehearsals and concerts, as well as reminders about policies or special events.

Please contact the YSSO office via e-mail immediately if the contact information provided on a registration form(s) has changed, especially e-mail addresses. Musicians and families may visit the YSSO web site (yso.org/) to read or download rehearsal schedules, concert information, weekly reminders, announcements, updates and policy information.

## ***Concert Dress Requirements***

There is a required dress code for each YSSO ensemble. Each ensemble is expected to present a unified appearance.

Musicians in violation of the dress code will be instructed to contact a parent to ask for appropriate concert dress prior to concert time or may be required to wear concert dress provided by the YSSO. The musician may receive written communication concerning non-compliance with this YSSO policy. If a musician is not in compliance with the dress code by the next concert, he/she will not be allowed to perform with the ensemble and may be expelled from the YSSO. Musicians who may not be able to find or purchase appropriate concert dress should contact the YSSO (yso@mind.net or 541-858-8859).

### ***Youth Symphony***

### ***Women***

#### ***All Black***

- *Ankle length* black skirt, black dress pants or long-sleeve (wrist length or  $\frac{3}{4}$  length sleeve) dress
- Black dress blouse, preferably long-sleeve (wrist length or  $\frac{3}{4}$  length sleeve)
- Black nylons, tights or black socks
- Black dress shoes
- Minimal or no jewelry

**No sequins, rhinestones, pins, hats or other decorative items or accessories will be allowed. No sleeveless, short sleeve, strapless, spaghetti strap, halter or backless dresses or blouses, short skirts or skirts with side slits higher than the knee, jeans, hip-hugger pants, crop pants, low-cut tops or dresses will be permitted on stage. Musicians who are not in compliance will be asked to contact parents to provide appropriate concert dress prior to concert time. If it is not possible to provide appropriate concert dress, the musician may not be allowed to perform or may be required to wear concert attire provided by the YSSO.**

***Youth Symphony***

***Men***

- Black Suit
- White dress shirt
- Black bow tie
- Black socks
- Black dress shoes

**No t-shirts, jeans, cords or cargo pants, flip-flops, tennis shoes, hats, head bands, scarves will be permitted on stage. Musicians who are not in compliance will be asked to contact parents to provide appropriate concert dress prior to concert time. If it is not possible to provide appropriate concert dress, the musician may not be allowed to perform or may be required to wear concert attire provided by the YSSO.**

***Youth Orchestra & Youth Strings***

***Women***

***White and Black***

- Ankle length black skirt or black dress pants
- White blouse, preferably long-sleeve (wrist length or minimum  $\frac{3}{4}$  length sleeve)
- Black nylons, tights or black socks
- Black dress shoes
- Minimal or no jewelry

**No sequins, rhinestones, pins, hats or other decorative items or other accessories will be allowed. No sleeveless, short sleeve, strapless, spaghetti strap, halter or backless dresses or blouses, short skirts or skirts with side slits higher than the knee, jeans, hip-hugger pants, crop pants, low-cut tops or dresses will be permitted on stage. Musicians who are not in compliance will be asked to contact parents to provide appropriate concert dress prior to concert time. If it is not possible to provide appropriate concert dress, the musician may not be allowed to perform or may be required to wear concert attire provided by the YSSO.**

***Youth Orchestra & Youth Strings***

***Men***

- Black dress pants
- White long-sleeved dress shirt
- Long black tie
- Black socks
- Black dress shoes

**No t-shirts, jeans, cords or cargo pants, flip-flops, tennis shoes, hats, head bands, scarves will be permitted on stage. Musicians who are not in compliance will be asked to contact parents to provide appropriate concert dress prior to concert time. If it is not possible to provide appropriate concert dress, the musician may not be allowed to perform or may be required to wear concert attire provided by the YSSO.**

## ***Music & Music Folios/Folders***

Youth Symphony and Youth Orchestra musicians receive an assigned music folio/folder at the first rehearsal of the season. The music and music folders/folios are costly and each Youth Orchestra and Youth Symphony musician is expected to keep his/her folio/folder and music in good condition.

Music folios/folders and music parts are turned in at the conclusion of the final concert of each Concert Series. Music for the next Concert Series will be placed in each folder/folio. If the folder/folio is not turned in, the musician will not receive music for the next Concert Series.

The assigned music folio/folder (and Spring Concert Series music) must be returned to the Orchestra Manager at the final concert of the season.

**Music and/or music folders that are not turned in at the final concert must be delivered to the YSSO office. YSSO musicians will be charged for missing, damaged or lost folios/folders and music.**

## ***Safety & Supervision***

*Parents are responsible for their children at all times.*

All venues and facilities used by the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon for rehearsals, concerts and events, including North Medford High School, SOU Music Building & Recital Hall, Craterian Ginger Rogers Theater, Grants Pass Performing Arts Center, Parkway Christian Center, Rogue Valley Manor, Historic First Presbyterian Church, First Congregational United Church of Christ, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and all other venues are busy facilities that host and present multiple events and activities throughout the year. Each facility has established rules and regulations governing the use of the building and property. All YSSO personnel and families must respect and follow these regulations and rules, as well as all YSSO policies and expectations.

The following will ensure the safety, comfort and proper conduct of YSSO musicians:

- Parents are responsible for ensuring that YSSO musicians arrive on time and are picked up immediately following each rehearsal or concert;
- YSSO musicians are to be in the designated rehearsal or warm-up/waiting area at each site 15 minutes before the call time. Please refer to and review the YSSO's written materials and e-mail reminders for locations and call-times for each ensemble;
- YSSO musicians will not be allowed to wander or run in the hallways, remain backstage during any part of a concert or remain in the lobby during a performance. Noise will not be tolerated;
- YSSO musicians will remain in the designated warm-up/waiting area(s) prior to and following pre-concert rehearsals and during portions of the performance in which they are not involved unless seated in the audience;

- YSSO musicians in Youth Strings and Youth Orchestra and any other musicians under the age of 16 will not be allowed to leave the concert venue while a YSSO performance is underway unless they are accompanied by a parent/guardian or supervising adult;
- YSSO musicians are to use the buddy system when using restrooms and then return to the designated warm-up/waiting area immediately;
- The YSSO strongly recommends that parents or guardians come into the lobby following the concert to pick up a child or children. The YSSO suggests that musicians waiting for parents or guardians following a concert remain in the venue lobby rather than waiting outside;
- YSSO musicians may not take food or drinks into rehearsal rooms;
- Food/drinks may be permitted in the warm-up rooms at concert venues prior to the concert *depending on the policies of each venue*;
- A first aid kit is available for minor injuries. In an emergency a YSSO board member will call 911.

YSSO musicians who do not comply with YSSO policies, requirements and expectations or those of the rehearsal/concert venues may be suspended from performing in one or more of the concerts.

## ***School Music Program***

It is the policy of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon (YSSO) organization governing board that each YSSO musician shall participate in her/his school music program, if available. YSSO training and performance opportunities are intended to supplement school music programs (including band, orchestra, chamber orchestra, jazz band, music theory and history courses/classes, general or special music classes and choral music ensembles) rather than supplant music programs. YSSO musicians are expected to be enrolled in a school music class or ensemble for the school year.

To ensure compliance with YSSO board policy, the YSSO asks for verification of whether each YSSO musician is enrolled in the school's music program for the year. If a musician is unable to participate in any music class/ensemble due to a conflict, a parent must write a letter to the YSSO documenting the conflict. The letter should be attached to and submitted with a completed School Music Program Participation form. A school administrator must sign the form to indicate that he/she has been apprised of the conflict described in the letter from the parent. The letter will be reviewed and considered by the YSSO board to determine if the board will grant a waiver of the YSSO policy.

All musicians must provide the YSSO with a completed form. If a signed form is not provided to the YSSO, the musician will be on probation and may not be able to participate in the organization. There is a deadline by which the completed form must be provided to the YSSO office each year. Please turn in the form at registration or mail it to the YSSO office. Please do not expect a conductor or member of the governing board, volunteer or another YSSO musician to turn in this form.

## ***Sectional Rehearsals***

All Youth Orchestra and Youth Symphony musicians are expected to attend both regular full-ensemble and sectional rehearsals. Sectional rehearsals are in addition to full-ensemble rehearsals. Consult the schedule for sectional dates and times. Musicians must be prepared to bring a labeled music stand for sectional rehearsals..

## ***Parent Orientation Sessions & Registration***

The YSSO holds Parent Orientation Sessions on the day of the first rehearsal of the season. Parents and guardians have an opportunity to meet other parents, conductors, YSSO staff and board members, and become acquainted with the organization. All registration forms must be turned in and payments are due at this time. The Orientation Sessions are concurrent with rehearsals. YSSO staff and board members discuss policies, expectations and requirements, volunteer opportunities, fund raising and other plans. Youth Strings and Youth Orchestra parents meet from 1:00 to 1:45 p.m. and Youth Symphony parents meet from 3:00-3:45 p.m.

### ***Parent Expectations***

As members of a YSSO ensemble, the musicians have opportunities for growth and development as musicians. In addition, participation in the YSSO offers opportunities to build lifelong and career skills, including teamwork, discipline, respect, leadership, motivation and self-confidence. Parents can support the growth and development of the musicians, as well as the mission of the YSSO by:

- understanding the professional conductor(s) and music coaches provide musical guidance and critique to the musicians;
- avoiding any actions that create pressure on the young musician(s); and by
- ensuring that young people understand that all musicians are members of a team.

Parents should attend the concerts throughout the year, and demonstrate enthusiasm and respect for the YSSO by ensuring compliance with all policies, including attendance, call times, dress code, music/music folders, safety/supervision, behavior/conduct, etc.

### ***Concert Series Tickets***

Each current YSSO family may receive two (2) complimentary tickets to each Concert Series performance in Medford and Grants Pass. Complimentary tickets will be available for pick-up at the two Sunday rehearsals prior to each Concert Series. Additional tickets may be purchased as well. Remaining tickets will be made available for sale to the general public.

### ***Volunteer Opportunities***

The YSSO organization asks all parents/families to assist with at least two volunteer duties per season *in addition to* providing refreshments for rehearsals. Parents will have an opportunity to sign up for specific duties and dates at the Parent Orientation Sessions & Registration on October 2, 2011. Volunteer opportunities include concert logistics, weekly refreshments, ticket sales/box office, ushering, extended rehearsals, special events and other important duties.

### ***Annual Giving: Friends of the YSSO***

Contributions and annual gifts from individuals generate 20-25 percent of the YSSO's annual revenue. This year's goal is \$32,200. Please renew or upgrade your membership, become a new member or give a gift membership in honor of a friend, family member or colleague today!

Director's Circle	\$10,000	Conductor's Circle	\$1,000	Sponsor	\$100
Composer's Circle	\$5,000	Benefactor	\$500	Contributor	\$50
Musician's Circle	\$2,000	Patron	\$250	Associate	\$25

Although annual tuition is charged, it is the policy of the YSSO organization that all qualified musicians may participate regardless of financial circumstances. Contributions from individuals help underwrite tuition waiver *Scholarships*, as well as venue fees, music rental or purchase, insurance, conductor and music coach fees, publicity and other general operating costs. *Friends of the YSSO* are acknowledged in Concert Series programs and members in good standing receive a newsletter. The YSSO is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and contributions may be tax-deductible. Please consult a professional tax advisor. Annual gifts may be sent to: YSSO, P.O. Box 4291, Medford, OR 97501.

An Annual Membership Meeting is held in the spring. This meeting is for members in good standing of the *Friends of the YSSO* and includes reports on fund raising, events and a brief business meeting.

## ***Rehearsal & Concert Schedule***

Please refer to the rehearsal and concert schedule online (yso.org) for the most up-to-date schedule or contact the YSSO (yso@mind.net or 541-858-8859) to request a copy of the current schedule. Watch for e-mail alerts or visit the web site for schedule updates throughout the year.

## ***Newsletter***

The YSSO produces a newsletter twice each year. Newsletters are a benefit of membership in the *Friends of the YSSO*. Parents of current YSSO musicians also receive the newsletter. The newsletter features information about events, concerts and activities. Generally, the winter-spring issue includes profiles of graduating seniors.

## ***Roster of Musicians***

A roster of YSSO musicians is available upon request to current YSSO musicians and families. It is intended for internal use by the musicians and families involved in the YSSO. The list is in a digital format (PDF). It can be provided to YSSO families via e-mail. The roster is updated throughout the year. Participants and families are asked to contact the YSSO directly to update contact information. New/updated contact information may be sent to the YSSO by e-mail.

## ***Chamber Music Series*** *(optional, by application and selection)*

The Chamber Music Series provides an opportunity for advanced YSSO musicians to learn and perform chamber music. The YSSO Music Director selects musicians and forms the ensembles. Musicians are assigned to an ensemble based upon technical proficiency, level of musical development, and the number and structure of the ensembles. It may not be possible to accommodate all interested and qualified musicians. Musicians selected to participate receive assignments in October. Musicians are expected to know their parts and rehearse at least twice with their ensemble in addition to attending coached rehearsals. Some ensembles may be asked to perform at other venues so musicians should be prepared to schedule additional rehearsals and learn new repertoire. 2011 Chamber Music Series concert dates/locations follow:

2:00 p.m., December 10, 2011  
Historic First Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville

2:00 p.m., December 11, 2011  
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ashland

## ***Community Outreach Concerts***

Each YSSO ensemble, several YSSO chamber music groups and musicians perform at the Rogue Valley Manor each season.

2011-2012 Community Outreach Concerts:

7:00 p.m., November 3, 2011 (Youth Strings & Youth Orchestra)

7:00 p.m., February 9, 2012 (some of the Chamber Music Series ensembles)

7:00 p.m., May 3, 2012 (Youth Symphony)

Check the schedule and listen for announcements and updates at rehearsals about which ensemble(s) will perform on the dates listed above.

## ***Concerto Competition***

The annual Concerto Competition for strings and winds will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, January 30, 2012. The Concerto Competition is open to current eligible advanced-level Youth Symphony musicians and it is optional. The winner(s) will perform a concerto or movements from a concerto with the Youth Symphony on an upcoming Concert Series.

Please read the eligibility criteria before submitting a form. This form must be accompanied by a check payable to the YSSO in the amount of \$25.00. The Concerto Competition fee is non-fundable. The fee will help defray a small portion of the venue rental costs and adjudicator fees.

***The deadline to submit the completed Intent to Participate form is November 1, 2011.***

## ***Concert, Rehearsal & Event Sites***

### ***Ashland First Congregational United Church of Christ***

717 Siskiyou Boulevard, Ashland

### ***Ashland Middle School***

100 Walker Avenue, Ashland

### ***Carpenter Hall - Oregon Shakespeare Festival***

15 South Pioneer Street, Ashland

### ***Craterian Ginger Rogers Theater***

23 South Central, Medford

From Ashland: Take Barnett Road, Exit 27, off I-5. Turn left on Barnett Road, right on Riverside, left on Main Street and left onto Central Avenue.

From Grants Pass: Take Highway 62, Exit 30, off I-5. Turn right at the light on the overpass. Follow the street through Medford. It will become Central Avenue. The Craterian is on the corner of Main and Central Streets.

### ***Girl Scouts of Winema Council***

2001 North Keene Way Drive, Medford

### ***Grants Pass High School Performing Arts Center***

830 N.E. Ninth Street, Grants Pass

Take the South Grants Pass Exit off I-5 and proceed west. Turn right on Beacon Street. Turn left on "A" Street, right on Ninth Street and left on Josephine Street. The Performing Arts Center is on the quad.

### ***Grizzly Peak Winery***

1600 East Nevada Street, Ashland

541-482-5700

### ***Historic First Presbyterian Church***

405 East California Street (corner of 6th and California Streets)

Jacksonville

899-1287

### ***Mountain Meadows Retirement Community***

857 Mountain Meadows Drive, Ashland

### ***North Medford High School***

1900 North Keene Way Drive, Medford

*Take Exit 30, Crater Lake Highway Exit, off I-5*

From Grants Pass: Right (south) on Crater Lake Highway (62), which turns into Court/Central; past the Rogue Valley Mall, turn left on McAndrews Road; left on Crater Lake Avenue; right on

Brookhurst Street

From Ashland: Turn right on Biddle Road, left on McAndrews Road, left on Crater Lake Avenue, then right on Brookhurst Street.

***Parkway Christian Center***

229 NE Beacon Drive, Grants Pass

***Rogue Valley Manor***

1200 Mira Mar Avenue, Medford

*Watch for Signs at the New Exits and Interchange off I-5.* Turn east onto Barnett Road. Turn right at Black Oak Drive, right on Mira Mar Avenue and follow the signs to the Manor. Please be aware of the new interchange and traffic patterns, and watch for signs directing traffic to Barnett Road. Parking at the Manor may be restricted due to ongoing construction and renovation activities.

***Old South Medford High School***

815 Oakdale Avenue, Medford

Take the Barnett Road, Exit 27 off I-5. Turn west (toward downtown Medford) on Barnett Road and continue through the Highway 99 (Pacific Highway) light. Barnett Road ends in the South Medford High School parking area.

***Southern Oregon University***

South Mountain Avenue, Ashland

*Take North Ashland Exit 19, off I-5.* Turn west on Valley View Road, toward Ashland, left at Highway 99 and proceed through downtown Ashland. Turn right off Siskiyou Boulevard at South Mountain Avenue. The music building is on the left, across the street from the large parking lot at the corner of Henry Street and South Mountain Avenue. Please watch for signs concerning parking restrictions.

## ***Staff: Biographical & Contact Information***

### **Cynthia Hutton, Music Director & Conductor**

Cynthia Hutton has served as YSSO Music Director and Conductor of the Youth Symphony and Youth Orchestra since 1995. 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 and the SOU Faculty Brass Quintet. Dr. Hutton 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 at Boulder.

Cynthia Hutton, *Music Director & Conductor*  
1303 Mill Pond Road  
Ashland, OR 97520  
541-552-6546 (o)

### **Faina Podolnaya, Associate Conductor**

Faina Podolnaya joined the YSSO as Associate Conductor in 2000. 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. Faina has been the recipient of numerous awards, including her selection as the Soviet Union's *Teacher of the Year*. She maintains a thriving private studio for violin and viola. She has led Siskiyou Violins, an ensemble of students from her private studio, in performances in New York City and Los Angeles, at local events, and at state and national conferences.

Faina Podolnaya, *Youth Strings Conductor*  
363 Meadow Drive  
Ashland, OR 97520  
541-482-3780

## **Sharon Wilson, Executive Director**

Prior to joining the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon organization in 2005, Sharon Wilson was a grants officer, publications/web site director and arts education liaison for the Virginia Commission for the Arts for more than 16 years. She also was general manager of a public radio station in San Antonio, Texas. She has served on the boards of arts organizations and arts education associations in Oregon, Texas and Virginia, including the Opera Guild of San Antonio, Friends of the San Antonio Festival, the Classical Broadcasting Society of San Antonio, the Virginia Alliance for Arts Education, the Virginia Art Education Association and others. She has served on grant review panels for state arts commissions and cultural trusts in Kentucky, West Virginia, Louisiana and Oregon, and has been a presenter and panelist at state and regional conferences, including the 2010 Oregon Nonprofit Leaders Conference. Sharon is a recipient of the Virginia Art Education Association's *Distinguished Service Award*. She performed in chamber music recitals in Oregon, Texas, Washington, Idaho and Virginia and has performed major roles in opera, operetta and musical theatre. She is a graduate of the University of Oregon.

Sharon Wilson, *Executive Director*  
Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon  
P.O. Box 4291  
Medford, OR 97501-0163  
541-858-8859 (o)  
yesso@mind.net  
www.yesso.org

## **Ryan Johnson, Orchestra Manager**

Ryan Johnson, a graduate of Southern Oregon University (SOU), joined the staff as orchestra manager in August 2011. Ryan had worked with the YSSO organization as a stage manager and currently serves as stage manager for the Rogue Valley Symphony. He is pursuing a graduate degree in music and teaching at SOU.

Ryan Johnson, *Orchestra Manager*  
Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon  
P.O. Box 4291  
Medford, OR 97501-0163  
541-858-8859 (o)  
yesso@mind.net

## ***Governance & Leadership: 2011-2012 Governing Board***

**Yoon-Jae Barchet**  
Ashland

**Dale Hardt**  
Ashland

**Alan Bergstrom**  
Ashland

**Lana Haynes**  
Grants Pass

**Jolene Buccino, *Vice-President***  
Ashland

**Peter Linington, *Treasurer***  
Ashland

**Cedric Buckingham**  
Medford

**Kate Moore, *President***  
Medford

**Anna Dunlap, *Past-President***  
Medford

**Frank Phillips**  
Medford

**Sarah Epstein, *Vice-President***  
Ashland

**Ilana Rubenfeld**  
Ashland

**Paul O. Finwall**  
Ashland

**Marilyn Versteeg, *Secretary***  
Grants Pass

## ***Local Instrumental Music Presenting Organizations***

All musicians benefit from attending performances by professional musicians and ensembles. Performing arts organizations may offer discounted student tickets or allow students to attend rehearsals free of charge. Please contact each organization and inquire about tickets, access to rehearsals or other opportunities for young musicians.

### ***Britt Festivals***

Britt Festivals  
P.O. Box 1124  
216 West Main Street  
Medford, OR 97501  
541-779-0847  
541-773-6077 (box office)  
800-882-7488 (box office)  
[www.brittfest.org](http://www.brittfest.org)  
[www.brittfest.org/chamberstrings.htm](http://www.brittfest.org/chamberstrings.htm)

### ***Chamber Music Concerts***

SOU Chamber Music Concerts offers an outstanding series of performances by noted chamber music ensembles. CMC also offers opportunities to participate in and attend master classes from time-to-time. Concerts are held in the Music Recital Hall at Southern Oregon University. Please call 541-552-6154 or visit: [www.chambermusicconcerts.org/](http://www.chambermusicconcerts.org/) for information about tickets and availability.

SOU Chamber Music Concerts  
541-552-6154  
[Director@ChamberMusicConcerts.org](mailto:Director@ChamberMusicConcerts.org)

### ***Jefferson Baroque Orchestra***

Jefferson Baroque Orchestra  
541-592-2681  
[www.jeffersonbaroque.org/](http://www.jeffersonbaroque.org/)  
[info@jeffersonbaroque.org](mailto:info@jeffersonbaroque.org)

### ***Jefferson Guitar Society***

[info@JeffersonGuitar.org](mailto:info@JeffersonGuitar.org)  
[www.jeffersonguitar.org/](http://www.jeffersonguitar.org/)

## ***Rogue Valley Symphony***

The Rogue Valley Symphony (RVS) supplements music programs with field trips and school assemblies, and it offers opportunities for families to experience live orchestral music at concerts. To learn about RVS Discovery Concerts, Chamber Players Classroom Demonstrations, A Day of Music or Connecting with the Classics (the free Student Ticket Voucher Program allowing a student and accompanying adult to attend RVS concerts), please visit: [www.rvsymphony.org](http://www.rvsymphony.org)

Rogue Valley Symphony  
1250 Siskiyou Boulevard  
Ashland, Oregon 97520  
Tickets: 541-552-6398  
Office: 541-552-6354  
[office@rvsymphony.org](mailto:office@rvsymphony.org)

## ***Rogue Valley Symphonic Band***

Rogue Valley Symphonic Band  
[www.roguevalleysymphonicband.org/](http://www.roguevalleysymphonicband.org/)

## ***Southern Oregon Concert Band***

Southern Oregon Concert Band  
[www.socband.org/](http://www.socband.org/)

## ***SOU Music Department Recital Hall Events***

Southern Oregon University Department of Music  
1250 Siskiyou Boulevard  
Ashland OR 97520  
541-552-6101  
[www.sou.edu/music/recital\\_hall.html](http://www.sou.edu/music/recital_hall.html)