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2015-16 Handbook

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Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Congratulations on your acceptance and welcome to the 67th season of Michigan Youth Ensembles! As always, our faculty and staff were extremely impressed by the quality of your auditions, and we are all looking forward to launching a new year of great music making.

As we look ahead to the 2015-16 season, please take a few moments to note some important information:

- This handbook contains all of the information you will need for the season, including policies, important dates, concert dress, rehearsal etiquette, and frequently asked questions. It will also serve as a reference for many questions you may have throughout the season – please be sure to keep it throughout the year!

- Your tuition invoice was sent to you in your acceptance e-mail. Please visit your personal link, review your invoice, and pay the tuition balance before your first rehearsal. Students who have not paid their tuition balance before their first rehearsal will not receive their music and materials at check-in.

- The first rehearsal for Chamber Singers, Jazz Improvisation, Symphony Orchestra, Symphonic Band and Musicianship courses will take place on September 20. Women’s Chorale will begin on September 27. There will be a check-in for you to pick up your music before your first rehearsal. Please see the website for current Chamber Ensemble Schedules.

- During the course of the season, we regularly send updates and announcements over e-mail. All e-mail addresses on file are taken directly from your online application. If you would like to add or update an e-mail address, please e-mail our office at michyouthensembles@umich.edu.

Thank you again for your participation in this program; we look forward to making music with you!

All the best,

Sarah J. Rau
Program Manager, Arts Education

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You’re Invited!
Michigan Youth Ensembles
2015-16 Meet and Greet

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to attend a short session where you will meet the MYE faculty, managers, and staff. All family members are welcome to attend. Please note, Meet and Greets for the chamber ensembles will be during their first scheduled rehearsal. Schedule is as follows:

**Symphonic Band Meet and Greet**
Sunday, September 20, 2014: 3:15-3:45 PM
Moore Building, McIntosh Theatre

**Jazz Improvisation Meet and Greet**
Sunday, September 20, 2014: 4:00-4:30 PM
Moore Building, Room 2058

** Symphony Orchestra Meet and Greet**
Sunday, September 27, 2014: 12:30-1:00 PM
Moore Building, Britton Recital Hall

**Chamber Singers Meet and Greet**
Sunday, September 20, 2014: 1:00-1:30 PM
Walgreen Drama Center, Stamps Auditorium

**Women’s Chorale Meet and Greet**
Sunday, September 27, 2014: 1:00-1:30 PM
Walgreen Drama Center, Stamps Auditorium
Chamber Singers (MYCS)
Biweekly Sundays, 1:30-4:00 PM; Walgreen Drama Center, Stamps Auditorium

iMpact! Percussion Ensemble (PERC)*
Sundays, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM; Moore Building Kevreson Rehearsal Hall

Jazz Improvisation Ensemble (MYJI)
Sundays, 1:30-3:30 PM; Moore Building Room 2058

Musicianship Courses (MYMC)
Level I: 11:10 AM - 12:00 PM; Moore Building Room 2026
Level II: 12:10-1:00 PM; Moore Building Room 2026

MYSB Woodwind Quintet (WWQ)*
Time TBD; Moore Building Room 2032

MYSO String Quartet (SQ)*
Time TBD; Moore Building Room 3056

Symphony Orchestra (MYSO)
Sundays, 1:15-3:45 PM; Moore Building Kevreson Rehearsal Hall

Symphonic Band (MYSB)
Sundays, 4:00-6:30 PM; Moore Building Kevreson Rehearsal Hall

Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble (YETE)*
Thursdays, 6:00-8:00 PM; Moore Building Room 2044

Women’s Chorale (MYWC)
Biweekly Sundays, 1:30-4:00 PM; Walgreen Drama Center, Stamps Auditorium

“The Michigan Youth Ensembles is a community of musicians just as ambitious about music as I am. I strongly encourage aspiring musicians to give MYE a try.” - Kevin, MYSB
Large Ensemble Season Calendar
Michigan Youth Ensembles 2015-16 Season

September 2015
September 20  MYSO Rehearsal, MYSB, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals, Meet and Greet
September 27  MYWC, MYSO Rehearsals, Meet and Greet
MYSB, MYJI Rehearsals

October 2015
October 4       MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals
October 11     MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals
October 18     MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals
October 25     MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals
October 30     UMS Discounted Performance,
               Tenebrae 8:00 PM

November 2015
November 1     MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals
November 8     MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals
November 15    MYCS, MYJI, and MYWC Dress Rehearsals/Concert
               MYSB and MYSO Dress Rehearsals
November 16    MYSB and MYSO Concert

December 2015
Enjoy your month off. Happy Holidays!

January 2016
January 10    MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals Resume
January 11    UMS Discounted Performance,
               Royal Philharmonic 7:30 PM
January 17    MYSB, MYSO, MYJI Rehearsals
               MYCS Rehearsals Resume
January 20    UMS Discounted Performance,
               Jazz at Lincoln Center 7:30 PM
January 24    MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals
January 31    MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals

February 2016
February 7    MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals
February 14   MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals
February 21   MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals
February 28   U-M Spring Break: No MYE Rehearsals

March 2016
March 6       MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals
March 13      MYCS, MYWC and MYJI Dress Rehearsals/Concert
               MYSB and MYSO Dress Rehearsals
March 14      MYSB and MYSO Concert

April 2016
April 1       2015-16 MYE Applications Due
April 19-21   2015-16 MYE Auditions
Tuition & Scholarships
Michigan Youth Ensembles
2015-16 Season

$285: large ensemble tuition
$185: chamber music ensemble or musicianship course tuition
$427.50: tuition for any two of the above
$25: vocal music purchasing fee

All students must pay their tuition balance in full before their first MYE rehearsal. Tuition may be paid by credit card, or by check/money order payable to University of Michigan.

A limited number of need-based awards are available. To apply for financial assistance, submit a copy of your family’s most recent tax return, with the Social Security Number blacked out. Feel free to provide any additional documentation that describes your extenuating circumstances such as proof of unemployment, an AFDC medical card, or a statement of need from a high school counselor. Please mail all materials to: Michigan Youth Ensembles; 2230 Moore Building; 1100 Baits Drive; Ann Arbor, MI 48109 or e-mail michyouthensembles@umich.edu.

Attendance Policy
Michigan Youth Ensembles
2015-16 Season

Commitment to the Michigan Youth Ensembles is for both Fall and Winter semesters (full academic year). Michigan Youth Ensembles members are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances.

All absences (excused and unexcused) must be reported. Absences may be excused in case of illness, family emergency, inclement weather, or conflict with any academic or school music function. Absences for extracurricular activities, such as school musicals, forensic teams, sports, etc. are unexcused. Students with more than one unexcused absence per semester may be prohibited from participating in that semester’s performance. All unexcused absences will be reviewed by ensemble directors on a case-by-case basis.

MYE rehearsals may be cancelled in case of inclement weather. If MYE rehearsals are cancelled, an e-mail will go out to students and parents by 10:00 AM on the day of the rehearsal. If you do not receive an e-mail before 10:00 AM, rehearsals will still take place.

To ensure the quality of our ensembles, students may not miss an excessive number of rehearsals. Students in instrumental ensembles who miss three or more rehearsals (excused or otherwise) in a semester, or students in vocal ensembles who miss two or more rehearsals in a semester may be prohibited from participating in that semester’s performance. All excessive absences will be reviewed by ensemble directors on a case-by-case basis.

All dress rehearsals for Michigan Youth Ensemble performances are mandatory. Students who miss a dress rehearsal for any reason may be prohibited from participating in the performance.

To report a planned absence, complete the MYE Absence Form, found on the “Resources” page of the MYE website. Please submit all forms at least one week before the planned date of absence.

To report a day-of absence, complete and submit the online form OR call the MYE office at (734) 763-1279. If leaving a voicemail, please include the student’s name, instrument or voice type, and ensemble(s).
Concert Dress
Michigan Youth Ensembles
2015-16 Season

Ladies: Instrumental
Black blouse
Black pants or skirt (all skirts must fall at or below the knees)
Black hose or socks
Black shoes

Ladies: Vocal
Long sleeved black blouse with collar
Floor length black skirt
Black hose
Black shoes

All Gentlemen
White dress shirt
Black suit or tuxedo
Black bow tie
Black socks
Black shoes

Recordings

All cameras and recording equipment are strictly prohibited during MYE concerts. Due to copyright and licensing laws, we are unable to provide or sell any digital or hard-copy recordings of any MYE performances. We do, however, offer streaming audio of recent MYE concerts, available at the following link:

http://www.music.umich.edu/special_programs/youth/mye/media.htm

Please allow some time after each concert for the recordings to become available.

Valuables
Michigan Youth Ensembles
2015-16 Season

Keep your valuables with you. The University of Michigan assumes no responsibility for stolen or damaged personal property.
Rehearsal Etiquette
Michigan Youth Ensembles
2015-16 Season

- Arrive at rehearsals with plenty of time to set up, warm up, and review your music.
- Always bring a pencil to rehearsal! When a conductor gives you any information, be sure to mark it so that he does not have to repeat him/herself at a later time.
- Do not use your cell phone during rehearsal. If you must bring a cell phone, turn it off when you come into the rehearsal hall.
- When a conductor gives you a cut off, stop playing/singing promptly and listen for instructions. This is an important time to receive rehearsal feedback, rather than talking to those around you.
- Please refrain from wearing any strong perfumes or colognes to rehearsals.
- If someone has a solo, do not look at him/her – remain looking forward. Having people turn around to look at you can be very distracting!
- While you are warming up for rehearsal, play/sing your own ensemble parts only. This is not the time to practice your solo repertoire, anyone else’s parts, etc.
- When you go on break, do not leave your instrument in any precarious position.
- Practice your music at home! Rehearsals are intended for you to learn how your individual part fits into the piece as a whole. If you know your music in advance you will be able to fully participate in the ensemble rehearsal.

“MYSO has had such a positive influence on the musician I’ve become during my high school career! Thanks for keeping me practicing!” - Lizzie, MYSO
“Working with top-notch experts and with other students who loved music as much as I did, all while being on the beautiful University of Michigan campus, made this an incredibly positive and enriching experience which I will never forget.” - Caroline, MYWC

Group Ticket Offers
Michigan Youth Ensembles
2015-16 Season

Michigan Youth Ensembles is partnering with UMS to provide MYE students and families discounted tickets to professional performing arts experiences. The following performances are available to MYE students at a discounted rate:

- Oct. 30: Tenebrae (Chamber Chorus), 8:00PM at St. Francis of Assisi. Adult tickets receive a 25% discount, and student tickets are available for $12
- Jan. 11: Royal Philharmonic (Orchestra), 7:30PM at Hill Auditorium. Adult tickets receive a 25% discount, and student tickets are available for $12 or $20
- Jan. 20: Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis (Jazz), 7:30PM at Hill Auditorium. Adult tickets receive a 15% discount, and student tickets are available for $12 or $20

New for this year, You may purchase tickets for these events online, in person, or over the phone. The promo code to access these discounted ticket prices is: MYE.

In-person: Michigan League Ticket Office, 911 N University, Ann Arbor. Please mention this promo code first when you are ordering, as it is essential for seating and pricing.

Phone: Call (734) 764-2538 to order by phone. Please mention this promo code first when you are ordering, as it is essential for seating and pricing. Phone orders will be held for pick up at will-call or in advance at the Michigan League Ticket Office. Student(s) need to be present with student ID (for students who have student ID) for ticket pick up.

Online: Go to www.ums.org. Select any of the MYE/UMS discounted events, and click the ‘Buy tickets’ button on the right side of the page. Enter the promo code (MYE) in the promo box (upper right) and click ‘submit’. You will choose your seats, and indicate the number of student/adult ticket(s). You may choose to pick up your tickets in advance at the Michigan League Ticket Office, have your tickets mailed, or held for pick up at will-call. Student(s) need to be present with student ID (for students who have a student ID) for ticket pick up.
Open Studio
Michigan Youth Ensembles
2015-16 Season

Open Studio is a program designed to connect MYE students to SMTD applied faculty. Participating faculty members designate specific studio classes as open studio dates, allowing MYE students to observe.

Attending studio class allows MYE students to experience the teaching style of U-M faculty by seeing them with their own students. It also encourages interaction with and modeling from current U-M students, many of whom are MYE managers or sectional coaches.

In 2015-16, the studios participating in this program are oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn, and percussion. Open Studio information for those professors is below:

Flute
• Mondays from 4:40-6:30 PM. Sterns Cady Room (2005 Baits Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48109)

Oboe
• Mondays from 4:40-6:15 PM. Moore classroom 1370

Clarinet
• Mondays from 4:30-6:30 PM. Moore classrooms 1374 and 1378

Tuba
• October 7th - 4:30-6:30 PM Moore Britton Recital Hall
• October 21st - 4:30-6:30 PM Moore Britton Recital Hall
• March 30th - 4:30-6:30 PM Moore Britton Recital Hall

Percussion
• Wednesdays from 4:40-6:30 in Moore Hankinson Rehearsal Hall

“Knowing I get to go to MYE rehearsal always brightens my homework-packed Sunday!”
- Anne, MYWC
Auditions

Q: Is it possible to audition for more than one ensemble? Is it possible to participate in more than one ensemble?

A: Yes. Students may audition for as many ensembles as they would like with no increase to the $45 application/audition fee. Students may also participate in as many ensembles as they are accepted into, as long as there is no conflict in the rehearsal time of the ensembles. (For example, students may participate in MYJI and MYSB, but not MYJI and MYSO, which rehearse at the same time.)

Q: Do I need to have my own instrument to audition for and participate in the Michigan Youth Ensembles?

A: Yes. You do need your own instrument to audition for MYE. The only exception to this is percussionists, who must only have their own sticks, mallets, and/or brushes. If you request or are assigned to play an auxiliary instrument (i.e. piccolo, Eb or bass clarinet, english horn, etc.), you and/or your school must provide the instrument. We are happy to help facilitate this in any way.

Q: Is there a difference in placement opportunity for students who audition in September, as opposed to April?

A: No. Students are encouraged to audition in April so that they have our schedule in advance and can plan accordingly. However, if a student is unable to audition in April or is new to the area in the fall, we do not penalize students in any way for auditioning in September. The MYE office makes a concerted effort – keeping rubrics, sightreading, and adjudicators consistent between auditions – to rate the students auditioning in September and April consistently.

Tuition/Scholarships

Q: I would like to participate in MYE, but cannot afford the full tuition. Are there need-based scholarships available?

A: Yes. A limited number of need-based awards are available. To apply for financial assistance, submit a copy of your family’s signed most recent tax return. Feel free to provide any additional documentation that describes your extenuating circumstances such as proof of unemployment, an AFDC medical card, or a statement of need from a high school counselor. Please mail or e-mail all materials to: Michigan Youth Ensembles; 2230 Moore Building; 1100 Baits Drive; Ann Arbor, MI 48109 or michyouthensembles@umich.edu.

Q: If I participate in more than one ensemble, do I need to pay double the tuition?

A: No. Participation in one ensemble incurs a $285 tuition fee. Any additional ensembles are billed at a discounted rate of $142.50.

Concerts

Q: I need to miss the dress rehearsal before one of the MYE concerts. What should I do?

A: All MYE dress rehearsals are mandatory. Students who miss a dress rehearsal for any reason may be prohibited from participating in the performance.

Q: Do I need to dress in concert dress for my dress rehearsal?

A: No.

Q: How can I obtain a recording of the concert?

A: All cameras and recording equipment are strictly prohibited during all MYE concerts. Due to licensing and copyright concerns, the YAP office does not sell recordings of concerts. However, streaming audio of the concerts will be posted after the performances. Streaming audio is available at the following link: http://www.music.umich.edu/special_programs/youth/mye/media.htm
**Participation**

Q: I have a weekend conflict in the fall or spring, but would still like to participate in the opposing semester of MYE. Is it possible to participate in only one semester? If so, is tuition reduced or refunded?

A: Commitment to MYE is year-long, throughout both fall and winter semesters. A student may withdraw at any point if necessary, but tuition is not refunded. In rare circumstances, a director may allow a student to join an ensemble after the beginning of the season, but tuition is not reduced.

Q: Is it necessary to be in an ensemble in order to take the Musicianship Course?

A: No. Any student may participate in the Musicianship Course alone. Students who participate in an ensemble may take the Musicianship Course at a discounted rate.

**Logistics**

Q: I’ve just been accepted into one of the Michigan Youth Ensembles! When will I get my music?

A: Congratulations! Music will be passed out at the first rehearsal.

Q: When will I know about my placement/seating within an ensemble?

A: Seating will be posted at the first rehearsal. Depending on your ensemble, you may be able to re-audition for seating throughout the year.

Q: How can I check to see if MYE rehearsals are cancelled because of inclement weather?

A: Any time there is a Travelers’ Advisory for the Ann Arbor area issued by the US Weather Bureau for the Ann Arbor area, MYE rehearsals may be cancelled. If rehearsal is cancelled, an e-mail will be circulated to all MYE members. When possible, we will make these decisions the night before the rehearsal. If there is a Travelers’ Advisory announced for any part of the route to rehearsal, any member will be excused regardless of whether rehearsal is cancelled.

**Other Opportunities**

Q: I currently play in the Michigan Youth Ensembles and am auditioning for the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance this spring. Are there any scholarship opportunities available for me?

A: Yes. All MYE seniors who are applying to the U-M SMTD for college as a music major are eligible to apply and audition for the Michigan Youth Ensembles scholarship.

Q: I would like to participate in any other available training programs by the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance. What is available for me?

A: In addition to the academic year-round Michigan Youth Ensembles program, the U-M SMTD offers the MPulse Summer Performing Arts Institutes to high school performers. A scholarship for MYE students auditioning for MPulse is available. For more information, visit the MPulse website at http://music.umich.edu/mpulse.

Q: I am interested in taking private music lessons. Do you have a list of U-M affiliated instructors?

A: String Players may audition to take lessons as part of the U-M SMTD String Preparatory Academy. Unfortunately, we do not keep any lists of U-M affiliated wind, brass, voice, or percussion instructors at this time.
“It is an amazing experience to be able to work with such high level professionals and kids your age that all share the same passion and drive to make beautiful music. Also, it’s amazing to find out there are other kids that would rather sing Schubert than Ke$ha.” -Sarah, MYCS/MYWC