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Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Congratulations again on your acceptance and welcome to the 65th 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 2013-14 school year, 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, absence forms, concert dress, rehearsal etiquette, and frequently asked questions. Please review it carefully, as many of our policies have been updated. The handbook 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 the due date of September 1. Students whose tuition balance is not paid before this date will not receive their music.

• The first rehearsal for Chamber Singers, Jazz Improvisation, Symphonic Band, and Symphony Orchestra will take place on September 22. Women's Chorale will begin on September 29. Music will be distributed at the first rehearsal. Please come prepared with your instrument and a pencil.

• During the course of the season, we regularly send updates and announcements over e-mail. All e-mail addresses on file are pulled 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 seeing you all on campus this fall!

All the best,

Sarah J. Rau
Program Manager, Arts Education

Sigal Hemy
Program Coordinator, Arts Education

You’re Invited!
Michigan Youth Ensembles
2013-14 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. The schedule is as follows:

Symphonic Band Meet and Greet
Sunday, September 22, 2013: 3:15-3:45 PM
Britton Recital Hall, Moore Building

Jazz Improvisation Meet and Greet
Sunday, September 22, 2013: 4:00-4:30 PM
Britton Recital Hall, Moore Building

Symphony Orchestra Meet and Greet
Sunday, September 29, 12:30-1:00 PM
Britton Recital Hall, Moore Building

Chamber Singers Meet and Greet
Sunday, September 22, 2013: 1:00-1:30 PM
Stamps Auditorium, Walgreen Drama Center

Women’s Chorale Meet and Greet
Sunday, September 29, 2013: 1:00-1:30 PM
Stamps Auditorium, Walgreen Drama Center
Michigan Youth Ensembles
Ensemble List and Schedules

All MYE Rehearsals take place on Sundays.
Chamber Singers and Women’s Chorale rehearse on alternating weeks.
See Important Dates for more information.

Instrumental Ensembles

Michigan Youth Symphony Orchestra (MYSO) 1:15-3:45 PM
Moore Building, Rehearsal Hall

Michigan Youth Jazz Improvisation (MYJI) 1:30-3:30 PM
Moore Building, Room 2058

Michigan Youth Symphonic Band (MYSB) 4:00-6:30 PM
Moore Building, Rehearsal Hall

Vocal Ensembles

Michigan Youth Chamber Singers (MYCS) 1:30-4:00 PM
Walgreens Drama Center, Stamps Auditorium

Michigan Youth Women’s Chorale (MYWC) 1:30-4:00 PM
Walgreens Drama Center, Stamps Auditorium

Chamber Music

Percussion Ensemble (PERC) Time TBD
Room TBD

Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble (YETE) 12:00-2:00 PM
Room TBD

Woodwind Quintet (WWQ) 2:45-3:45 PM
Moore Building, Room TBD

Musicianship Courses

Michigan Youth Musicianship Course (MYMC) Level I 11:10 AM-12:00 noon
Moore Building, Room 2026

Michigan Youth Musicianship Course (MYMC) Level II 12:10-1:00 PM
Moore Building, Room 2026

“I am so fortunate to have been in this program for three years. There is always something that makes me come back to MYE: the music, the conductor, facilities like Hill Auditorium, and friends. These are some experiences I will never forget.” - Jiwoon, Symphonic Band
### Important Dates (Sept - Jan)
**Michigan Youth Ensembles**
**2013-14 Season**

#### September 2013
- **September 22**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals, Meet and Greet
- **September 29**: MYWC Rehearsals Begin, MYSO/MYWC Meet and Greet
- **MYSB, MYSO, MYJI Rehearsals**

#### October 2013
- **October 6**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals
- **College Information Sessions**
- **October 13**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals
- **October 20**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals
- **October 27**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals

#### November 2013
- **November 3**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals
- **November 10**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals
- **November 16**: MYSO/MYSB Group Tickets to San Francisco Symphony
- **November 17**: MYCS, MYJI, and MYWC Dress Rehearsals/Concert
- **MYSB and MYSO Dress Rehearsals**
- **November 18**: MYSB and MYSO Concert

#### December 2013
- **December 1**: Applications for 2014-15 MYE Season Available
- **December 15**: Deadline for SMTD Scholarship Application

#### January 2014
- **January 19**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals Resume
- **January 26**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI Rehearsals
- **MYCS Rehearsals Resume**

### Important Dates (Feb - Jun)
**Michigan Youth Ensembles**
**2013-14 Season**

#### February 2014
- **February 2**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals
- **SMTD Scholarship Auditions**
- **February 9**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals
- **February 16**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals
- **MPulse Scholarship Applications Due**
- **February 23**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYCS Rehearsals

#### March 2014
- **March 2**: No MYE Rehearsals
- **March 9**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MYWC Rehearsals
- **MPulse MYE Scholarship Auditions**
- **March 16**: MYSB, MYSO, MYJI, MWCS Rehearsals
- **March 23**: MYWC, MYJI, and MYCS Dress Rehearsals
- **MYWC Concert with SMTD Concert Band**
- **MYWC and MYJI Concert**
- **March 24**: MYSO Concert
- **March 30**: MYJI Group Tickets to Jazz at Lincoln Center
- **March 31**: Applications for 2014-15 Season Due
- **MYCS dress rehearsal and concert with SMTD U Choir**

#### April 2014
- **April 3**: Audition times for 2014-15 Auditions Sent
- **April 4**: MYCS and MYWC Group Tickets to UMS Choral Union
- **April 10-13**: Auditions for 2014-15 MYE Season

#### May 2014

#### June 2014
- **June 1**: All Decisions for 2014-15 MYE Season Sent
Tuition Policy

2013-14 Ensemble Tuition and Fees
$250 annual tuition: participation in one ensemble
$375 annual tuition: participation in two ensembles
$20 music fee: vocal students only, participants keep music

2013-14 Musicianship Course Fee
$150 annual tuition: participation in MYMC only
$125 annual tuition: participation in MYMC with any ensemble

Students who audition in April must pay their tuition balance in full by September 1, 2013. Students who auditioned in September must pay their tuition by or on the first rehearsal. Tuition may be paid by credit card (preferred), or by check/money order payable to “Michigan Youth Ensembles.” Need-based scholarships are available; please see Scholarships.

If you are unable to make the MYE tuition payment by the given date, please contact the Michigan Youth Ensembles office by e-mailing michyouthensembles@umich.edu or calling (734) 763-1279. Students who have not paid their tuition balance and have not been in communication with the Youth & Adult Community Programs staff will not receive their music on the first rehearsal.

Scholarships

Need-Based Awards
A limited number of need-based awards are available. To apply for financial assistance, submit a copy of your family’s signed 2012 (or most recent) tax return by August 15. 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; 1281 Moore Building; 1100 Baits Drive; Ann Arbor, MI 48109 or michyouthensembles@umich.edu.

Merit Award Scholarships for MYE Participants
U-M-School of Music, Theatre & Dance: If applying to the U-M-SMTD for college admission as a music major, MYE high school seniors may audition for a merit award to be applied towards college tuition. More information will be provided in Fall Semester rehearsals.

MPulse: MYE members may audition for merit awards to MPulse Summer Performing Arts Institutes. More information will be provided in Winter Semester rehearsals.
Attendance Policy

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, performances, and required special events.

Absences may be excused in case of illness, family emergency, inclement weather, or conflict with any academic or musical school function. All absences (excused and unexcused) must be reported; see Reporting Absences below.

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. All dress rehearsal absences will be reviewed by ensemble directors on a case-by-case basis.

Reporting Absences

To report a planned absence:
1) Complete the MYE Absence Form, found on the “Resources” page of the website.
2) Submit the form online or print the form and submit it to an ensemble manager.

Please submit all forms at least one week before the planned date of absence.

To report an emergency absence:
1) Complete and submit the online form

OR

2) 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).
Rehearsal and Performance Etiquette

- 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.

Valuables

Keep your valuables with you. The University of Michigan assumes no responsibility for stolen or damaged personal property.

Recordings

All cameras and recording equipment are strictly prohibited during all 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://music.umich.edu/mye/concert.html

Please allow a few weeks after each concert for the recordings to become available.
Concert Dress

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

Gentlemen: Instrumental and Vocal
- White dress shirt
- Black suit or tuxedo
- Black bow tie
- Black socks
- Black shoes

“The excellent conductors make sure that the students all learn what it takes to perform difficult music at a high level, and the performance venues are world-class.”
- Jeremy, Symphony Orchestra
Frequently Asked Questions

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 2012 (or most recent) tax return by August 15. 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; 1281 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 $250 tuition fee. Any additional ensembles are billed at a discounted rate of $125.

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. Ensemble directors review these absences on a case-by-case basis, so you will need to speak with them directly in addition to turning in an absence form.

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://music.umich.edu/mye/concert.html
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, though we will make every effort to inform you of repertoire by e-mail in advance of that date.

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.

Q: Can I keep my music at the end of a semester?

A: Michigan Youth Chamber Singers and Women’s Chorale participants pay a $20 music fee at the beginning of each season, and may keep their music. Instrumentalists must turn their music in at the end of each concert.

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: Unfortunately, we do not keep any lists of U-M affiliated instructors at this time.
“My MYJI experience inspired me to pursue jazz in college. This program exposed me to new genres within the jazz idiom, while forging lasting friendships, and eliciting a sense of pride in my craft as a jazz musician.” - Hannah, Jazz Improvisation Ensemble