



# *STUDENT HANDBOOK*

*2026-2027*  
*SEASON*

780 S. Apollo Blvd STE. 218 | Melbourne, FL 32901 | 321.216.7804 | [www.bsyو.us](http://www.bsyو.us)

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# *WELCOME TO THE BREVARD SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA 2026-2027 SEASON*

This season the BSYO celebrates its 43rd season!

The mission of the BSYO is to cultivate excellence in young musicians through expanding school-based music education with diverse ensemble experiences, instruction by master teachers and professional teaching artists, and providing premier performance opportunities that enrich our musicians and inspire the community.

We have an exciting year planned, and we are so glad you will be a part of this celebration.

Our work together as an orchestra will add to your growth as a musician and create memorable performances for both you and our audiences.

At BSYO, we value:

- **Excellence** in striving towards the highest level of musical experience
- **Collaboration** between ensembles and with diverse groups in the community.
- **Creativity** in helping each child find their voice.
- **Engaging** the interest, energy, and minds of young musicians.
- **Inclusion** as we welcome young musicians of all cultures, ethnicities, experiences, gender identities, sexual orientations, and financial means.
- **Individual responsibility** as a cornerstone of personal youth development.
- Promoting **teamwork** as a function of orchestral success.
- **Support** for an environment which creates exceptional opportunities to teach and play music.

## **OUR GOALS...**

To offer access to high-level training and performance opportunities.

To develop technical, interpretive, listening, and performance skills.

To work with professional musicians and collaborate with other cultural organizations.

To complement and support the extraordinary efforts of our community's public and private music educators through collaboration with the Brevard Symphony Orchestra, its musicians, and conductor.

***This handbook will serve as your guide to a successful season.***

## ABOUT THE BSYO

The Brevard Symphony Youth Orchestra was formed following the successful implementation of the Itinerant Strings Program in the Brevard County Public Schools. The Brevard Public School Board in collaboration with the Brevard Symphony Orchestra and Brevard Community College (now Eastern Florida State College), recognizes the need for the most talented musicians to have the opportunity to learn orchestral repertoire under the direction of a master educator and conductor. In 1984, the BSYO was formed as a single symphonic orchestra under the direction of conductor William Bertsch. Since that time, BSYO has played host to many master musicians and educators.

Today, in its 42nd performing season, the BSYO boasts a membership of more than 150 students across four performing ensembles under an all star team of Conductors. Our talented young musicians range from grade 1st-12th representing forty public, private, and home schools.

A brief timeline shows our major achievements:

- 1994: Expansion to two groups, the Strings Orchestra and Symphony Orchestra
- 1999: Strings orchestra renamed Concert Orchestra and expanded to include winds and percussion.
- 2000: Development of a 3rd group, the String Ensemble, a training orchestra for young string students.
- 2003: pilot chamber ensemble program was launched
- 2006: creation of annual Concerto Competition and collaboration with the Brevard Children's Chorus
- 2007: development of sectional program with clinicians from BSO and Brevard Public Schools
- 2008: 25th Anniversary celebrated with 4 world premieres of original compositions & alumni play-along.
- 2009: innovative guest conductor residency to fill top orchestra conductor position
- 2011: Development of Music Mentors Program
- 2022: Addition of the Chamber Orchestra
- 2024: Merger with the Brevard Symphony Orchestra. 40th Anniversary Season.

In 2023-24, the BSYO celebrated its 40th Anniversary Season! Excitingly, the BSYO formally merged with the Brevard Symphony Orchestra in early 2024. This partnership presents various opportunities for our students to work in close proximity with professional musicians of the BSO, furthering our mission of providing top-tier musical experiences to students in Brevard. We continue to nurture this exciting relationship by building enhanced offerings for our students into the next season such as masterclasses, exclusive coaching, adjudicators, and guest lectures provided by BSO musicians. In addition to performing in our regular season concerts, the BSYO opened the Brevard Symphony Orchestra's *Musical Pictures* performances in March 2024. The students performed a commissioned work by talented composer, Laura Fleet Estes entitled *Celebrazione Sinfonia*, which showcased students from the youngest orchestra through the most advanced orchestra. Altogether, the concert featured over 130 students musicians on stage at the same time. In conjunction with this performance, the BSYO provided enrichment experiences for the Brevard Prevention Coalition's "I Choose Me" initiative, who presented their "I Choose Music" program on the same concert. We provided over 50 students from diverse backgrounds with musical games, fun crafts, and performing experiences as well as information about how to get involved with BSYO.

The BSYO is dedicated to providing dedicated young musicians with opportunities for personal and artistic growth through challenging rehearsal and performance experiences. In addition to making musical training available for young people, this vital arts organization serves the community by encouraging a greater understanding of and participation in orchestral music.

## WHO'S WHO IN THE BSYO

### **Director**

As Director, Rebecca Simons is responsible for all aspects of the organization, implementation of policies, and managing the resources of the BSYO in order to achieve the orchestra's mission. The Director reports to the BSO Executive Director and the BSO Board of Directors.

### **Artistic Team**

Our Conductors comprise our Artistic Team. They manage the artistic aspects of the organization and oversee the artistic direction of all four orchestras. Each director selects music, determines seating, and conducts their ensemble on the concerts.

Nick Eggen, Symphonic Orchestra Conductor  
Ethan Hasker, Chamber Orchestra Conductor  
Michelle Eggen, Festivo Conductor  
Megan McGivney, String Ensemble Conductor  
Paul Jackson, Honors String Quartet Coach

### **BSYO Assistants**

BSYO Assistants are young professionals who are often (but not always) BSYO alumni who contribute to the organization by overseeing ensemble set ups, helping to set the stage for performances, facilitating auditions, and supervising students at breaks and before and after rehearsals.

### **Contact Information**

The most effective way of contacting the BSYO is through email. The office phone is the best way to reach the BSYO on rehearsal and performance days.

Mailing Address:  
780 S. Apollo Blvd. STE 218  
Melbourne, FL 32901

Email:  
[bsyoinfo@gmail.com](mailto:bsyoinfo@gmail.com)

Office Phone:  
321.216.7804

## **BSYO ENSEMBLES & PROGRAMS:**

The BSYO offers orchestral ensembles designed for students of varying levels of playing ability. Additionally, the BSYO offers Honors Chamber Ensemble groups. All students are required to provide their own instrument.

### **String Ensemble:**

Monday, 6:00-7:15 p.m. | \$400 per year

Designed for string students with at least one year of experience, the focus of this ensemble is on intermediate techniques, refined ensemble playing, and the exploration of different musical style periods. Students should be comfortable reading and playing music in first position in the keys of D, G, and C major.

Comparable levels: ASTA grade level 1- 2 or FOA ES- DS string orchestra literature.

### **Festivo:**

Monday, 6:00-8:00| \$500 per year

Intermediate string students learn and refine upper level skills such as shifting and vibrato. Intermediate to advanced literature is emphasized. Students should be comfortable reading and playing music in first and third positions (with the addition of fourth position for cello and one-half through fourth position for double bass).

Comparable levels: ASTA grade level 2.5-3.5 or FOA DS-CS string orchestra literature.

### **Chamber Orchestra:**

Monday, 6:00-8:00| \$500 per year

Advanced string students who have mastered vibrato through the basic ranges of the instrument concentrate on the production of a variety of dynamics and tone colors as they refine technical skills of right and left hand.

Comparable levels: ASTA grade level 3.5-4.5 or FOA CS-BS string orchestra literature.

### **BSYO Symphony Orchestra**

Monday, 6:00-8:30| \$500 per year

This orchestra is our flagship ensemble comprised of the most advanced string, wind, and percussion students. Students should be comfortable reading and playing music in the practical range of their instrument. Students should also be able to maintain characteristic tone through all dynamic ranges and a wide variety of tone colors.

Comparable levels: ASTA grade level 4.5-5.5 or FOA AF full orchestra literature.

### **Honors String Quartets**

Honors Symphony String Quartet

Monday, 5:15-6:00

Honors Chamber String Quartet

Monday, 8:00-8:30

New this year, the honors chamber ensembles perform on one concert each semester, and may participate in community events and Brevard Symphony Concerts. This year's program is by invitation only, but we hope to open this option to all interested students in the future.

**Community Masterclass Night**

Dates and Clinician TBA, one per semester

Application fee to perform: \$15 (BSYO Members may apply for free)

Admission: \$10 (BSYO Members may attend for free)

Masterclasses offer a unique opportunity for students to enjoy individual feedback from a professional musician while offering other students the chance to learn. Think of a masterclass like an open private lesson. Students may submit to perform at the masterclass working directly with the guest clinician, or they may attend the masterclass to learn from others. Masterclasses Invitationals are open to all students in the Brevard Community (applicants do not need to be members of the BSYO).

**Concerto Competition**

The Concerto Competition is held annually for advanced students wishing to compete for an opportunity to perform on the Spring Finale Concert with the Symphony Orchestra. Students must submit an application to compete. Following receipt of the application, applicants will compete first in a preliminary round (which may be unaccompanied). If they are selected to move forward, applicants will perform at a Finalists Recital in January, where the winner will be decided. The Concerto Competition winner will perform on the Spring Finale Concert with the Symphony Orchestra.

# **BREVARD SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA**

## **PERSONAL CONDUCT & ATTENDANCE POLICIES**

### **Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion**

The BSYO believes in the inherent dignity of all individuals and that the inclusion of diverse experiences and perspectives strengthens the organization and builds its capacity to welcome complex challenges, dismantle barriers, think critically, cultivate empathy, make good decisions and explore new opportunities.

The BSYO believes effectiveness, high performance and program excellence require an environment of respect and belonging, as well as equitable policies, fair and consistent practices, and meaningful engagement.

The BSYO believes in and respects diverse traditions, talents, voices, influences, heritages, beliefs, identities, opinions, backgrounds, attributes, skill sets, and experiences.

The BSYO recognizes the important contributions made by diverse peoples and strives to use music as a catalyst for community engagement and social understanding.

The BSYO believes that music must be available to all, regardless of cultural, geographic, or financial considerations. The organization fosters inclusion through access to music training and performance opportunities by ensuring that all qualified musicians may participate in the BSYO regardless of socio-economic circumstances.

The BSYO and all associated with the organization strive to honor diverse cultural values, to champion the dignity of all individuals and to act in ways consistent with organizational values.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

BSYO members should conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times during rehearsals, sectionals, performances, and all other BSYO functions. This means alert, observant, and courteous attention, enthusiasm for the activities, and attention to all directions given by the conductors and staff. Failure to do so may result in immediate dismissal from the BSYO program at the discretion of the Conductors and Staff.

In some cases, BSYO staff may notify a BSYO member of an area for improvement in personal behavior. Members so notified must show improvement in the designated areas within a reasonable timeframe as determined. Disruptive behavior, sexual harassment, and drug use will not be tolerated. Members failing to comply may be immediately dismissed from the BSYO.

### **School Participation Policy:**

The Brevard Symphony Youth Orchestra believes that school music programs are vital to the development of young musicians—educationally, artistically, and socially. By participating in school music programs, young musicians can serve as role models, receive leadership training and share their talents with others. Participation in the Brevard Symphony Youth Orchestra is designed to enhance, not replace, school music instruction. School music programs provide essential daily ensemble and rehearsal instruction required for serious musical progress. Students who enroll in the BSYO are required to participate in their school orchestra/band, if one exists.

**Attendance:**

BSYO students are permitted a total of two (2) non-consecutive absences per concert cycle. There are no excused absences. If a student exceeds the two absence limit, students may be asked not to perform on that concert at the discretion of the Director and the student's ensemble conductor. Absence from Dress Rehearsal is not permitted, and the student will not be permitted to perform in that concert.

Re-admittance to the BSYO is at the discretion of the Conductor and the Director. Students may be required to demonstrate his/her ability to perform current rehearsal pieces.

We realize circumstances may arise during the season that prevent you from adhering to the attendance policy. We do not want any student to lose their seat in the orchestra if there is an unavoidable situation causing the absences. Please do not hesitate to call the Director, Rebecca Simons at 321.216.7804 or email [bsyoinfo@gmail.com](mailto:bsyoinfo@gmail.com) to discuss your situation and work out a reasonable solution.

**Tardiness:**

Students should arrive at rehearsals at least ten minutes prior to a rehearsal and be tuned and ready to play on time. You are late if you are not in your seat when the rehearsal begins. **Three late arrivals equals one absence.**

**Use of Facilities**

BSYO members will respect the rules, premises, and instruments found at all rehearsal and concert locations. When on site, members should not enter closed off areas, nor should they exit the property with an adult without explicit permission and accompaniment from one of the Conductors, Staff, or parent/guardian.

## **ENSEMBLE POLICIES**

### **Auditions:**

Auditions are required for all ensembles. If you need assistance in selecting an appropriate ensemble for your child, please email [bsyoinfo@gmail.com](mailto:bsyoinfo@gmail.com). There is a \$25.00 registration fee for all auditioning students. Current members are required to re-audition every year. Audition material will be posted on the website in early May. Auditions take place in August.

### **Seating:**

Each member's placement in the orchestra will be based upon audition results, degree of past participation, and leadership qualities. Individual assignments will be made by the conductor to best fulfill the needs of the orchestra. Members who do not perform to acceptable standards as set by the conductor will be reassigned or excluded from performances.

At the discretion of the conductors, changes of chair positions or rotation of parts may occur.

Members selected to fill vacancies in an orchestra after the initial auditions will be placed to fill specific vacancies or at the end of the section.

### **Rehearsal Etiquette:**

In the spirit of a truly professional orchestra, musicians are expected to take personal responsibility for the following:

- Be seated, warmed up, tuned, and ready by the start time of each rehearsal and conductor's first downbeat.
- Have the current music in their folder and on their stand.
- Have a pencil for note taking
- Have extra instrument supplies in their cases (strings, reeds, mutes, etc)
- Refrain from the use of an electronic device during all rehearsals and concerts
  - *Electronic device usage is prohibited during rehearsals and concerts. You may use your devices before rehearsal and during the break. If device usage is observed, your device may be confiscated and then returned to you after the rehearsal/concert. A follow up discussion will take place with your parent/guardian, and disciplinary action may be taken for repeat offenses.*

### **General Member Guidelines:**

- Bring all music, materials, and a pencil to every rehearsal, and come musically prepared.
- Arrive 10 minutes before rehearsal begins so that your instrument is ready, music is set up, and you are ready to begin.
- Make rehearsals a priority by honoring the attendance policy.
- Being a Section Leader/Principal is an honor to earn that comes with a higher level of responsibility. These students must be available for all rehearsals, and the conductors consider them assistants. They will be expected to model excellent attendance, attitude, leadership, discipline, and cooperation.
- Respect all members' desire to participate fully without distraction. If your behavior becomes a distraction, you will be asked to leave rehearsal.
- BSYO is a guest at rehearsal and concert facilities, and all BSYO members are expected to abide by all facility rules and regulations.
- Food and drinks (except water with a closed lid) are not allowed in the rehearsal rooms.

- Pick up all trash around the rehearsal room, and return extra music at the conclusion of each rehearsal, sectional, or concert.
- BSYO makes all information about rehearsals, concerts, special events, and changes available to its members. It is the responsibility of the parent and/or student to obtain this information and to be aware of any changes. This information is electronically provided for all BSYO ensembles through weekly emails.

## **POLICIES AND AGREEMENTS**

### **Media Release & Hold Harmless Agreement**

The Media Release and Hold Harmless Agreement gives BSYO Members legal permission to work with BSYO and releases any liability from BSYO. This agreement also provides BSYO staff members and volunteers access to BSYO Member medical information, in case of emergency. This agreement must be submitted by the first rehearsal.

From time to time, member activities or achievements warrant public praise and acknowledgement. The Consent Agreement gives BSYO worldwide right and license to use photographs, videos, likeness, and any other words and symbols that identify the student orchestra members in the advertising and promotion of the orchestra in any medium, without restrictions as to frequency. This agreement applies to both web and print and must be submitted by the first rehearsal.

### **Harassment Policy**

BSYO is committed to maintaining a positive learning and working environment, free of harassment or discrimination of any kind. BSYO will not tolerate harassment by or toward its students, conductors, staff, or any other individuals associated with the organization. BSYO considers harassment to be any online, social media, verbal, or physical conduct that creates an intimidating or hostile environment based on race, national origin, gender, age, religion, creed, disability, sexual orientation, or status as a Veteran.

BSYO will promptly respond to complaints of harassment and where BSYO determines that harassment has occurred, will impose any necessary corrective action. In the case of students, corrective action may include being asked not to play in certain concerts or being asked to leave the program. In the case of BSYO staff, corrective action may include disciplinary action, including termination.

### **Sexual Harassment Policy**

BSYO does not tolerate sexual harassment towards its students, conductors, staff, or any other individuals associated with the organization. BSYO considers sexual harassment of any kind to be a serious offense and is committed to maintaining an environment free of harassment. BSYO will promptly respond to complaints of sexual harassment and, where BSYO determines that sexual harassment has occurred, will impose any necessary corrective action. Sexual harassment can be physical, verbal, and/or psychological. Sexual harassment includes behavior between members of the opposite sex or between members of the same sex. Employees, contractors, students, and volunteers of BSYO are prohibited from engaging in sexual harassment of any kind in any setting associated with BSYO.

If any individuals associated with BSYO believe they are the victim of sexual harassment, they should as soon as possible inform the harasser(s) of their unease with/disapproval of the behavior (if possible); and report the incident(s) to the Director, Conductor, or any other member of the Artistic Staff. All information will remain absolutely confidential. BSYO will use its best efforts to complete any sexual harassment investigation within one week of receiving any complaint. BSYO will not tolerate retaliation against anyone for complaining of sexual harassment or cooperating in any investigation of sexual harassment.

### **Dismissal from BSYO**

The final decision regarding dismissal from the BSYO programs for excessive absences or unacceptable conduct will be made by the Director in direct consultation with the Board.

## **TUITION INFORMATION**

No qualifying students will be turned away from BSYO because of an inability to pay tuition. BSYO fundraises to provide tuition assistance for musicians whose families demonstrate need.

### **TUITION**

Tuition for the 2025-2026 Season is:

Symphony Orchestra:	\$ 500
Chamber Orchestra:	\$ 500
Festivo:	\$500
String Ensemble:	\$400

A registration fee of \$25 is due at the time of your audition. This is an additional fee on top of the cost of tuition.

Tuition balance may be paid:

1. one payment at the beginning of the season
2. two payments on the following schedule:
  - First semester balance due on or before October 5, 2026
  - Second semester balance due on or before January 25, 2027
3. smaller amounts on a personalized schedule arranged with the Director

Tuition is 50% refundable until October 5, 2026

### **TUITION ASSISTANCE**

It is the hope of the Brevard Symphony Youth Orchestra Conductors and Staff that no qualifying student will be unable to participate because of financial need. Anyone for whom these options present a financial hardship should apply for a scholarship. Scholarship information and applications are available on our website. Applications are due to the BSYO office at the time of registration.

Email [bsyoinfo@gmail.com](mailto:bsyoinfo@gmail.com) for further information.

### **Important to remember.....**

As stated in the registration agreement, registration creates a commitment to pay for the entire season. Failure to pay tuition in a timely manner will result in a penalty as determined appropriate by the Director. This could include late fees, removal from concert programs, and/or exclusion from rehearsals or concerts. No member will be allowed to schedule an audition for the next season until all financial obligations for the current season have been met.

These policies have been established to create the very best musical learning opportunity for your musician and we appreciate your support!

**Questions about tuition payments or balances due should be directed to Rebecca Simons, Director.**

## **CONCERT INFORMATION**

### **DRESS CODE**

Rehearsal attire:

Casual, but modest, attire is appropriate.

Concert attire:

#### **All Orchestras:**

Women:

- Black dress with sleeves (no bare shoulders or spaghetti straps). Black dresses should extend to the ankle (midi length or longer is appropriate).
- Alternatively, black blouse with sleeves (no bare midriff) and long black dress pants or black skirt (midi length or longer)
- Black hose
- Black shoes

Men:

- Black long sleeve shirt
- Black belt
- Black long dress pants
- Black socks and black shoes

Performers please arrange your hair off your face for concerts. Please refrain from wearing cologne or perfume on stage.

### **Concert Procedures:**

- Call times will be announced 1-2 weeks in advance of each concert.
- Members may be asked to sit out if inappropriately attired.
- Family and friends should be seated before the start of the concert. Walking in aisles should be kept to a minimum and preferably during applause only. Walking around the concert hall during the performance is inappropriate unless due to an emergency.
- Families wishing to film the concert with a camera on a tripod are asked to seat themselves in the back rows. Small cameras/phones for filming are welcome. However, please refrain from iPads and other large type devices for filming unless you are seated in the back rows.
- No applause between movements, please. Use your concert program as a guide. The conductor will usually face the audience at the end of a multiple-movement piece, at which time it is appropriate to applaud.
- BSYO performances are open to the public and may be recorded. From time to time, pictures of musicians may appear in newspapers and television for the purpose of informing the community about our orchestra, or in BSYO promotional materials. The performances may be posted on our YouTube channel, shown on television, and/or aired on radio in part or in their entirety.

### **What to expect on concert days:**

Student call times are typically between 2 and 4 hours before the concert start time. Families drop off their students to the concert site, fully dressed in their complete uniform with their instrument, all instrument supplies (strings, reeds, mutes, etc.), and all BSYO music.

Full details on specific concert days are sent out in email and hard copy 1-2 weeks in advance of each performance.

## SPECIAL INTEREST

### **Communication:**

Communication with musicians and their families is essential to BSYO's success. To enable good communication, we ask that you keep the BSYO staff up to date on changes in email or home mailing addresses.

### **BSYO Noteworthy**

Sent out each month, these emails contain important information for the rehearsals/performances and contain reminders on due dates and policies. Please read these emails as they contain imperative information for your family, and ensure that "[bsyoinfo@send.mailchimpapp.com](mailto:bsyoinfo@send.mailchimpapp.com)" emails are not blocked as spam.

### **Family involvement/Volunteering:**

Families are important partners in their musician's participation and development through BSYO programs. Student success at BSYO is a direct result of dedicated parents/guardians who help their children understand the importance of practicing, being on time, and contributing to the ensemble.

Volunteerism drives passion! Come join the ranks of helpful parent volunteers and lend a hand. When you go behind the scenes of BSYO and get involved, you meet new people, discover new talents, and help produce large-scale events for your community.

Here's how you can help:

- **Rehearsal Set-up and Break Down:** Setting up four ensembles every Monday evening takes a lot of work! If you are able to arrive early or stay late, we can use as much help as possible setting up or striking chairs and stands. Talk to your student's Conductor about how you can assist.
- **Fundraising:** BSYO holds a number of fundraisers in which we invite families to get involved. Please contact the Director with your desire to assist.
- **Concert Production/Concert Hospitality:** BSYO concerts and events demand a need for volunteers. If you are interested in helping run informational tables, merchandise sales, working backstage, or passing out programs, please contact the director. Additionally, BSYO sets up the stage and strikes after each performance. Strong arms are always needed for moving equipment!

### **Community Service Hours**

Due to time commitment involved in rehearsing and performing with the BSYO and the immeasurable effect the concerts have on the Brevard Community, we are pleased to offer students community service hours for a full season with the BSYO, as well as additional opportunities to earn hours for backstage, administrative, and fundraising duties. If your school accepts hours from BSYO as community service, please track your hours. We cannot guarantee that your hours will be accepted by your school. Please check with your advisor as to whether or not your time with BSYO counts toward your volunteer hours.

### **Scholarships and Awards**

BSYO offers hardworking and talented students awards and college scholarships. All awards are presented at the Finale Concert.

- **Music Makes a Difference Scholarship:** This scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior who has best served the community through the medium of music. This award is generously funded by

Scott and Tina Apelgren. The purpose of this award is to recognize students who serve their community by sharing their musical abilities with others for the enrichment of the human spirit.

- Concerto Competition Award: Awarded to the winner of our annual Concerto Competition.

### **Private instructors**

BSYO maintains a list of all musicians' private instrument teachers in order to both recognize their hard work in the annual BSYO program and to provide a resource for the community. Please keep the office up to date on any changes.

### **BSYO Summer Music Camp**

Brevard Symphony Youth Orchestras' Summer Music Camp offers a musically enriching program for string, wind, and percussion students. Participants are provided with a challenging and fun musical experience that includes: orchestra and sectional experiences, masterclasses, enrichment instruction in alternative styles, and more. Each summer program culminates with a showcase presented on the last day of camp. Dates for BSYO 2027 Summer Music Camp will be released in spring 2027.

### **A few friendly suggestions:**

- Arrive at least 10 minutes before the beginning of rehearsals or before your concert's call time to allow adequate time to pull out the instrument and get settled before the conductor is ready to begin.
- Encourage students not only to practice between rehearsals, but to listen to recordings of their selections, which are often provided by the BSYO Conductors.
- Help your student remember to bring a sharpened pencil to each rehearsal.
- BSYO communicates with our students and parents via e-mail.
- Please notify us promptly of any email changes.

BSYO Contact info:

[bsyoinfo@gmail.com](mailto:bsyoinfo@gmail.com)

## DONATE

The work of the Brevard Symphony Youth Orchestras would not be possible without the generous support of individuals, groups, and corporations. By investing in BSYO, you invest in the lives of talented musicians from throughout our county and sustain the future of music education in Brevard County. Donations to BSYO provide an excellent music education experience for students at all ability levels, scholarships, and tuition assistance for talented students, and concerts that enrich the cultural life of Central Floridians.

### Individual Gifts

BSYO depends on the generosity of individuals! Support from grants and student tuition only provide BSYO with part of the funds needed to run the program and retain our commitment to providing an excellent music education experience for students in the Brevard community. In challenging economic times, individual gifts of any size are critical to the survival of one of Brevard's oldest and most cherished music education programs.

There are many ways that individuals can support the BSYO:

- **Become a Friend of the BSYO:** A gift to BSYO supports our mission and offers high-level music education to Brevard community students. A donation can be given in honor of someone else or as a tribute. All cash gifts are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.
- **Make a monthly contribution:** Monthly contributions allow individuals to give a large amount by giving smaller amounts throughout the year. Contributions can also be made on a quarterly or 6 month basis.
- **Employer matching gifts:** Many companies offer matching funds for employee donations, enabling donors to make a bigger impact. Check with your employer to find out if they participate in a matching benefit and their requirements.
- **Planned Giving:** Looking for a way to leave a legacy and help generations of future young musicians? Consider making a planned gift to BSYO. The most common and easiest way to make a planned gift is a bequest to BSYO in your will. To learn more about this option or to find out more ways to leave your legacy, please contact the BSYO office at 321.216.7804

Donations can be made on our website, [www.bsyo.us](http://www.bsyo.us). Or you may send a check to BSYO 780 S. Apollo Blvd, Melbourne, FL 32901. No amount is too small to make a difference!

### Corporate Support

Brevard Symphony Youth Orchestras continues to provide the highest quality and most enriching musical experiences for its students and audience members each year. A BSYO sponsorship provides a unique opportunity for your organization to channel its public relations and marketing initiatives through an attractive and engaging event to a receptive, relevant, and attentive audience. Each event that we orchestrate instantly evolves and grows into an original and thematic experience. Sponsorship of BSYO allows your organization to stand out in the Brevard community and reach thousands of diverse consumers while also helping BSYO meet its mission.

There are several ways that companies can contribute to BSYO:

- **Season Sponsorship:** Make your impact by sponsoring all or part of a BSYO Season!
- **Concert Sponsorship:** Make your impact by sponsoring one or more BSYO concerts featuring some of the most talented young musicians in Brevard.
- **Program Ads:** Reach a new audience for your products or services with a BSYO season program ad.

**BSYO is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization.** For more information on supporting BSYO, please contact [bsyoinfo@gmail.com](mailto:bsyoinfo@gmail.com)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & RECEIPT OF BSYO'S POLICIES

I, \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge that I have received, read, and understand BSYO policies. I am aware that this member handbook can be found on the BSYO website, [www.bsyo.us](http://www.bsyo.us), under the Current Members section. By signing this page, I agree to abide by the policies and procedures that have been set in place by BSYO.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date