

Members Handbook 2019-2020 Season







SYO Identity Statement

The Saskatoon Youth Orchestra Inc. provides opportunities to develop and nurture musical excellence by participating in a vibrant youth orchestra program. Through coaching, rehearsal, organizational involvement and performance opportunities, we offer youth, between the ages of 10 and 25, a welcoming, inclusive environment to develop their skills as musicians and to grow as community members. In the process lifelong friendships are formed. We strive to positively impact the lives of our participants and supporters while contributing to the variety of cultural experiences available to citizens in Saskatoon and beyond. The Saskatoon Youth Orchestra Inc. is sustained through membership fees, grants, concert revenues, individual donations, and corporate support.

Structure of the SYO Inc.

The SYO Inc. is a non-profit, volunteer-run organization. It exists to serve the needs of the players and their families and to further musical education in our communities.

A board of directors is elected at our annual general meeting in the spring. It meets monthly and all are welcome to attend.

To serve its artistic and administrative needs, the SYO Inc. contracts two part-time music directors and one part-time executive director. But the vast majority of the responsibilities of running the organization falls to our volunteers.

The active participation of the SYO Inc. community is what makes the organization work, so please consider offering your time above and beyond the minimum volunteer requirements.

Board of Directors for 2019-2020

Ian Krips, Chair (Fraser & Spencer, alumni)
Omer al Katib, Vice-Chair (Kerem, alumnus, Emre, bass)
Beth Cote, Secretary/Grant Coordinator (Etienne, trombone)
Jason Inkster, Treasurer (Ronan Inkster, violin, SSTR)
Connie Monette, Fundraising, Member at Large (Jason, violin)
Tracy Matthews, Member at Large (Ella Matthews, bass)
Maureen Doucette, Volunteer Coordinator (Jenna, trumpet)
Beth Cote, Grant Coordinator, Member at Large (Etienne, trombone)
Holly Mitzel, Co-Registrar (Hollynd, oboe)

Stefanie Stefanson-Pexa, Co-Registrar (Katrina, violin) Suzanne Nakagawa, SSTR Rep (Den, violin, SSTR) Marnie Hall, Member at Large (Tanner, clarinet)

VACANT: Corporate Development Coordinator*

*Please contact Ian Krips at chair@syo.ca if you would like to find out about this rewarding volunteer opportunity.

SYO Players Executive

The SYO Players Executive is a student-run group that works with, and for, the players of the SYO to foster community within the orchestra. The Players Executive organizes social and student fundraising events with input from the rest of the orchestra. The Players Executive also assists the Board with strategic planning and SYO Inc. fundraising activities. They can be contacted at: players@syo.ca

President: Jillian McLeod (flute)
Vice-President: Joel Stroeder, (bassoon)

Secretary: Brooklyn Rae (flute)

Treasurer: TBA

Publicity: Cameron Breiter (Bass)

Strings Rep: TBA

 $\textbf{Winds/Brass/Perc. Rep:} \ \textit{TBA}$

Contact Information

lan Krips SYO Inc. Board Chair chair@syo.ca (306) 931-1616 home Paul Sinkewicz Executive Director info@syo.ca paulsink@sasktel.net (306) 241-6818 cell Richard Carnegie SYO Music Director conductor@syo.ca richard.carnegie@gmail.com Bernadette Wilson SSTR Music Director sstrings@syo.ca bwcello53@hotmail.com Volunteer questions?
Maureen Doucette

Maureen Doucette
Volunteer Coordinator
volunteer@syo.ca
(all questions regarding
your SYO commitments)

Operational and fundraising duties

Success of the SYO Inc. program is dependent upon two criteria - expert musical direction and parental involvement. In order to maintain a fee structure that is affordable for most young musicians' families, participation by all members in **operational activities** like concert tasks and snacks/clean-up, and **fundraising activities** like the Sundog Craft & Entertainment Faire and Saskatoon Symphony Ushering is mandatory. A description of the various responsibilities will be available on the registration website. Jobs with greater responsibility and/or time commitment will be weighted accordingly.

SYO players will be assigned to set-up and take-down duties for weekly rehearsals.

	SYO Senior Ensemble	Saskatoon Strings
Sundog Craft Faire: choice of coat check, ticket sales and equipment crew (Nov. 29-Dec. 1, 2019)	2 shifts per family	2 shifts per family
SSO Ushering: choice of 10 SSO concerts	2 shifts per player	2 shifts per player
SYO Inc. Operations: choice of a variety of tasks	2 tasks per family	2 tasks per family
Set-up/Clean-up (& Snack-SSTR)	as assigned	1 rehearsal per family

Volunteer questions?

If you have any questions regarding the SYO commitments you sign up for, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Maureen Doucette, directly. She will get you an answer!

Maureen Doucette Volunteer Coordinator volunteer@syo.ca

Player fees

Fees for our two programs are as follows:

SYO (one player): \$590. Each additional player (SYO or SSTR) from one family is \$350. SYO string players enrolled in the U of S Department of Music who are taking the SYO as a credit course pay 50% of the normal fee as part of our partnership arrangement with the U of S.

SSTR (one player): \$450. Each additional player from one family is \$270.

Payment is due on the first day of rehearsals (Sept. 8, 2019), either in full or through post-dated cheques. All fees must be paid by Jan. 1, 2020. Make cheques payable to: SYO Inc.

You may also pay your fees by making an electronic transfer to: *treasurer@syo.ca*.

Saskatchewan Orchestral Association

Members in the SYO Inc. are required to also be members of the Saskatchewan Orchestral Association.

The fees are \$25 (first player), \$5 (each additional player). Please make out a <u>separate</u> cheque to: Saskatchewan Orchestral Association, payable on the first day of rehearsals (Sept. 8).

Family fundraising opportunities

Families can earn credits toward fees by participating in optional activities like shopping and gift card sales, or other opportunities as they become available. These credits are applied to the fees for the following season. SYO parents Mary Lissel and Connie Monette, and

other volunteers, will be contacting families periodically with new opportunities throughout the year.

We support our partners in musical education

The Saskatoon Youth Orchestra Inc. is a strong supporter of other music programs. Our school-aged members are required to participate in their school band or music programs, and are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunities afforded by groups like the Saskatoon Children's Choir and the Greystone Singers.

We also have a long history with both the Saskatoon

Symphony Orchestra and the University of Saskatchewan Department of Music. Both organizations have helped the SYO nurture the next generation of orchestral musicians, benefitting the entire community.

Each season the SYO joins the SSO onstage to perform in one of its Master Series concerts, and the university generously hosts the organization at Quance Theatre.

Commitment to music

The Saskatoon Youth Orchestra and Saskatoon Strings are high-calibre music progams. Our players are expected to learn their music prior to rehearsal and attend all rehearsals and performances.

In addition they are expected to:

- practice on a regular and continuing basis
- take private lessons, working on repertoire with

your tutor as needed

- participate in all scheduled events
- arrive at least 15 minutes prior to rehearsal
- have a well-maintained instrument capable of being played with good tone and intonation
- participate in their school music program
- conform to the concert dress policy
- represent the SYO Inc. in a creditable manner

Email is our main method of communication

The main method of communication used by the SYO Inc. is email. Each player is required to provide an email address and check their mailbox for information regularly. If the player does not have an email account, a parent must provide an email address.

The SYO Inc. does also convey information via Facebook, Twitter and newsletter, but none of these modes of communication is a substitute for emails. It is the responsibility of the player (or parent) to *take an active role* in knowing their schedule and responsibilities.

Our organization has more than 100 players, and almost as many families.

The music directors and executive director are too busy to answer questions individually when the information has already been provided.

Attendance policy, reporting absences

Punctuality and responsibility are key components of the SYO Inc. program.

Each member of our ensembles plays a critical role and bears a responsibility to his or her fellow players. It is critical that absences be <u>extemely rare</u>, and when they do need to occur that they are approved far in advance of rehearsals so the music director can plan for the absence.

Players with unexcused absences are subject to a letter of warning on their first offence. Subsequent unexcused absences may result in losing the privilege of playing with the ensemble in concert, and in extreme cases, suspension from our program.

* Players with more than one *unexcused* absence or more than *two lates* will be removed from scholarship and bursary consideration.

Reporting an absence - email early please!

In the event of sickness, or other absence, it is mandatory that the player or parent contact the Executive Director **as soon as possible** by emailing: *info@syo.ca*. Phone calls, text messages, or verbal notifications are not acceptable methods of reporting an absence.

Concert dress

The Saskatoon Youth Orchestra and Saskatoon Strings dress codes are non-negotiable. Players who flout the guidelines of the dress code are subject to a warning letter on the first offence, and denial of performance privileges on subsequent infractions.

SYO males: Black attire, including long-sleeved shirt, tie (optional), suit jacket (optional), long pants, black socks, black dress shoes.

SYO females: All black attire, including dresses and skirts that come at least to the knees, or full length pants, black suit jacket, black hosiery or stockings, black shoes and black blouse (shoulders and midriff must be covered).

SYO players are encouraged to dress stylishly and express their individual styles, within the confines of good taste in keeping with representing the institution

of the SYO Inc. in public in a creditable manner.

The Executive Director and the Board of Directors will monitor the image the individual members present to the public, and take action when required.

SSTR males: White, long-sleeved dress shirt, black bow tie, black belt (optional), black full length pants, black socks and black shoes.

SSTR females: White blouse, black full length pants, or black dress or skirt that comes at least to the knees, black hosiery or socks, black dress shoes.

Prohibited items for both ensembles include:

Black athletic shoes, athletic gear like yoga pants, colourful scarves, or other accent pieces, ostentatious jewelry, clothing designed to call attention to an individual, clothing that is deemed inappropriate.

Awards, bursaries, trips, bullying and mental health

- Each year there are a variety of awards, bursaries, and scholarships available to musicians of SYO Inc. For awards, a selection committee considers criteria established by trust funds in addition to player reliability, fulfillment of volunteer duties and musical contribution.
- Transportation to and from certain events is organized for the Youth Orchestra Inc. and must be approved by the Board. Because of concerns relating to insurance and member safety, players are expected to use the transportation provided. Generally members younger than 19 should not transport other members unless special insurance has been obtained and the parents of the passenger have given explicit permission.
- In order to maintain the integrity of the orchestra, whenever possible, senior ensemble (SYO) players are expected to participate in any travel project. If your participation in a planned trip is uncertain at the be-

- ginning of the season, please notify your music director immediately. (**NOTE:** *There is no trip currently planned for the 2019-20 season, other than the annual Fall Retreat*).
- Bullying is never acceptable to the SYO Inc., whether it be harassment directed between players or inappropriate behaviour exhibited by an adult. Please contact your music director, the executive director, or the chair of the SYO Inc. if you are feeling uncomfortable with the behaviour of someone in the SYO Inc. community.
- Anyone can face mental health challenges. That is especially true for young people dealing with significant physical and emotional changes, while navigating the pressures of school, friendships and extra-curricular activities. If you find yourself struggling, know that you are not alone, and that there is help available. Speaking openly about mental health issues with someone you trust is a healthy first step toward finding the relief you need.

History of the Saskatoon Youth Orchestra

The Saskatoon Youth Orchestra has been offering young musicians the chance to have fun, make friends and improve their playing skills since 1958.

Then known as the Saskatoon Junior Symphony, the ensemble came about thanks to funding from the Kiwanis Club and the hard work of passionate local orchestral music lovers.

The youth orchestra remains an important source of the city's classical musicians. Many SYO alumni have gone on to share their talent as professional performers or educators. Many others have become leaders in the community. Among our alumni are Michael Swan, concertmaster of the Saskatoon

Symphony Orchestra, Peter England, longtime music teacher and current producer for Saskatoon Summer Players, and Saskatoon city councillor Mairen Loewen.

Our music directors have included founder Murray Adaskin, Dr. David Kaplan, Dwain Nelson and Jack Johnson.

The modern SYO began in 1983 and was led for 25 years by Wayne Toews and George Charpentier. It also included a young strings ensemble and a double bass program.

In 2009, Richard Carnegie became music director of the SYO, joining Saskatoon Strings Music Director Bernadette Wilson in leading the next generation of classical musicians. Over the years, the SYO has garnered numerous awards and has travelled to workshops across Canada. The SYO has consistently included works by Canadian composers in its repertoire and has also commissioned several works.

Some ensembles featuring former SYO members:

Winnipeg Symphony, Montreal Symphony, Monterey Symphony (Mexico), Symphonic Orchestra of Galicia (Spain), Toronto Symphony, Victoria Symphony, Dallas Symphony,

Trois-Rivieres Symphony, Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, the Saskatoon Philharmonic Orchestra, the Saskatoon Concert Band and ...

the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra!

Common terms and musical organizations

SYO Inc. - The entire Saskatoon Youth Orchestra organization, including the Saskatoon Strings and the senior ensemble (often referred to as the SYO).

SYO - Our senior ensemble comprised of strings, woodwinds, brass and percussion.

SSTR - Abbreviation for the Saskatoon Strings, our junior all-strings ensemble.

Dress rehearsal - Final rehearsal before a concert used to hone pieces and adapt to the different acoustics of the concert venue. ***Does not require wearing full concert dress (unless specified for annual photo day).

Music Director - Person who guides the artistic direction of an ensemble and most often serves as conductor. There will sometimes be a student or guest conductor for a particular piece, or concert, but the music director retains

responsiblity for the overall musical direction.

Conductor - The person on the podium using a baton -- or just their hands -- to keeps time and cue the ensemble. The vast majority of a conductor's job happens in the weeks of rehearsal leading up to a concert as he or she works with the group to interpret the music and shape its expression.

Concertmaster - The First Violin player who takes on a leadership role within the ensemble, directs the orchestra in tuning before the conductor emerges, and who is often featured in solo violin segments of a piece.

Principal player - A senior player who helps lead other players in his or her section and who takes responsibility for musical decisions like which player will take a solo, how musical phrases will be played in the absence of specific direction from the conductor, etc. Often there will be two principals, called co-principals. This term is interchangeable with First Chair.

Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra (SSO) -Saskatoon's professional orchestral ensemble.

University of Saskatchewan Music Department - A key partner of the SYO Inc. which provides rehearsal space and equipment for the organization since 2010. The partnership provides the U of S with an opportunity for its string music students to earn university credit for participating in the SYO senior ensemble.

Saskatchewan Orchestral Association - Includes, and financially supports, virtually all orchestral groups and activities in the province, both amateur and professional.

May 31, June 5, 6

Key dates for both the SYO senior ensemble and the Saskatoon Strings:				
Sept. 8	(<i>U of S Education Building main floor, 4-7 pm</i>) Saskatoon Strings Picnic (<i>4-5:30 pm</i>) ————————————————————————————————————		is riverbank picnic on the first day of nearsal has proven a great way for skatoon Strings players to get to know ch other. Games, food and laughter	
Sept. 22	 SYO Inc. Parent/Player Meeting (5 pm, Room TBA) 	A super-ch	at's not to like? arged bonding opportunity for the	
Friday, Sept. 27-29	Fall Retreat and Concert (senior ensemble only)	orchestra. Players bunk in sleeping bags, enjoy hearty meals and participate in fun activities not to mention the rehearsals and Sunday 2:30 pm concert. It is a safe, fun weekend which is highly anticipated by returning players. Parent chaperones are always on hand!		
Oct. 27	 Halloween Costume Social (4-5:30 p.m.) Educ. Student Lounge (for families and players of <u>k</u> 		•	
	SYO Soundcheck Concert (Quance Theatre, 7:30)		,	
Nov. 15, 16	 SYO combined rehearsals and Concert with SSO (Friday at 7:30 pm, Saturday 1 pm & 7:30 pm) 		n the mainstage at TCU Place ith the SSO! An annual tradition.	
Friday, Nov. 29 Saturday,	 Sundog Craft & Entertainment Faire begins	to i tick & E	The SYO Inc. is very fortunate to be able to run the coat check and to staff the ticket booths for the annual Sundog Craft & Entertainment Faire. It is a huge fundraiser for us, and results in much lower player fees. As such, families are required to participate in Sundog weekend as part of being involved with the SYO Inc.	
Nov. 30	4 pm, main stage in food court at SaskPlace Centre (details TBA closer to the date)	low req		
Dec. 1	 Sundog Craft & Entertainment Faire ends Regular rehearsal night for both ensembles National Youth Orchestra audition masterclass signup deadline 			
Dec. 15	SYO/SSTR Dress Rehearsal & Winter Concert (Afternoon rehearsals, evening concert, Hilton Garden Inn Ballroom, details TBA)			
Jan. 5	First rehearsal of new termNational Youth Orchestra audition masterclass			
Jan. 25	SSTR performance in lobby at SSO concert (tentate)	ive)	We invite promising young players to have a session with our sectional	
Feb. 2	 Annual Orchestra Open House SYO Soundcheck Concert (Quance Theatre, 7:30) pm)		
Feb. 23	Concerto Competition sign-up deadline			
March 22	● Annual General Meeting, 5 pm (tentative)			
March 28	• 2019/20 SYO Concerto Competition ————————————————————————————————————		Interested players compete for the chance to be featured soloist in the Spring Concert with the	
March 29	 Combined SYO/SSTR rehearsal at alternate location (location TBA, SSTR rehearse until 8 pm, SYO until SYO Audition Workshop sign-up deadline 	backing of the full SYO.		
April 19	• SYO/SSTR Dress Rehearsal & Spring Concert (Afternoon rehearsals, Annual SYO Inc. Awards cere and evening concert, Hilton Garden Inn Ballroom, Tir		On one day we visit three schools!	
Monday, April 20	Saskatoon Strings Schools Tour (date tentative, locations TBA)	The Saskatoon Strings share their music with hundreds of school children.		
April 24	SYO Inc. Fundraiser with Jeffery Straker (details Till)	BA)		
May 3	SYO Audition Masterclass, 6 pm		nce to learn how to plan and prepare audition, and how to manage stress -	

• SYO/SSTR Auditions for 2020-2021 season

for an audition, and how to manage stress - skills that can benefit even players who don't

plan to pursue a career in music.

Richard Carnegie, Music Director of the SYO

Double bassist, conductor and educator, **Richard Carnegie** divides his creative time between playing principal bass with the Saskatoon Symphony and Chamber Players and serving as music director of the Saskatoon Youth Orchestra. Under his leadership, the SYO program has seen the addition of a chamber orchestra, conducting classes, a composition contest for young Saskatchewan composers, an annual concerto competition, expanded enrolment and a unique partnership with the University of Saskatchewan Department of Music.

Seeing great value in the complimentary paths of performer and educator, Richard maintains an active performance schedule including solo recitals and appearances with Prairie Virtuosi, Ritornello Festival and the YouTube Symphony in Sydney, Australia.

A dedicated teacher, he is the instructor of double bass at the University of Saskatchewan and enjoys a busy private teaching studio.

Richard also occassionaly conducts for the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra.

His birth certificate says he's from Ontario, but Richard has called Saskatchewan home since 2006 after completing studies at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City and the Royal Conservatory's Glenn Gould School in Toronto.

In 2013 he was named one of CBC Saskatchewan's Future 40, a list of 40 leaders and change makers in the province.



Bernadette Wilson, Music Director

of the Saskatoon Strings



Bernadette Wilson has been conducting the Saskatoon Strings since 2002. She has founded other groups such as the 'Saskatoon Suzuki Cello' program, the cello choir 'Molto Cellissimo', and under her direction the Mesh String Quartet won first prize at the Canadian Music Competitions in Toronto in 2004.

Bernadette has a B.A. with high honours as well as a B. Ed. with great distinction, both from the U of S. Before becoming a professional musician, she taught both music and French for five years in the Saskatoon School System. Bernadette studied cello for seven years with Gary Russell of the Montreal Symphony, and with Janos Starker at the Banff School of Fine Arts. Her teaching skills were further honed through extensive training in the Suzuki Method. Bernadette has been a member of the cello section in the Saskatoon Symphony since 1979 and teaches cello from her home to students ranging in age from four to 75. Watching the growth in her students' skills has been a source of joy and satisfaction for her. From her Suzuki training Bernadette learned that you are never too old and rarely too young to study and enjoy music.

In addition to her dedication to music, Bernadette has a passion both for palaeontology and her family. She collected fossils all her life, and has taken every palaeontology class offered by the U of S. She has donated many of her finds to the Geology Dept. at the U of S. Before starting her family she spent seven summers working in the field for the Tyrell Museum, and one summer for the Philedelphia Academy of Natural Sciences.

Bernadette has two children, Robin, a professional animator who lives in Vancouver, and Heather a professional musician; both were members of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada.

Sundog Craft & Entertainment Faire





The SYO Inc. earns money through its work with the annual Sundog Craft & Entertainment Faire. We staff the ticket tables at the entrance, and run the coat check just inside the entrance. For providing these services, we earn money which goes toward the operation of our orchestras and helps us keep our fees lower. We also keep any money generated by the coat check free-will offering. In addition, Sundog pays the organization for the mainstage entertainment it provides from 4-5 pm on the Saturday of the event. Sundog generates thousands of dollars for the SYO Inc., and we count on each of our families to participate in the event.



SSO Ushering

The SYO Inc. also earns a significant amount of money thanks to our relationship with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, for whom we provide ushering services at 10 of their main series concerts each season. Kerrie and Darren Anderson, along with son Brady, keep our ushering teams informed about duties, like stuffing programs, manning the doors, and clean up after the concert. Ushers enjoy the benefit of getting to watch the concert at no cost, while earning money to keep our fees low.

Saskatoon Strings Schools Tour

Each spring, the Saskatoon Strings embark upon a tour of three area school. The ensemble meets at the first school, and performs a concert for the entire school. They then travel by bus to two more schools, stopping for a lunch break along the way. This tour is a great way to introduce orchestral string music to hundreds of young students each year, perhaps inspiring them to take up a musical instrument in the future!



Saskatoon Strings 2019-2020 Schedule

Room 1036, Education Building, USask

Dates that are not a regular Sunday are indicated with asterisk* Rehearsals begin at 5:45 pm and run until 8:00 pm, unless otherwise indicated. There will be a break, with snacks, at the halfway mark of rehearsal. Schedule subject to change as needed. Please check your email for newsletter updates.

Sept 8	Strings Welcome Picnic & First Rehearsal (music will be distributed)
Sept 15	Rehearsal
Sept 22	Rehearsal
Sept 29	Rehearsal
Oct 6	Rehearsal
Oct 13	No Rehearsal (Thanksgiving Weekend)
Oct 20	Rehearsal
Oct 27	Rehearsal (Halloween Social, TBA)
Nov 3	Rehearsal
Nov 10	Rehearsal
Nov 17	Rehearsal
Nov 24	Rehearsal
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	*Sundog Craft & Entertainment Faire (Friday-Sunday)
Nov 30*	Sundog Performance (Saturday, time TBD)
Dec 1	Rehearsal
Dec 8	Rehearsal
Dec 15*	Winter Concert dress rehearsal (<i>Time TBD</i>)
Dec 15*	Winter Concert (6:30 pm)
Jan 5	Rehearsal
Jan 12	Rehearsal
Jan 19	Rehearsal
Jan 26	Rehearsal
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Feb 2	Rehearsal
Feb 8*	SSO Lobby Performance
Feb 9	Rehearsal
Feb 16	No Rehearsal (Family Day Weekend)
Feb 23	Rehearsal
Mar 1	Rehearsal
Mar 8	Rehearsal
Mar 15	Rehearsal
Mar 22	Rehearsal
Mar 29	Rehearsal (combined rehearsal with SYO at alternate location)
11141 29	Tenedisar (comomed renearsar with \$10 at another tocation)
April 5	Rehearsal
April 12	No Rehearsal (Easter Weekend)
April 19	Spring Concert dress rehearsal (time TBD)
April 19	SYO Inc. Awards Ceremony (5:30 pm)
April 19	Spring Concert (6:30 pm)
April 20*	SSTR Schools Tour (tentative)
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