



seattle youth symphony orchestra

SYSO Virtual Town Hall

August 26, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Plans for 2020-2021 UPDATED

Discussion Topics



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- Auditions
- In-Person Orchestra Plans
- **NEW:** Virtual Orchestra Program
- Other Opportunities
 - Seattle Conservatory of Music classes
 - Solo Concerto Competition
- Impacts of COVID-19 on organization

Process for Town Hall



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- Thank you for submitting questions in advance via Survey
- Presentation designed to address most of questions
- If you have a question that has not been answered, please submit it in the Chat Box and send to **SYSO QUESTIONS**.
- Questions will be reviewed and presented to staff to answer at the end.
- Individual questions may be consolidated if they address the same topic.
- A recording and Powerpoint will be shared after this Town Hall.
- If have further questions or feedback please feel free to email Juan Felipe and Kathleen.

Auditions



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The Process

- First time ever for video auditions
- 550 video auditions – similar to number of live auditions
- All videos reviewed for any technical errors before submitted to adjudicators

Auditions



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Adjudication

- Adjudicators = Music Director Juan Felipe Molano, 4 Conductors, 1 Coach per instrument (14 total)
- All students were scored on following categories:
 - Scales, Intonation, Rhythm, Musicianship, Tone and Technique
- Scores were averaged from all adjudicators, no weighted scores
- Placement decisions informed by scores, comments, from all adjudicators, and consensus of the conductors

Auditions



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Placement

- Goal: best fit orchestra for the student artistically, educationally, and developmentally
- All decisions are final. Videos will not be reviewed for a second time and adjudication panel will not be reconvened
- Other considerations
 - Past experience at SYSO
 - Amount of students needed to attain proper balance
- What was NOT considered
 - Who your private teacher is or if you have a private teacher
 - Race/ethnicity or gender/gender presentation
 - Where the audition was filmed, the equipment used, video or audio quality

Auditions



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Feedback

- More than 300 requests for feedback vs. last year at 30 requests
- Qualitative feedback
 - Areas of Strength & Weakness
 - NO numerical scores
- Individualized feedback - it will take 6-8 weeks to respond to all requests
- Feedback provided to ONLY parents or students
 - Families can share with private instructors



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- SO, WHEN CAN WE MEET IN PERSON?

In-Person Orchestra Plans



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Start Date

- January 9, 2021, or not until King County is at the appropriate Phase according WA State Safe Start Reopening Plan

AND

- Rehearsal facilities secured
- Schools resume in-person classes safely

In-Person Orchestra Plans



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WASHINGTON'S PHASED APPROACH Modifying Physical Distancing Measures				
Last updated: 8/20/2020				
INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES SHOULD FOLLOW ALL REQUIREMENTS LISTED ABOVE DURING ALL PHASES				
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">1</div> Phase 1	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">2</div> Phase 2	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">3</div> Phase 3	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">4</div> Phase 4
High-Risk Populations*	Stay home unless engaging in Phase 1 permissible activities.	Strongly encouraged, but not required, to stay home unless engaging in Phase 1 or Phase 2 permissible activities.	Strongly encouraged, but not required, to stay home unless engaging in Phase 1, 2, or 3 permissible activities.	Resume public interactions, with physical distancing
Recreation	Some outdoor recreation (hunting, fishing, golf, boating, hiking)	Outdoor recreation involving 5 or fewer people outside your household (camping, beaches, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outdoor group rec. sports activities (50 or fewer people) - Recreational facilities at <25% capacity 	Resume all recreational activity
Gatherings (non religious)	No gatherings	Gather with no more than 5 people outside your household per week	Allow gatherings with no more than 10 people	Allow gatherings with >10 people
Travel	Essential travel and limited non-essential travel for Phase I permissible activities	Essential travel and limited non-essential travel for Phase I & II permissible activities	Resume non-essential travel	Continue non-essential travel
Business/Employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Essential businesses open - Existing construction that meets agreed upon criteria - Landscaping - Auto/RV/boat/DRV sales - Retail (curbside pick-up orders only) - Car washes - Pet walkers (All businesses will be required to follow safety plans written by the state)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remaining manufacturing - Additional construction phases - In-home/domestic services (nannies, housecleaning, etc.) - Retail (in-store purchases allowed with restrictions) - Real estate - League-play bowling - Museums 25% capacity - Agritourism - Professional services/office-based businesses (telework remains strongly encouraged) - Personal services (hair and nail salons/barbers, tattoo, etc.) - Pet grooming - Restaurants <50% capacity, table size no larger than 5 (no bar-area seating) - Indoor dining with household only - Bars: no indoor seating unless min. food requirements in guidance met - Drive-in Movie Theaters - Library (curbside pick-up) - Limited indoor and fitness and training with 300 square feet of distance/person, up to 25% capacity for large facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Movie theaters at <25% capacity - Customer-facing government services (telework remains strongly encouraged) - Libraries - Museums 50% capacity - All other business activities not yet listed except for those specified for Phase 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nightclubs - Concert venues - Large sporting events - Resume unrestricted staffing of worksites, but continue to practice physical distancing and good hygiene - Live entertainment

* High-risk populations are currently defined by CDC as persons 65 years of age and older; people of all ages with underlying medical conditions (particularly not well controlled), including people with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma; people who have serious heart conditions; people who are immunocompromised; people with severe obesity; people with diabetes; people with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; and people with liver disease; people who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility.

**For the purposes of the Safe Start Phased Plan, bars are defined as taverns, breweries, wineries and distilleries.

In-Person Orchestra Plans



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Rehearsal Location & Capacity

- April – June: SYSO was actively searching for space in Seattle. Now on hold
- Follow all COVID-19 protocols, such as requiring masks, social distancing, sanitizing, ventilation
- Ensemble capacity will be significantly reduced

Rehearsal Date & Time

- Prioritize weekends, depending on facility availability, could be Sundays
- Shorter rehearsals to allow for cleaning, ventilation, etc.

Tuition & Financial Aid

- Pay by Term, cost dependent on facility, extra COVID-19 related costs.
- Financial Aid budget increased
- Announce when know when we can resume in person



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- SYSO GOES VIRTUAL.....

Virtual Orchestra Program



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Program Goals & Benefits

- Orchestral-focused curriculum
- More individualized attention from SYSO coaches, low coach to student ratio
- Interactions with fellow musicians through Practice Time, includes guidance by conductors/coaches
- Additional Masterclasses Series led by international guest artists
 - Including: Mitchell Newman, LAFil; Julian Gil, London Symphony Orchestra and more to be confirmed.....
- Virtual Collaborations with other youth symphonies.
 - Portland Youth Philharmonic, Metropolitan Youth Symphony, Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles (YOLA) and more to be confirmed....

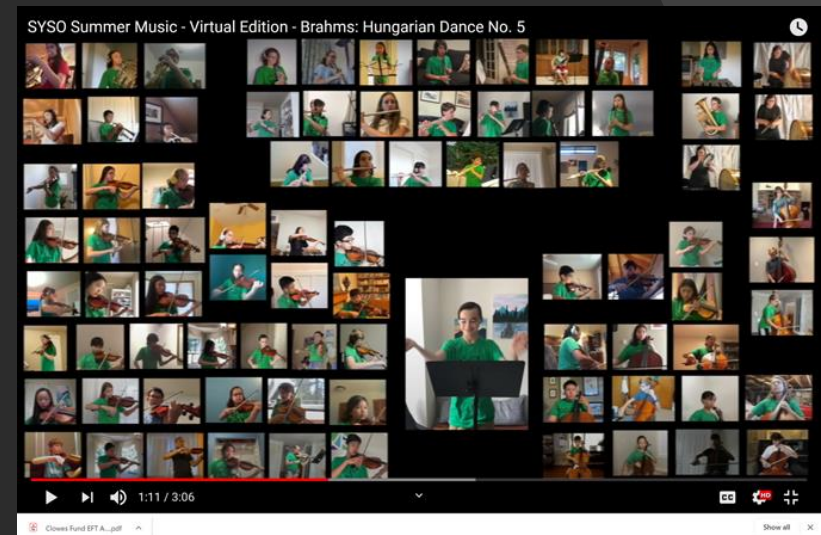
Virtual Orchestra Program



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Program Goals & Benefits continued...

- Music Director Juan Felipe Molano teaching & leading ALL Virtual Orchestras
- Opportunity to delve into history and context of the repertoire
- Collaborative video as a performance product
- A great way to stay engaged in the SYSO community this Fall!



Virtual Orchestra Program



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SYSO Virtual Orchestras

Virtual Orchestra 2020	Academic Year Orchestra Program
Young String Virtual Orchestra (YSVO)	Prelude String Orchestra
Intermediate Virtual Orchestra (IVO)	Symphonette Orchestras Debut Symphony Orchestra
Advanced Virtual Orchestra (AVO)	Junior Symphony Orchestra Youth Symphony Orchestra

Virtual Orchestra Program



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Levels and Admission

- Students placed in AYO do not need to audition for Virtual Orchestras
- Cannot re-audition to get to a higher-level Virtual Orchestra
- **Starting in Term 2**, open to students not currently placed in AYO, but they will have to submit a placement audition.
- Space available for all AYOP students
- Higher expectations set for both levels in a Virtual Orchestra group. A great opportunity to stretch
- Same attendance and behavior expectations as in person orchestra

Virtual Orchestra Program



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Rehearsal Format – on Zoom

Young String Virtual Orchestra (YSVO)	Intermediate Virtual Orchestra (IVO)	Advanced Virtual Orchestra (AVO)
SATURDAYS		
(15 min) Full Orchestra Teaching with Maestro Molano	(15 min) Full Orchestra Teaching with Maestro Molano	(15 min) Full Orchestra Teaching with Maestro Molano
(40 min) Sectionals with coaches – violin, viola, bass, cello	(40 min) Sectionals with coaches – violin, viola, bass, cello, woodwind, brass, percussion	(40 min) Sectionals with coaches – violin, viola, bass, cello, woodwind, brass, percussion
(5 min) Full Orchestra Teaching with Maestro Molano, sometimes a guest.	(10 min) Break	(10 min) Break
	(20 min) Practice Buddy Time	(20 min) Practice Buddy Time
	(5 min) Full Orchestra Teaching with Maestro Molano, sometimes a guest.	(5 min) Full Orchestra Teaching with Maestro Molano, sometimes a guest.
WEDNESDAYS		
(30 min) Practice Time with YSO Mentor		
POSSIBLY FRIDAYS		
Masterclasses Guest Speakers Collaborations with other Youth orchestras and arts organizations		

Virtual Orchestra Program



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Weekly Schedule

SATURDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	POSSIBLY FRIDAYS (2-3 TIMES PER TERM)
9 a.m.-10 a.m.- YSVO	4:30-5 p.m. YSVO - Practice	4:30-5:30 p.m.-
10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.- IVO	Time with Mentor	Masterclasses, Guest
12:30 p.m.-2 p.m.- AVO	5-5:30 YSVO p.m.- Practice	Lectures, Collaborations
(SCM Online in afternoon)	Time with Mentor	

Term 1 – September 19 – October 31, 2020

Term 2 – November 7 – December 19, 2020

Continue to offer Virtual Orchestra Program Terms 3-5 if not able to resume in person.

Virtual Orchestra Program



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Tuition & Financial Aid

- Same Pay-by-Term model as the in-person Orchestra
- Prioritizing providing coaching at every session
- Financial aid and sibling discounts are available
- **\$280** per Term for all Virtual Orchestras if registered by September 9
- **\$300** September 9-September 16 (Registration closes)
- Enrollment invitation sent, then pay



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- BUT WAIT, THERE IS MORE....

Seattle Conservatory of Music



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Academic Programs – ONLINE ALL YEAR

- **NEW:** Musicianship Skills
 - Building knowledge of music theory, music history, and ear training to complement and enhance a student's performance ability.
 - Multiple class levels – from Intro to Level III
- Composition
 - Available for all levels, from beginning students exploring and creating simple melodies, to highly advanced composers honing details of full orchestral pieces.

Seattle Conservatory of Music



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Performance Programs

- Collegiate Prep class – ONLINE / IN PERSON when safe
 - Designed for students who are interested in pursuing music study at the collegiate level.
 - SCM faculty coach students and families through audition and application process
 - No other program like this for students interested in pursuing music at the collegiate level.
- Chamber Ensembles – IN PERSON when safe
 - On hold for Term 1
 - Reassess for Term 2 if allowable per public health guidelines
 - Rehearsals may occur at SYSO office
 - Audition deadline is now **October 31**

Seattle Conservatory of Music



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Schedule

- Saturdays
Classes will run from 2- 7 p.m.
- Class length range from 1 hour to 1 hour 30 minutes
- Exact schedule To Be Announced

Seattle Conservatory of Music



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Tuition & Financial Aid

- Same Pay-by-Term model as the in-person Orchestra
- Financial aid available & increased this year
- Registration open until September 12 for Academic Classes

Class	Tuition per Term
Composition	\$250
Musicianship Skills	\$250
Collegiate Prep	\$500
Chamber	TBD – depending on facility

Solo Concerto Competition



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Format and Process

Two Divisions

- Intermediate
 - Symphonette and Debut students are eligible
- Advanced
 - Junior and Youth students are eligible

Auditions

- Submissions from August 31-November 2 with application fee
- Video auditions for first round
- Live auditions for finalists

Adjudication

- Panels include two conductors, guest artists from Emerald City Music

[More details coming soon on SYSO.org](https://www.syo.org)

Solo Concerto Competition



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The Prize – Learning & Performing

Coaching

- All applicants can sign up for coaching by Maestro Molano over Zoom
- Finalists to be coached by Emerald City Music musicians

Master Classes

- Led by Emerald City Music musicians for Finalists

Performances

- Live performances – either late 2021 or early 2022

COVID-19 Impacts

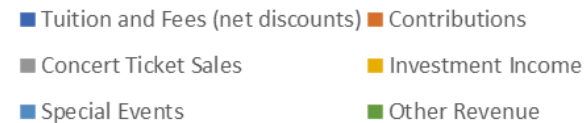


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Financial Impacts

- Typically tuition makes up 65% of revenue
- Canceling Marrowstone Music Festival and 2 sessions of SYSO Summer Music, SYSO already lost 30% of tuition revenue this fiscal year.

REVENUE AUDITED 2018-2019



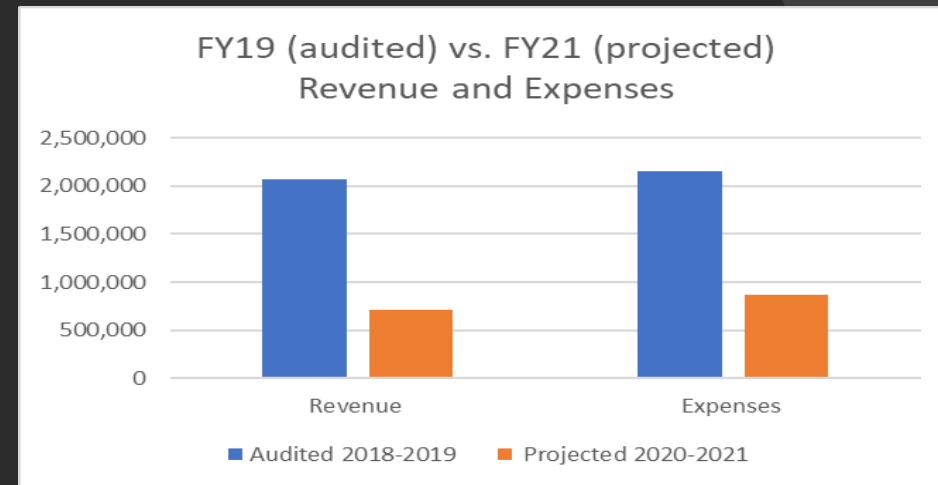
COVID-19 Impacts



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Financial Impacts

- Going from a \$2.1 million Operating Budget to a \$700,000 budget - a 66% budget decline



- Conservative budgeting
 - assumption we may not be able to resume until later in the spring and if we do, we will need to adhere to social distancing

COVID-19 Impacts



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Staffing Impacts

- Staffing reduced from 8 Full-time staff to 2 Full time and 4 part-time staff
- Staff with reduced hours:
 - Janice Gatti, Manager of Orchestra Operations
 - Bryan Lindeman, Data & Operations Manager
 - Evan Berge, SCM Coordinator
 - Izchel Chacon, SYSO in School Manager & Virtual Orchestra Operations
- Weekly schedules will be communicated so families know when to reach staff
- Received Paycheck Protection Program loan, ended in July

Next Steps / Timeline



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- **Now-September 12** - SCM Musicianship Skills & Composition Classes Registration Open
- **August 31-November 2** – Submit Applications for Solo Concerto Competition. Sign up for coaching with Maestro Molano
- **Week of August 31**– Enrollment Invitation for Virtual Orchestra Program sent out
- **September 9** – Last day for Early Bird price for Virtual Orchestra Program
- **September 16** – Virtual Orchestra Program registration closes

Next Steps / Timeline



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Timeline Continued....

- **September 19** – Term 1 of Virtual Orchestra Program begins
- **October 31**– Deadline for SCM Chamber if running Term 2
- **November 7** – Term 2 of Virtual Orchestra Program begins
- **November/December** – Announce Plans for Term 3 – Virtual or In-Person

Questions?



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- Kathleen Allen, Executive Director at Kathleen.allen@syso.org
- Juan Felipe, Music Director at juanfelipe.molano@syso.org
- Janice Gatti, Orchestra Manager at Janice.gatti@syso.org
- Info@syso.org



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Thank You!