

TUITION & FINANCIAL AID

Tuition

Tuition may be paid in full or through our payment plan. If families have more than one child in our orchestras, please inquire about our Sibling Discount.

The first half of the tuition is due October 22, 2021 and the second half is due January 21, 2022.

The full tuition amount is due in full by the scheduled tuition payment dates listed above regardless of the student's attendance at rehearsals or concerts.

2021-22 Tuition Rates

Prelude	\$950
Symphonette	\$1270
Debut	\$1270
Junior	\$1570
Youth	\$2040

No Refund Policy

SYSO has a No Refund policy in regard to tuition. We plan for a student to commit for the entire orchestra year. The full tuition fee will be due and payable for the entire year regardless of the student's non-attendance at rehearsals or concerts.

In the event that an in-person rehearsal must be put on hold, SYSO is committed to continuing our services online during any possible limited quarantine periods and therefore we will not be refunding tuition for that time period.

Tuition Security Deposit

The credit card number used for the application fee will be kept on file for the purposes of the Tuition Security Deposit. No charges will be made to your account provided your tuition is paid in full by the due date(s). If full tuition has not been paid by February 28, 2022 the credit card on file will be automatically charged for the full tuition amount. A 3% credit card fee is applied to all payments.

Financial Aid

In an effort to keep tuition affordable for all students, SYSO underwrites a significant percentage of the actual cost of each student's participation. SYSO does provide financial aid to ensure that financial resources are not a barrier to participation.

Financial aid decisions are made using an objective methodology for calculating a family's ability to contribute towards tuition. All information about families' financial situations is kept strictly confidential.

NEW! Rehearsal Assistant Discount

SYSO is committed to ensuring participation in our programs is accessible and equitable. For many years we have enabled students to engage in our orchestras - regardless of their financial situation - by always budgeting for ample financial aid. In the past, we have also made a work study role a component of receiving financial aid, but we now recognize that asking students to work for their aid can be problematic and inequitable. This year, we remove work study from the financial aid process. Financial aid will continue to be amply funded and awarded based on a family's financial circumstances and needs.

SYSO still relies on the support of our community to prepare for rehearsals and so we are instituting a new **Rehearsal Assistant Discount**. This is a position that students or parents can sign up for that involves helping SYSO to set up and tear down for weekly rehearsals. This is very important work to make sure our rehearsals run smoothly and we will need people who can commit to being a Rehearsal Assistant for the entire Academic Year Orchestra program (weekly September-May).

A Rehearsal Assistant will receive a discount of **25% off annual tuition**. This discount can be added to a financial aid award, but it cannot be added to an orchestra secretary discount. SYSO needs Rehearsal Assistants to set up and tear down at both sites - St. Peter's and St. Mary's - and if a Rehearsal Assistant misses their work session twice they will be in jeopardy of having the discount rescinded.

A sign-up form and schedule will be available on the SYSO Student Portal and through Orchestra Secretary Missives. If a student is interested in being a Rehearsal Assistant for community service credit in lieu of the 25% discount, please contact Janice Gatti, AYO Rehearsal Site Coordinator, at janice@syso.org.

Instrument Liability

All SYSO students/families are responsible for their instruments. Lost, stolen or damaged instruments (or instrument accessories) are not the responsibility of SYSO. **SYSO strongly urges you to check with your family insurance agent regarding instrument insurance.**

Instrument Loans

Generally, students are expected to provide their own instruments; however, SYSO has some instruments available for loan on a first-come, first-serve basis. A rental fee may apply. Please call the SYSO office at 253.642.7880 for instrument availability or for more information.