

oboe, bassoon, trombone, tuba, and percussion musicians. Email [izchel.chacon@syso.org](mailto:izchel.chacon@syso.org) with any audition inquiries.

# TUITION & FINANCIAL AID

## Tuition

The total tuition amount invoiced is due in full by the scheduled tuition payment dates, regardless of the student's attendance at rehearsals or concerts. In other words, *a family will owe tuition for the entire year, even if their student does not participate in SYSO for one or more terms.*

To assist families, SYSO will accept payments in two parts. The first half of tuition is due October 21, 2022 and the second half is due January 20, 2023. Families may choose to pay in full on the first payment date in October. Invoices will be sent at least one week prior to due dates. Sibling discounts (20% off tuition for the sibling with the lower tuition rate) will automatically be applied to your invoice.

Families have the option to pay via three methods. Tuition can be paid through our online payment portals using a credit card, which has an added 2.49% fee, or through an ACH transfer, which has no added fees. Additionally, families can pay their tuition through mailing a check to the SYSO office. More details will be provided in your invoice.

Ample financial aid is available, and we encourage anyone who may need assistance to apply. The application is embedded in the placement offer form SYSO will send out in late August.

### 2022-2023 Tuition Rates

- \$1100 – Prelude
- \$1350 – Symphonette
- \$1350 – Debut
- \$1650 – Junior
- \$2075 – Youth

## 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 24, 2023 the credit card on file will be automatically charged for the full tuition amount. SYSO staff will communicate clearly and consistently before we enact this final charge. We are here to help: if your situation requires re-evaluation, let us know.

## 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 provides 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.

## 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 ample financial aid. In the past we also made a work study role a requirement for receiving aid, but we now recognize that asking students to work for their aid can be problematic and inequitable.

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 of Prelude musicians) can sign up for that involves helping SYSO to set up and tear down for weekly rehearsals. This is very important work to