



seattle youth symphony orchestra

JUNIOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTOR

Deadline for applications: **February 1, 2023**

Job Status: Part-Time, Seasonal, Exempt Salary

Work Schedule:

- Saturday rehearsals, time TBD - see Rehearsal Calendar for schedule
- Dress Rehearsals & Concerts - see syso.org/concerts for concert schedule
- Additional meetings and preparatory duties
- Aug 14-25 - available for Season Auditions (appx 6-8 hours daily)

Position Title: Junior Symphony Orchestra Conductor

Compensation: \$15,200 annually

Start Date: August 2023

Objective of the Position: Lead the artistic operations of Junior Symphony Orchestra for the SYSO Academic Year Orchestra Program season

Direct Supervisor: Music Director

Supervisory Responsibilities: In partnership with the Music Director, hire and manage sectional music coaches (teaching artists) for Junior Symphony Orchestra

Job Summary: This position provides expertise in orchestral instruction and conducting to lead the Junior Symphony Orchestra. The role participates in planning, adjudication, and conducting at auditions, rehearsals, and concerts.

The Organization:

<http://www.syso.org>

Founded in 1942, Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra (SYSO) is one of the largest and most highly regarded youth orchestra training programs in North America. The organization creates access to music education for more than 1,800 young people each year and its membership reflects the rich diversity of the greater Seattle community. Through six youth orchestras, two summer festival programs, a conservatory program, and extensive partnerships with public schools and community groups, SYSO creates music engagement opportunities for more than 35,000 young musicians, family members, audience members, and patrons each year.

SYSO's mission is to harness the power of music education to provide young people with pathways to artistic excellence, intellectual development, and emotional growth. SYSO's vision is to provide an inclusive and welcoming environment for young people publicly performing in

ensembles large and small throughout the greater Seattle area. SYSO envisions a youth orchestra community that advances equitable artistic practices, uplifts all musicians, and provides them with educational experiences connected to their lives and communities.

SYSO enjoys a prestigious reputation as a high caliber orchestra and counts many acclaimed professional musicians among its alumni, including three founding members of the Kronos Quartet. In addition to the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra, SYSO includes five training orchestras: the **Junior Symphony**; the Debut Symphony; the Symphonette; the Prelude String Orchestra; and MY Southwest. The Junior Symphony Orchestra, consisting of over 100 musicians, challenges musicians with repertoire that is both varied and advanced, providing higher artistic challenges for more-experienced musicians. Students can expect to perform both classic works and newer styles.

Essential Functions:

- Participate actively in Fall Auditions, helping coordinate the placement of students in SYSO Orchestras.
- Program diverse repertoire for the concert season, following the artistic direction of the Music Director.
- As needed, recommend coaches for Junior Symphony Orchestra sectionals with emphasis on individuals who have a proven ability to work with young players.
- Conduct rehearsals so as to make the most efficient use of students' and coaches' time.
- Supervise auditions for seatings.
- Work with SYSO Music Librarian to coordinate the preparation of music for rehearsals, communicate needs for music procurement, preparation, copying, distribution to the librarian according to season schedule.
- Communicate regularly with the Music Director on all musical matters.
- Communicate with other conductors, the Executive Director, Manager of Orchestras, orchestra site coordinators on all pertinent matters related to rehearsals, coaches, schedules, student/family relations.
- Be an advocate of SYSO in all educational and musical communities.
- Assist in recruiting students for SYSO's academic year and summer programs.
- Furnish information needed for concert programs (seatings, program notes, bios) in a timely manner.
- Participate in SYSO fundraising efforts as requested.

Competency, Position Requirements:

- Knowledge of music and music instruction, and artistic planning
- Highly organized
- Clear, concise communication skills
- Collaboration and teamwork skills
- Proficiency with Google Drive

Education and Experience:

- BA or BM in music performance or music education, or 4-5 years of equivalent experience
- Experience working in music and/or educational environment desired

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter, CV, and a 5-10 minute conducting video with a youth/children ensemble (in the format of a link, ex. Google Drive, Youtube link, etc.) to employment@syso.org, subject line: **Junior Conductor Applicant - Last name**

Finalists will be notified on April 3, 2022 and will be asked to conduct Junior Symphony Orchestra on **April 22, 2023**.

People of Color, Women, People with Disabilities, and LGBTQIA+ people are strongly urged to apply.

Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra is an equal opportunity employer. SYSO is committed to providing an inclusive environment of mutual respect where equal employment opportunities are available to all applicants and teammates without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, marital status, political affiliation, amnesty, or status as a covered veteran, in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws. SYSO believes that diversity and inclusion are critical to our success as an arts and educational organization.