

Welcome to the Northshore Youth Symphony Orchestra and our 2009-2010 season. We are happy that you have chosen to include NYSO in your musical journey. We are excited about the year ahead and believe that you will find this to be a wonderful opportunity to grow musically, make new friends and serve your community through music. We believe NYSO provides a very special place for young musicians of all levels.

A note to parents: NYSO makes every effort to be family-friendly, and we encourage you to share your concerns, and also your joys, with us as you travel through the year. NYSO also depends on parent volunteers to make the organization run well and to keep tuition as low as possible. We look forward to having you find the right niche for yourself in our Parent Volunteer Organization.

Now in our nineteenth year, NYSO continues to grow, offering more than 275 members an outstanding multidimensional musical education and orchestral experience. Our mission is to provide musical instruction for young people and to reach out to our communities by performing both major concerts and outreach concerts for underserved groups in our towns. Our ten ensembles, including Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Intermezzo Orchestra, Overture String Ensemble, Prelude String Ensemble, Lawrence String Ensemble, two flute choirs, a clarinet choir, and the NYSO Chorale provide an outstanding experience for young students on the North Shore, Merrimack Valley and southern New Hampshire.

The NYSO program includes weekly rehearsals, concerts, enrichment days, a student retreat, chamber music experience, composition experience, and a unique educational and outreach concert program called "Youth Serving Through Music."

Our concert season includes major performances at a variety of locations including the Ipswich Performing Arts Center, Gordon College Chapel, Firehouse Center for the Arts, and other fine concert halls on the North Shore. Our program this year also includes our twelfth annual Family Concert, performed by the Symphony Orchestra's chamber ensembles in March. Additional outreach concerts in Ipswich, Lawrence, Andover, North Andover, Danvers and Newburyport complete our performance season.

We appreciate our many generous sponsors and donors who support the activities of the orchestra. We also thank our parents and students whose dedication and hard work allow us to provide a program of excellence.

This NYSO Handbook is designed to help you find all the important information you will need about us. Please read it carefully and thoroughly. If you have any questions or additions, please let us hear from you.

Again, welcome to NYSO!

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