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ORCHESTRAS

SEASON 65

YOUTH SYMPHONY

OMAHA SYMPHONY

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Youth Symphony
&
Omaha Symphony Orchestra
Side-by-Side Concert

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YOUTH SYMPHONY AND YOUTH PHILHARMONIC REHEARSAL MANAGER

MOLLY YOUNG
YOUTH CONCERT STRINGS REHEARSAL MANAGER

*For the best orchestral experience for our audience
and ensembles, please remember to turn off all
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Season 65

Omaha Symphony Orchestra

Music Director

Ankush Kumar Bahl



Currently in his third season as Music Director of the Omaha Symphony, Ankush Kumar Bahl has delivered resonant performances of masterworks, new and old, and continues to champion American composers and artists while pursuing innovative, community-based concert design. Committed to expanding the American repertoire, the Omaha Symphony and Maestro Bahl have already commissioned or premiered five new works in their first three seasons together by celebrated composers including Andy Akiho and Stacy Garrop. On the podium, Bahl is recognized by orchestras and audiences alike for his impressive conducting technique, thoughtful interpretations, innovative concert experiences, and engaging presence. In concert, he has left the *Washington Post* “wanting to hear more” and has been praised by the *New York Times* for his “clear authority and enthusiasm” and “ability to inspire.”

Highlights of Bahl’s classical series guest engagements include performances with the New York Philharmonic, Detroit Symphony, Houston Symphony, San Diego Symphony, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Orchestre National de France, Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de México, and the National Symphony Orchestra (D.C.). An experienced collaborator, Bahl has worked with many prominent soloists, among them Daniil Trifonov, Lang Lang, Emanuel Ax, Sarah Chang, Bhezod Abduraimov, Conrad Tao, Anthony McGill, and Kelley O’Connor.

A protégé of former New York Philharmonic Music Director Kurt Masur, Bahl served as his assistant conductor at the Orchestre National de France, and from 2011 to 2015 was the assistant conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra under Christoph Eschenbach. Bahl has been fortunate to also count Maestros Jaap van Zweden, Zdenek Macal, David Zinman, and Gianandrea Noseda among his mentors.

ORCHESTRAL PERSONNEL YOUTH SYMPHONY

Violin I

Jasmine Palikhya, concertmaster
Freya Shogren, associate concertmaster
Madeline Bean, assistant concertmaster
Jonah Koesters
Lucille Liu
Kiel Matos

Violin II

Isabella Scollard, co-principal
Ethan Wiese, co-principal
Austin Gong, associate principal
Elizabeth McGovern, assistant principal
Julia Bringewatt
Adam Fried
Alyssa Hoscheid
David Rice
Quinn Skiermont

Viola

Norah Purcell, co-principal
Rachel Wu, co-principal
Danny Cox, associate principal
Davin Wang, assistant principal
Elise Cherek
Brett Fisher
Olivia French
Lily Palmer

Cello

Olive Lowe, co-principal
Kathleen Fleming, co-principal
Sarah Lienemann, assistant principal
Ethan Rieck, associate principal
Bella Lechtenberger Nuñez
Duncan Sanders
Avalon Sperry

Bass

Heike Lowe, principal
Joshua Bartsch, associate principal
Brayden Higgins
Cee-Cee Soderlin

Flute

Jolie Dittman
Presley Gofta
Amor Lopez Pearson
Vyshnavi Perisetla
Jacki Petrow
Natalie Tse

Oboe

Emmie Fuller
Laura McCoy
Grace Veit
Christian Wang

Clarinet

Bennett Lambelet
Josh Palmer
Mitchell Vacek
Charlie Ward

Bassoon

Kaylee Frederick
Chelsea Phillips
Indigo Salas

French Horn

Cameron Barona
Evie Nelson
Kylie Nelson

Trumpet

Talan "T-Money" Draft
Avery Fuller
Logan Topp
Isaac Yentes

Trombone

Blake Haggerty
McKaylee Houg
Brennan Rieck
Dylan Smith

Tuba

Jensen Manz

Percussion

Nick Serwatowski

Omaha Symphony Orchestra Personnel

Scan the link below to view the OSO Roster



YOUTH SYMPHONY

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MYRA COVENEY, REHEARSAL MANAGER

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1904)

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II. ADAGIO

III. ALLEGRETTO GRAZIOSO

**IV. ALLEGRO, MA NON
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FREYA SHOGREN, VIOLIN
NORAH PURCELL, VIOLA
AVALON SPERRY, CELLO
JOSHUA BARTSCH, BASS
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- September 8..... Violinist Cristian Fatu and Guitarist Beau Bledsoe
- October 8..... Annual Outdoor Concert with Back Alley Brass Band
- November 17..... Nebraska Tenor Brian Jeffers Returns Home
- January 21 Flutist Adam Sadberry
- February 18..... Heritage String Quartet Omaha
- April 9..... The Queen's Six Vocal Ensemble from London, England
- May 5..... Memorial Organ Concert with Recitalist David von Behren

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2023 - 2024
SEASON 65

THANK YOU

OAYO
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&
COACHES



WE APPRECIATE THE HOURS AND
COMMITMENT THAT YOU HAVE PROVIDED
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CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OAYO SENIORS

We would like to recognize all of our seniors' accomplishments!

Jolie Dittman

Flute, 2 years in OAYO
Millard South High School
Attending: Concordia University, NE
Major/Minor: Secondary Education
Scholarships: Academic Scholarships, Music Scholarship at Concordia, Ron Witt Memorial Scholarship, Barbara Siedschlag Memorial Scholarship
Music Awards/Honors: Doane Honor Band
Academic Awards/Honors: National Honor Society, Gold Honor Roll
Activities: Marching band, Varsity choir, show choir, Millard Education Academy

Brett Fisher

Viola, 2 years in OAYO
Brownell Talbot
Attending: Columbia University
Major/Minor: Economics-Political Science, with a Concentration in Business Management
Scholarships: Columbia University Scholars Program, Fordham Scholarship at Fordham, Purple and Gold Scholarship at UW Seattle, Founders Scholarship at Connecticut College, LMU Arrupe Scholarship
Music Awards/Honors: All-State Orchestra
Academic Awards/Honors: National Merit Finalist, Vice President of the Student Body, National Honor Society, Magna cum laude- National Latin Exam: Intermediate Latin/Advanced Latin Prose, USA Fencing All-Academic First Team USA, 3x Letter Winner for Orchestra
Activities: Orchestra, Politics Club, Team Manager-Basketball, Transcription Volunteer for Smithsonian Institute, Counselor at Camp Discovery, Piano

Jonah Koesters

Violin, 8 Years in OAYO
Omaha Central High School
Attending: Iowa State University or UNO
Major/Minor: Engineering
Scholarships: Presidential Scholarship at Colorado School of Mines; Scott's Scholars Scholarship and Regents at UNO; Regents, Engineering merit, and Music Minor Scholarship at Iowa State
Music Awards/Honors: Nebraska All-State and All-city Orchestra
Academic Awards/Honors: National Honors Society, 4.0 Honor Roll, AP Scholar with Distinction
Activities: Varsity Powerlifting, Creighton Haddix Research Internship, Choir

Bella Lechtenberger Nuñez

Cello, 1 year in OAYO
Millard South High School
Attending: University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Major/Minor: Business Administration and management
Scholarships: We Are Nebraska Commitment RES scholarship and the Husker Power Scholarship
Music Awards/Honors: section leader in school orchestra for 3 years, section leader for 2 years in band, superior ratings at DMC for 2 years
Academic Awards/Honors: color guard award for leadership, gold honor roll (above a 3.5 gpa)
Activities: Marching band, Varsity winter guard, chamber orchestra, and volunteer at the Joslyn Art Museum.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OAYO SENIORS

We would like to recognize all of our seniors' accomplishments!

Amor Lopez Pearson

Flute, 3 years in OAYO

Homeschool/MCC

Attending: Metropolitan Community College

Major/Minor: Undecided

Scholarships: MCC Scholarship

Music Awards/Honors: 100 day practice award

Activities: Girl Scouts, Science Academy, AYUDH Chicago, Flute Camp in Chicago

Heike Lowe

Bass, 8 years in OAYO

Westside High School

Attending: Colburn, Northwestern, or Peabody

Major/Minor: Double Bass Performance

Music Awards/Honors: NMEA Awards Dinner Selected chamber ensemble performer; Outstanding Musicianship and Chamber Music Competition Grand Prize Winner at Rushmore Music Festival, NSBA State Jazz Festival Outstanding Musician, NSAA leadership in Music, Westside High School Orchestra Best Junior Musician, Saint Paul Chamber Music Competition First Prize Winner, District Music Contest Superior rating, Interlochen Bass Intensive Awarded Soloist, Rushmore Music Festival Awarded Soloist, OAYO Concerto Competition Winner, principal bass of OAYO YS, NYO orchestra section bassist

Academic Awards/Honors:

Academic All-State, Award in recognition for academic excellence, Honor Roll all 4 years, National Honors Society

Activities: Jazz Band, Chamber ensemble at OCM, Show Band, Cross country, Track

Kiel Matos

Violin, 7 years in OAYO

Bellevue East High School

Attending: UNO

Major/Minor: Aviation/Military (Air Force)

Scholarships: 4-year scholarship at UNO

Music Awards/Honors: All-State band/orchestra, 1st chair French horn in school Wind Ensemble

Academic Awards/Honors: Honor roll, Honors Program, Academic Achievement Awards

Activities: Jazz band, Marching Band, Theater, JROTC, Spanish Club, Art Club

Laura McCoy

Oboe, 1 year in OAYO

Millard North High School

Attending: University of Nebraska Lincoln

Major/Minor: Major in Zoology Major, Minor in Music

Scholarships: Regents Scholarship at UNL, Cody Elementary PTA scholarship

Music Awards/Honors: Superior Rating at District Music Contest, 2 years Nebraska All-State Band oboist, Principal chair oboe Nebraska All-State Band, Clarinet Section Leader

Academic Awards/Honors:

Graduating Summa Cum Laude, Superior Honor Roll all 4 years, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Academic Letter, Rotary Honor Roll, Regent's Scholar

Activities: Marching/concert Band, Orchestra/orchestra winds, Pit Orchestra, Club volleyball, Volleyball assistant coach, Cody Practice Club (orchestra tutoring), National and Spanish Honor Societies

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OAYO SENIORS

We would like to recognize all of our seniors' accomplishments!

Kylie Nelson

French Horn, 3 years in OAYO
Gretna High School

Attending: Concordia College
(Moorhead)

Major/Minor: Major in Music
Performance, Minor in Spanish

Scholarships: Academic
scholarships at Concordia College
(Moorhead), University of South
Dakota, UNL, North Dakota State
University, UNO, Western Michigan
University. Music scholarships at
Concordia College (Moorhead),
University of South Dakota

Music Awards/Honors: Best High
Brass Solo at Gretna Music Contest
2023, UNO BOCH Festival 2023,
Concordia College Honor Band
2024

Academic Awards/Honors: National
Honor Society, Honor Roll

Activities: Marching Band, Concert
Band, Concert Choir, Spanish Honor
Society, Volunteering and youth
group at church

Josh Palmer

Clarinet, 4 years in OAYO
Mount Michael Benedictine

Attending: University of Gonzaga

Major/Minor: International Studies,
Economics

Scholarships: Merit Scholarships

Music Awards/Honors: BOCH
Festival

Academic Awards/Honors: Dean's
List

Activities: Theater, Tennis, Band,
Academic Decathlon, HETRA,
Heartland Hope Mission

Jasmine Palikhya

Violin, 9 years in OAYO
Westside High School

Attending: Undecided

Major: International Relations and Economics

Scholarships: Presidential Scholarship at
American University, Occidental University,
George Washington University and Brandeis
University; Regents Scholarship and We Are
Nebraska Commitment RES at UNL; Dean's
Scholarship at Fordham University, University
of California - Santa Cruz and Santa Clara
University; Trustee Scholarship at University
of Puget Sound; DeWitt Wallace
Distinguished Scholarship at Macalester
College; Purple and Gold Scholarship at
University of Washington; Scholarship at
University of Pittsburgh

Music Awards/Honors: Grand Prize Winner -
Saint Paul Chamber Music Competition;
Assistant Concertmaster of Nebraska All-
State Orchestra; OAYO, Concerto
Competition Winner; Performance at U.S.
Capitol for the installation of Willa Cather
statue for the state of Nebraska; Honorable
Mention - Orchestra Omaha Young Artists
Competition (Senior Division); 1st place -
Orchestra Omaha Young Artists Competition
(Junior Division); Merit Scholarship - Omaha
Conservatory of Music; Concertmaster -
Westside High School Chamber Orchestra;
Concertmaster, co-concertmaster, and
assistant concertmaster - OAYO Youth
Symphony

Academic Awards/Honors: NHS, AP Scholar
with Honor, 1st Place Advertising Design
Competition and 2nd Place InDepth
Newspaper Coverage at NSAA State
Journalism Class A, 1st Place News Magazine
Layout and InDepth Coverage at Journalism
Education Association, Third Place - Single-
page Layout, Third Place Double-page
Layout in Nebraska Press Women (NPW)
High School Communications Contest

Activities: Frontier Strings, OCM Chamber
Music Ensemble, Student Council, Camp
Counselor at Camp Kindness (Nebraska
Humane Society), Assistant Teacher with
String Sprouts, Barista/Cashier at Le Quartier

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OAYO SENIORS

We would like to recognize all of our seniors' accomplishments!

Jacki Petrow

Flute, 5 years in OAYO
Bellevue West High School
Attending: University of Nebraska
Lincoln
Major/Minor: Environmental Studies
Scholarships: Regents Scholarship
UNL
Music Awards/Honors: All-State
Band piccolo/first flute, All-State
Orchestra piccolo/first flute
Academic Awards/Honors: NHS
leadership, Academic letters (4x),
Journalism letters (2x), Green
Bellevue Environmental Champion,
SNHS
Activities: Marching Band, Show
Choir Band, Winter Winds, Sustain
Bell West, Musical pit, Omaha
Students for Sustainability,
Newspaper

Norah Purcell

Viola, 2 years in OAYO
Omaha Central High School
Attending: St. Olaf College
Major/Minor: Music (viola and voice)
Scholarships: Presidential
Scholarship and Cassler Music
Scholarship at St. Olaf
Music Awards/Honors: Principal
Chair Viola OAYO youth symphony
2023-24, All State Orchestra 2023
Academic Awards/Honors: National
Honor Society, Honor Roll
Activities: CHS Choirs, CHS Bell
Choir, All State Chorus 2022

Chelsea Philips

Bassoon, 1 year in OAYO
Bellevue East High School
Attending: UNO or Northwest
Missouri State
Major/Minor: Music Education
Scholarships: Amelia E. Jossi
scholarship at UNO. Glenn Korff
School of music, Husker Power
Scholarship, Hixon-Lied CFPA Sch/
Fell at UNL. School of Music
Scholarship at NWMS
Music Awards/Honors: All-State
band, Drum Major
Academic Awards/Honors: Honor
Roll
Activities: Marching band, Jazz
band, Show choir band, Winter
Winds, Powerlifting

David Rice

Violin, 3 years in OAYO
Concordia Jr/Sr High School
Attending: Iowa State
Major/Minor: Electrical Engineering
Scholarships: Regents Scholarship
and Nebraska Career Scholarship at
UNL. Engineering Merit scholarship,
Expedition Award, and Academic
Achievement award at Iowa State.
Music Awards/Honors:
Concertmaster in school orchestra
Academic Awards/Honors:
Valedictorian, National Merit
Finalist, XC academic all-state, Track
academic all-state.
Activities: Cross Country, Track,
Envirothon, Robotics, School
Orchestra

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OAYO SENIORS

We would like to recognize all of our seniors' accomplishments!

Ethan Rieck

Cello, 4 years in OAYO

Homeschool

Attending: St. Olaf College

Major/Minor: Major in Physics,

Minor in Music or Ecology

Scholarships: Regents Scholarship at St. Olaf, Regents Scholarship at UNO, Presidential Scholarship at Union College.

Academic Awards/Honors: Member of Phi Theta Kappa

Activities: Nebraska Wildlife Rehab's Science Academy, Aksarben Curling League, Omaha Astronomical Society.

Indigo Salas

Bassoon, 2 years in OAYO

Fremont High School

Attending: University of Nebraska Omaha

Major/Minor: Music Education and Theater

Scholarships: Regents Scholarship at UNO

Music Awards/Honors: Two Superior ratings at District Music Contest, Two Superior ratings at Elkhorn Band Olympics, Principal Bassoon at FHS. All-State Band member '22 and '23, UNO BOCH Wind Ensemble.

Academic Awards/Honors: 1st place in SkillsUSA Photography in 2024, Academic Achievement Award for Freshman and Sophomore Year, 3rd place in SkillsUSA photo contest.

Activities: Thespian Society, SkillsUSA, Jazz, Colorguard

Duncan Sanders

Cello, 3 years in OAYO

Omaha Burke High School

Attending: Champlain College

Major/Minor: Video Game Programming

Scholarships: Merit scholarship, Faculty scholarship, and Excellence scholarship at Champlain

Music Awards/Honors: Superior rating in OPS District Music Contest, Letter in Orchestra, Principal chair in school orchestra, Honors school chamber orchestra

Academic Awards/Honors: Eagle Scout, AP Scholar, Academic Letter

Activities: Scouts, School of Rock

Freya Shogren

Violin, 9 years in OAYO

Homeschool

Attending: University of Nebraska Lincoln

Major/Minor: Viola Performance

Scholarships: Presidential Scholarship at Norwich University, Founders Scholarship at Creighton University, Admiral's Scholarship at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, and Music Scholarships from the University of South Dakota and UNL.

Activities: Contra Dancing, Scandinavian Dancing, Young Musician Mentorship, Traditional Fiddling, All-State Musicals, Equestrian, Church Volunteer, Opera Club.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OAYO SENIORS

We would like to recognize all of our seniors' accomplishments!

Natalie Tse

Flute, 4 years in OAYO
Omaha Central High School
Attending: Brown University
Major/Minor: Major in Neuroscience and Psychology, Minor in Visual Arts
Scholarships: Founder's Award at Creighton,
Regents Scholarship at UNL,
Fordham scholarship at Fordham,
Bayley Award and University Scholarship at Seton Hall
Academic Awards/Honors: National Honor Society, Honor Roll, 30+ ACT club, AP scholar
Activities: Art club, volleyball, book club, academic decathlon, national honors society, Kent Bellows art mentorship

Rachel Wu

Viola, 5 years in OAYO
Elkhorn South High School
Attending: Duke University
Major/Minor: Biomedical engineering & Computer Science
Scholarships: Presidential at UNL, Presidential at Boston University, Purple and Gold and UW, Presidential at USC, Rush Rhees at University of Rochester, Brown Scholar at Texas A&M, National Merit Scholarship
Music Awards/Honors: NAFME All National Symphony Orchestra, NMEA All state 4x, St Paul Chamber Music Competition Winner, Hornline Sergeant & Section leader in ESHS Band, Principal Chair in YS, Superior Rating at DMC, UNO Boch principal, Orchestra Omaha Honorable Mention, MTNA Honorable Mention
Academic Awards/Honors: Salutatorian, National Merit Finalist, National Honor Society, Omaha World Herald All State Academic Nominee, Girls State Delegate, Quiz Bowl State Champion 2x, Speech Nationals Qualifier, US Biology Olympiad Semifinalist, American Mathematics Competition District Winner
Activities: Marching Band, Quiz Bowl, Speech Team, Student Advocates for Gender Equality, Science Club, Senior Class Board

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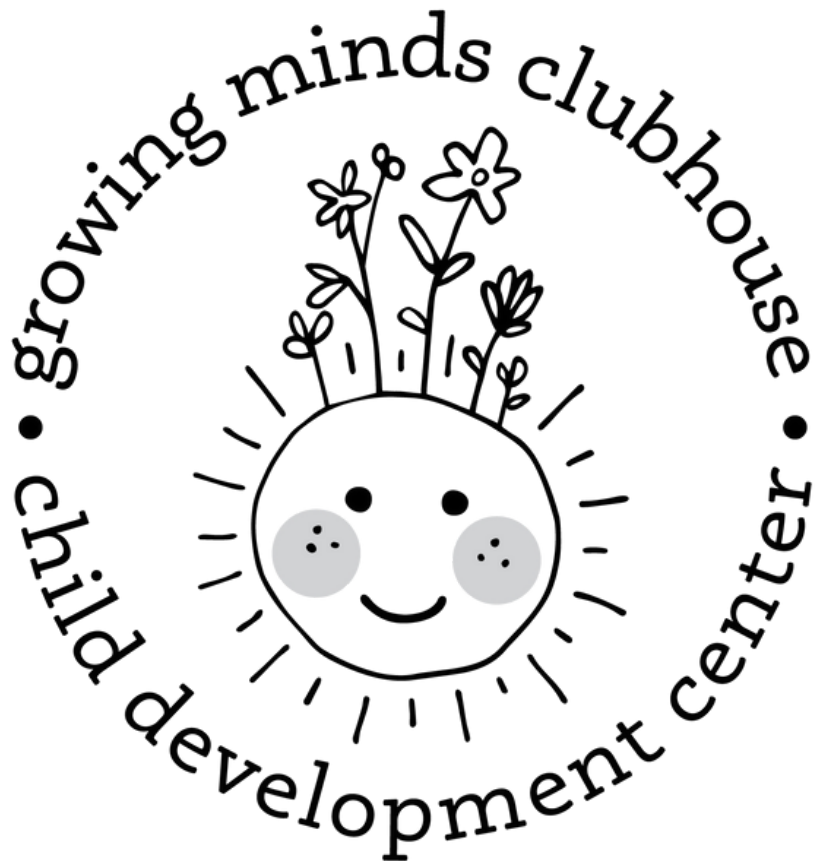
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Tiny Hands of OAYO

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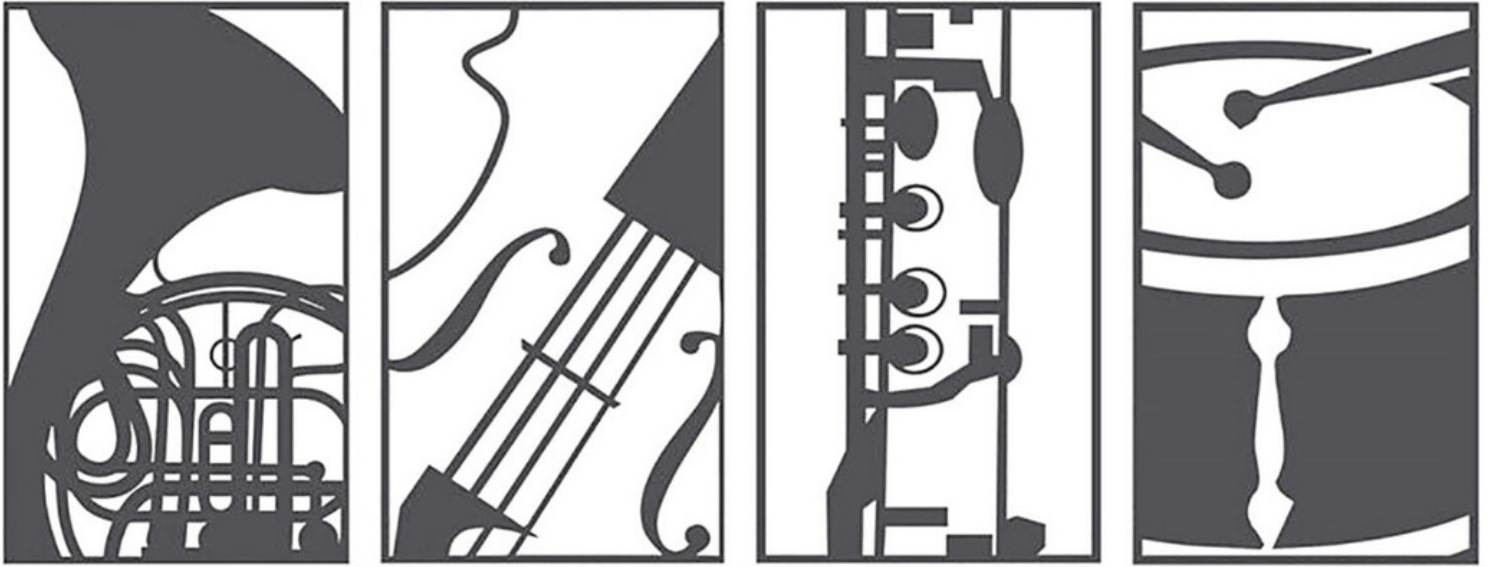
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2024-2025 OAYO Auditions



LISTEN TO THE FUTURE

omaha area youth orchestras

Audition for one of OAYO's four ensembles:

Youth Symphony (YS)

Youth Philharmonic (YP)

Youth Concert Strings (YCS)

Chamber Music Ensembles (CME)

ENSEMBLE AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

YS - Choose one (1) major and one (1) minor scale that shows your current ability level and a 2 minute solo.

YP - Choose one (1) major and one (1) minor scale that shows your current ability level and a 2 minute solo.

YCS - Three (3) major scales of choice and a 1-2 minute solo of choice.

CME - Chamber Music does not require a separate audition. Please indicate in your audition registration if you are interested in participating in the chamber music program.

Auditions are **virtual**, and will be submitted online.

For more information, please visit www.OAYO.org -or- follow us on Facebook!

More about Omaha Area Youth Orchestras' ensembles

Youth Symphony (YS)

Repertoire? YS performs highlights from the standard orchestral repertoire, as well as music by both living and historically underperformed composers.

Who should audition? Advanced high school-aged musicians who demonstrate the full range of abilities specific to their instrument.

Additional information: Learning transposition and playing in multiple clefs as appropriate for the instrument. Audition requirements include scales and a solo. Please visit oayo.org for specific requirements. Wind and brass players may be asked to learn an additional short excerpt, following their initial audition.

When are rehearsals? Sundays for 2.5 hours. *Season runs from September through May.*

Where are rehearsals? Strauss Performing Arts Center on the UNO campus.

Youth Philharmonic (YP)

Repertoire? YP performs unabridged standard orchestral repertoire, music by both living and historically underperformed composers, as well as advanced level arrangements with a focus on refining orchestral technique.

Who should audition? Musicians in grades 5-12 who demonstrate an expanded set of abilities on their instrument.

Additional information: Appropriate instruments should be open to learning transposition and playing in multiple clefs. Audition requirements include scales and a solo. Please visit oayo.org for specific requirements. Wind and brass players may be asked to learn an additional short excerpt, following their initial audition.

When are rehearsals? Sundays for 2 hours. *Season runs from September through March.*

Where are rehearsals? Strauss Performing Arts Center on the UNO campus.

Youth Concert Strings (YCS)

Repertoire? YCS is an intermediate level string orchestra - an energetic and nurturing introduction to ensemble performance.

Who should audition? Talented string musicians in grades 3-8. Strings-only ensemble.

Additional information: Audition requirements include scales and a 1-2 minute solo. Please visit oayo.org for specific requirements.

When are rehearsals? Sundays for 1 hour 45 minutes. *Season runs from September through March.*

Where are rehearsals? Strauss Performing Arts Center on the UNO campus.

Chamber Music Ensembles (CME)

Repertoire? A chamber music ensemble is a small ensemble without a conductor where each musician plays an individual part, usually consisting of three to six musicians.

Who should audition? YS, YP, and YCS all have a chamber music ensemble option. It is an additional commitment to YS, YP, and YCS membership.

Additional information: No audition required, but interest should be indicated when registering for an audition

When are rehearsals? CME rehearsals are 1 hour and take place either before or after YS, YP, or YCS rehearsals.


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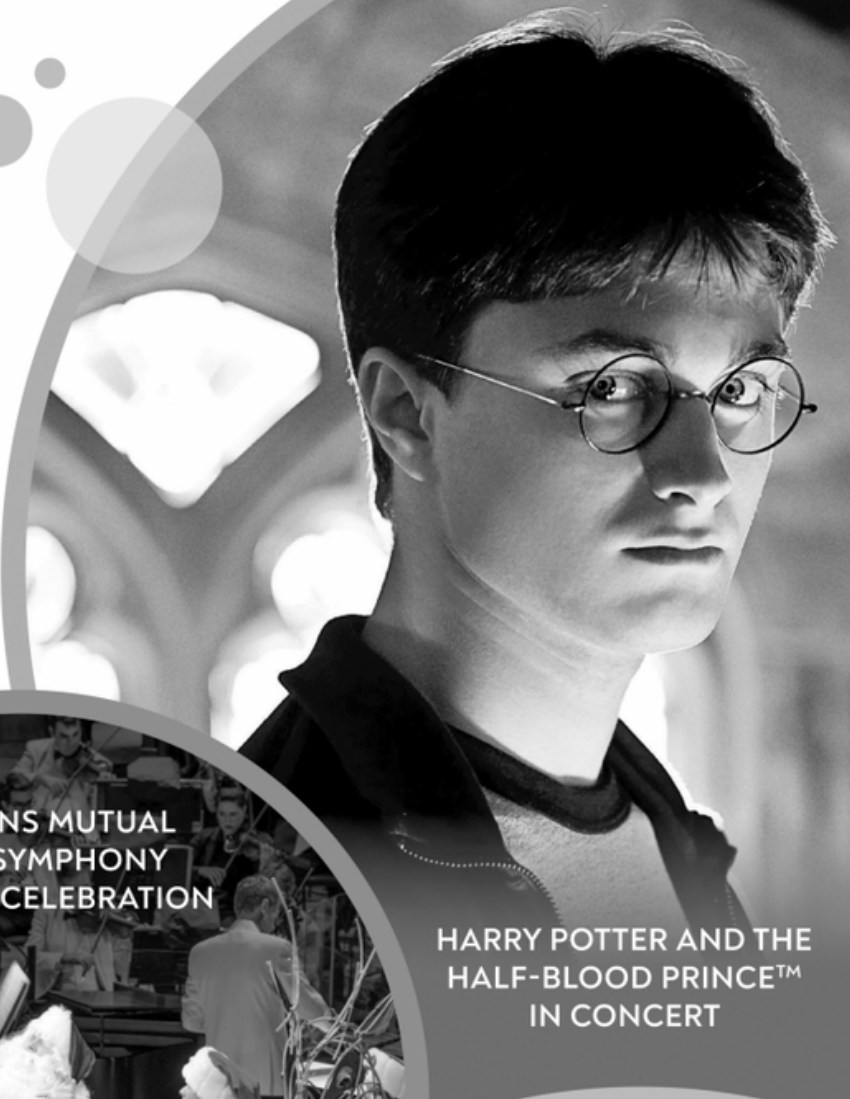


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