

CONDUCTOR OF PRELUDE ORCHESTRA

The Orchestra:

Founded in 1956, the purpose of the Norwalk Youth Symphony (Norwalk, CT) is to enrich the lives of young people within a musical community. For 66 years we have provided the finest possible training, practice and performance opportunities, enabling our students to learn, share and enjoy the power of music.

In partnership with parents, teachers and schools we provide exposure to diverse orchestral styles under the guidance of musical professionals, identify and educate motivated students regardless of financial circumstance, foster a sense of achievement and self-esteem through a developmental approach and promote self-discipline and teamwork through respect for artistic standards.

The Norwalk Youth Symphony has always been characterized by gifted musicians, dedicated conductors, challenging music and exciting and exacting performances.

Prelude is the first tier of the NYS's four tiered program. The string orchestra studies and performs works arranged for young string musicians to develop skills in general string technique, music theory, and ensemble performance. Prelude is made up primarily of 4th through 7th graders. While this is the general age breakdown, it is the student's ability, rather than his/her age, that determines orchestra placement. The sample repertoire includes:

- NEWBOLD Riders in the Night "Life of a Cowboy"
- MOZART Serenade No. 9 "Posthorn", K. 320
- MUSSORGSKY Hopak
- MEYER Curse of the Rosin Eating Zombies from Outer Space
- RIMSKY-KORSAKOV Dance of the Tumblers
- ANDERSON The Syncopated Clock

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Conduct entry-level string orchestra.
- Prelude rehearses for two hours on Sundays from mid-September through the second weekend in May (Mother's Day), from 12:30 to 2:30 pm.
- Concerts are the weekend before Thanksgiving, the second weekend after Presidents Day and Mother's Day.
- The Conductor is also present for all auditions, which run for about four days at the end of August/beginning of September
- There is a pre-dress rehearsal for Prelude, generally the Tuesday before each concert, which every musician is required to attend (otherwise they are permitted two absences per concert) and the Saturday of concert weekend there is a also a mandatory rehearsal.
- The Conductor may miss no more than two rehearsals per year without penalty.
- Prepare him/herself and the orchestra for performances of the highest attainable artistic level, while creating a nurturing environment.
- Determine seating within sections to fit the program being played.
- Take an active part in recruitment whenever possible.
- Be available, upon request, to assist in the promotion of the orchestra.
- Work toward establishing and maintaining positive and productive relationships among student players, parents, other conductors, NYS board and staff.
- Work closely with the Executive Director.
- Work within the orchestra's budget and in recognition that the Board is not responsible for unauthorized expenditures.
- Plan and conduct all scheduled rehearsals and concerts in consultation with the Executive Director and the Curriculum Committee.
- Submit proposed repertoire for the entire November concert to the Music Director and Executive Director no later than August 15th.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EDUCATION

- Minimum bachelor's degree in Music Performance, Conducting, or Music Education, with at least two years' experience leading a full string orchestra or string ensemble.
- String specialist
- Ability to educate, excite and motivate younger, less experienced musicians.

COMPENSATION

NYS offers an attractive compensation package including a base stipend, annual signing bonus and a discretionary end of season bonus.

If Interested, please submit a letter of interest, résumé, teaching video, and references by July 31, 2022 to nysed1956@gmail.com:

Sara Watkins Executive Director
Norwalk Youth Symphony 71 East Avenue, Suite N Norwalk, CT
06851
Office Phone: (203) 866-4100 nysed@norwalkyouthsymphony.org

Videos may be provided via links to websites, YouTube, or other on line hosting services.

For more information visit www.norwalkyouthsymphony.org