Youth Orchestra Mentorship Program
2011-2013

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
and
APPLICATION
**What is the Youth Orchestra Mentorship Program?**
The Youth Orchestra Mentorship Program connects Los Angeles-based youth orchestras with the Los Angeles Philharmonic in a deep-rooted tradition of mentorship. Youth orchestra directors will work closely with Los Angeles Philharmonic teaching faculty and education staff to identify program goals, cultivate a professional community, and actively contribute ideas and resources to the YOLA Stakeholders Network and the El Sistema movement. Students will work closely with the LA Phil teaching artist faculty to raise their self-expectations, improve individual and ensemble musicianship, and recognize and access resources that will continue to serve them beyond the rehearsal space and time.

**Program components**
The Youth Orchestra Mentorship Program serves orchestras through a two-tiered model: *Youth Orchestra Mentorship Program* and *Youth Orchestra Mentorship Program, Premier.*

**Youth Orchestra Mentorship Program:**
Up to 12 school or community youth orchestras will be selected by a panel of LA Phil staff.
- 2 LA Phil musician encounter hours per year (master class or demonstration and lecture)
- Up to 60 LA Phil teaching artist visit hours to be determined based on your rehearsal schedule
- Invitation to one LA Phil rehearsal
- Concert tickets when available
- Invitation to Symphonies for Schools if a school youth orchestra
- Automatic membership in the YOLA Stakeholders Network (See LAPhil.com/education for more information on the YOLA Stakeholders Network.)
- Professional development for youth orchestra directors
  - Peer-to-peer mentorship
  - YOLA Stakeholders Network Participation
  - Goal-setting and long-term planning workshops

**Youth Orchestra Mentorship Program, Premier:**
Up to 4 school or community youth orchestras will be selected by a panel of LA Phil musicians and staff.

In addition to the above program components, youth orchestras with Premier status will receive:
- Up to 6 additional LA Phil musician encounter hours per year (master class, demonstration and lecture, sectional, etc.)
- At least 60 concert tickets per year
- Composer Fellow in residence (Must be willing to partner with a young composer. See LAPhil.com/education for more information on the Composer Fellowship Program.)
- One performance on the stage of Walt Disney Concert Hall (Spring of 2012 or 2013 - determined by LA Phil staff)

*While youth orchestras are welcome to reapply for the Youth Orchestra Mentorship Program every two years, after obtaining Premier status, a youth orchestra must wait a two year cycle before reapplying for Premier status.*
I. Eligibility checklist

In order to be considered for this program, your ensemble:

☐ Must be a school or community youth orchestra or band of traditional instrumentation (string orchestra, full orchestra, symphonic wind band) with at least 20 members. (This program is not intended for college or university orchestras.)

☐ Must have traditional band/orchestra repertoire at the core of the curriculum.

☐ Must have a minimum of three years operational experience and an operating budget or supportive school administration that demonstrates organization’s sustainability through 2013.

☐ Must have adequate rehearsal space.

☐ Must be in session from Fall through Spring and meet at least once per week.

☐ Must not have more than a 10% graduation or drop-out rate during its active season.

☐ Should discourage students from changing instruments frequently throughout their years in the ensemble.

☐ Must rehearse in L.A. County. Please know that location will be taken into account. We do not ask our teaching artists and LA Phil musicians to travel more than 25 miles from their homes.

Additional requirements for the conductor and youth orchestra leadership:

☐ Conductor must have been with the group for one year and plan to stay for at least two more.

☐ Conductor must devote 15–20 hours per season to planning and curricular development with LA Phil teaching artists and staff, including planning meetings and professional development workshops.

☐ Conductor must be willing to participate in peer-to-peer professional development as both mentor and mentee.

☐ Conductor and other leadership commits to participating in YOLA Stakeholders Network.

☐ Conductor should be willing to serve as main contact with LA Phil staff.

☐ Conductor and other youth orchestra leadership are open to collaboration with LA Phil teaching artists, staff, and musicians.

Additional ensemble requirements to be considered for Premier status:

☐ Must have a system of student leadership (could include section leaders, student leadership board, etc.).

☐ Must have a consistent rehearsal plan (such as warm-ups).

☐ Must have long- and short-term program goals clearly articulated with plans in place to reach these goals.

☐ Must perform multiple times throughout the year.

* Please note that although some youth orchestra organizations and schools operate multiple youth orchestras, the LA Phil Youth Orchestra Mentorship Program will work with only one youth orchestra per organization or school.
II. General information

Name of ensemble: ____________________________________________________________

Year ensemble was founded: ___________________________________________________

Street address: _______________________________________________________________

City: ____________________________    ZIP: ________________________________

Website: ________________________________________________________________

Conductor

Other support staff: title

Work phone

Name

Mobile phone

Phone

Email

Email

Principal (if school)

Other support staff: title

Phone

Name

Email

Number of years at this school

Email
III. Organizational information
For what kind of ensemble are you applying?
- [ ] Full Orchestra
- [ ] String Orchestra
- [ ] Symphonic Band

Please make an estimate of the number of students in each of the following sections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strings</th>
<th>Winds</th>
<th>Brass</th>
<th>Percussion</th>
<th>=</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. Does your ensemble provide instrumental coaching? [ ] Yes [ ] No

2. Does your ensemble charge fees? [ ] Yes [ ] No
   If yes, please describe fee structure:

3. Is membership in your ensemble determined by audition? [ ] Yes [ ] No

4. (For schools) Do students self-select to join the ensemble? [ ] Yes [ ] No

5. Does your school or organization provide any instruments for the students? [ ] Yes [ ] No

6. Does your ensemble have an adequate and permanent rehearsal space? [ ] Yes [ ] No
   Please describe the rehearsal space and any auxiliary spaces:

7. Where does your ensemble perform, and how often?
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

8. Is your ensemble in partnership with another music organization? [ ] Yes [ ] No
   If yes, please state the name of the partner organization:
   ____________________________________________________________

9. How many students in your ensemble are receiving private lessons?
   ____________________________________________________________

10. Please list any awards or accolades that your ensemble has received in the last 4 years:
    ____________________________________________________________
    ____________________________________________________________
IV. To be completed by the conductor

On a scale of 1–5, 1 indicating an area on which you must work and 5 indicating an area in which you feel you have a high degree of mastery and could serve as a mentor to your colleagues, please rate your skills and briefly explain, if you wish:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repertoire choices</th>
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<th>2 □</th>
<th>3 □</th>
<th>4 □</th>
<th>5 □</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classroom management</td>
<td>1 □</td>
<td>2 □</td>
<td>3 □</td>
<td>4 □</td>
<td>5 □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conducting</td>
<td>1 □</td>
<td>2 □</td>
<td>3 □</td>
<td>4 □</td>
<td>5 □</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy, marketing, promotion</td>
<td>1 □</td>
<td>2 □</td>
<td>3 □</td>
<td>4 □</td>
<td>5 □</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creative instructional methods</td>
<td>1 □</td>
<td>2 □</td>
<td>3 □</td>
<td>4 □</td>
<td>5 □</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On a separate sheet of paper, please answer the following questions:

1. Please state your overall vision for your ensemble. Describe its current state, and how you envision it developing in the next 2–3 years.

2. What are your expectations of the Youth Orchestra Mentorship Program, and on what basis will you evaluate the program’s effectiveness?

3. Please explain what makes your ensemble unique or distinctive (location, kinds of students served, teaching methods and philosophy, etc.).

4. Does the ensemble currently have a system of student leadership in place? If yes, please describe (section leaders, student leadership board, etc.).

5. Please describe your ensemble’s rehearsal procedures (general routines including warm-ups, end of rehearsal dismissal, discipline, etc.).
V. Please include the following materials with this application:

- Complete answers to sections I-IV.
- A rehearsal schedule including the months during which you rehearse and the days and times of your rehearsals.
- The most recent annual operating budget. (If you do not have this in a formal document, please describe the budget to the best of your ability.)
- Brochures and/or other materials describing the orchestra and its activities if available.
- A list of repertoire and/or copies of concert programs performed in the last year.
- Bio of the conductor; please include information describing his/her conducting experience and background.
- Audio CD of the ensemble recorded within the last year (no DVDs please).

Application instructions:

Please complete the application and return by mail to the Los Angeles Philharmonic Education Department no later than June 10, 2011. Please note that faxed applications will not be accepted.

Mail application to:

Youth Orchestra Mentorship Program
Los Angeles Philharmonic Education Department
151 South Grand Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Timeline:

- Youth orchestras will be selected by June 24, 2011.
- If you are selected, a planning meeting will take place the week of September 19, 2011, unless you are selected as a semi-finalist for Premier status.
- If you are selected as a semi-finalist for Premier status, a live audition at the rehearsal site will be scheduled and held by October 15, 2011.
- Final selections for Premier status will be made no later than October 21, 2011 and a planning meeting will take place the week of October 24, 2011.

For more information, please contact Selina Traylor, Manager, Young Musicians Programs, by email at STraylor@LAPhil.org or by phone at (213) 972-3454, or Lydia Mulkey, Manager, School Programs, by email at LMulkey@LAPhil.org or by phone at (213) 972-3647.

Leadership support for the LA Phil's educational initiatives is provided by Fidelity Investments, Annenberg Foundation, Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts, Amgen Foundation, and the Rose Hills Foundation.