

Lancashire Youth Symphony Orchestra/ Lancashire Schools' Symphony Orchestra

The LYSO and LSSO are part of Lancashire County Council's provision for the young musicians of Lancashire to experience ensemble playing at the highest levels under the tuition and guidance of some of our Country's leading musicians.

Introducing the LYSO

The Orchestra has an annual programme of rehearsals, courses, concerts and bi-annual concert tours in the summer vacation. Over the years the Orchestra has visited many countries including USA, Denmark, France, Malaysia, Singapore, Poland, Spain, Italy and Germany.

Introducing the LSSO

The Lancashire Schools' Symphony Orchestra was formed in 1974 as a preparatory ensemble for the Lancashire Youth Symphony Orchestra, in order to give young musicians their first experience of playing symphonic orchestral music. Since its inception, however, the LSSO has grown to become an independent orchestra in its own right, with a programme of challenging repertoire, an annual schedule of rehearsals, residential weekend course and concert schedule which takes them throughout the County.

The Staff - LYSO

Conductor - Mr R Laing
Orchestra Manager - Mrs J Merren
Violin I - Mrs P Jay
Violin II - Mr N Jay
Viola - Mrs A Coburn
Cello - Mr T Ang
Double Bass - Mr I Coburn
Brass - Mr H Lorriman
Woodwind - Mrs C Lorriman
Percussion - Miss H Davies

The Staff - LSSO

Conductor - Mr J Doyle
Orchestra Manager/Viola tutor - Mrs J Merren
Violin I - Miss C Abbott
Violin II - Mr G Williams
Cello - Miss P Holt
Double Bass - Mr I Coburn
Brass - Mr K Sagar
Woodwind - Miss S Whewell
Percussion - Miss H Davies

Rehearsals

There are approximately 14 to 16 rehearsals in an academic year and they are held at Lostock Hall Community High School and Arts College, Todd Lane North, Lostock Hall, Preston, PR5 5UR. The rehearsals start at 10.00 am and finish at 4.00 pm.

Courses

The Orchestras will be participating in the following courses during 2009-2010
January course - LYSO/LSSO (Residential)
Tour preparation extra rehearsal - 1 day, late July (tour year only).

Concerts

There will be up to 6 concerts per year and letters regarding concert details will be posted/e-mailed to parents/guardians prior to the event.

Attendance Commitment

N.B. To Parents/Guardians: Before accepting the offer of ensemble membership on behalf of your children, please read the following:

It is expected that all members will offer a full commitment to attend the planned schedule of rehearsals, courses and concerts. The Musical Directors and Tutors cannot rehearse 'empty chairs' at rehearsals.

If any member cannot attend due to exceptional circumstances, please contact Mrs Jenny Merren (LYSO) telephone 07769 947566 or Mr John Doyle (LSSO) telephone 07803 902897 as soon as possible. If two consecutive rehearsals are missed without notification of intended absence, the Music Service will contact the parent/guardian to discuss matters relating to commitment of ensemble membership.

Travel

The Friends' of the Orchestras have set up a travel scheme (rehearsals only) to run 2 buses from the Lancaster and Blackpool areas. Please contact the following people if you are interested:-

Mrs Shields - 07929 562923 (Morecambe, Lancaster and Broughton areas)

Mrs Midgley - 01253 823370 (Blackpool and Preston areas)

Parents may claim for travel to and from rehearsals but only if it is outside your home town. You are expected to travel by the most economical route and take advantage where possible of cheap day fares (receipts required). Claims can only be made for the journey in which the player is in the car and only one claim should be submitted where players travel to the same event in one car.

Forms for travel can be collected on the morning of the last rehearsal, at the end of each term. Completed forms must be given to Jenny Merren, which will then be returned to the office for processing.

Membership Fee

The membership fee for the 2009-10 session is £71.00. An invoice will be sent out from County Hall, please do not pay the membership fee until you receive the invoice. Payment methods will be printed on the back of your invoice.

Students who pay County Ensembles Membership fees (e.g. LYSO/LSSO, LYCB/LSCB, LYJO/LSJO) and are also a member of a Lancashire Music Service, Music Centre Ensemble, will be exempt from paying Music Centre Ensemble fees. Please inform either the Head of the Music Centre or the administrative person, which ensemble you belong to.

Friends' of the LSSO

The Friends' of the LSSO is a Registered Charity formed to support the Lancashire Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Lancashire Schools' Symphony Orchestra. The Friends, organisation supports the activities and members of the orchestras. If you would like more information about the Friends or joining the Friends, please contact Mr Paul Wickham (Telephone - 01282 774182 / 07980 830058).

Data Protection Act

Normally the Music Service provides address details/telephone numbers of orchestra members/parents to the Friends of the LYSO/SO so they can inform members/parents with information on fund raising activities and concerts etc, organised by the Friends. If you do not wish your address details and telephone number to be passed on to the Friends of the LYSO/SO, please contact the Music Service office.

If you require further information about any of the County Ensembles, please contact either Ann Connal (administration) tel: 01257 517108 ann.connal@lancashire.gov.uk or Peter Read (Ensembles Manager) tel: 01257 517111 mobile: 07850 025782 peter.read@lancashire.gov.uk