



CAMERATA YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
**STUDENT HANDBOOK**

2023-24 SEASON

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Meet Our Music Director	.....	3
About Camerata Youth Orchestra	.....	4
Concerts, Concert Attire	.....	5
Seating Auditions, Concerto Competition, Announcements, Music	.....	6
Fees and Tuition	.....	7
Attendance Policy	.....	8-9
Presidential Volunteer Service Award   Internship	.....	10
CYOC Calendar 2023-24	.....	11

## MEET OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR ...



**Ben Byung-Hyun Rhee,**  
*Music Director & Conductor*

### **Guest Conducting:**

The National Symphony Orchestra, Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, Tennessee Philharmonic Orchestra, Alabama Symphony Orchestra, Amarillo Symphony, Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra, Nashville Opera, New Jersey State Opera, KBS Symphony Orchestra, Daejeon

City Philharmonic, The Korean Symphony, SeongGok Opera & Chorus, Mariinsky Theater Chamber Orchestra in Russia, Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic in Czech Republic.

### **Awards:**

Bruno Walter National Assistant/Associate Conductor Chair (USA)

SYMPHONY magazine's Emerging conductors of the Year (USA)

Korea's Central Daily Newspaper's Musician of the Year (1998)

A winner of Freedman Conducting Competition

Milton W. King Certificate from The National Symphony Orchestra's Young Soloists' Competition

Arts Contribution Award from Bergen county, New Jersey

### **Media Appearances:**

Fourth of July concert broadcast nationwide on GAC, A&E Cable Channel and NBC

KBS-1TV "Byung-Hyun Rhee's Classical Tale (Korea)

AM K-Radio 1660 "Byung-Hyun Rhee's Opera Favorite" (New York)

Music Director & Conductor

Camerata New Jersey

Associate Conductor

Nashville Symphony

Music Director & Conductor

Chungnam State Philharmonic Orchestra

New Jersey State Opera & Chorus

Assistant Conductor

Camerata Artists International Competition

Music Director

Prima Volta Music Competition

Music Director

New York Young Virtuoso Competition

Music Director

Opera Camerata

## CAMERATA YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Founded in 2012, Camerata Youth Orchestra (CYO) is a burgeoning project showcasing the remarkable talents of young musicians from the New York Metropolitan area. Under the direction of Byung-Hyun Rhee, Music Director of Camerata New Jersey, CYO has become a prominent force in community-based youth organizations.

CYO uniquely focuses on middle and high school students, harnessing their musical abilities for Activism through Music. This innovative approach employs music to bring solace and joy to individuals with physical and mental disabilities, transcending boundaries and leaving a profound impact.

Beyond performances, CYO actively participates in various community events like the annual Fort Lee Fringe Fest, Arts Festival, and the 'thanks concert' honoring local and federal dignitaries. Internationally, CYO's reputation soared with invitations to the Heidelberg Castle Festival and Baden-Baden Summer Festival in 2017, hosted by Germany's St. Raphael Gymnasium Orchestra and Chorus, garnering praise from local newspapers.

CYO's dedication extends to community service. Since 2013, members have been eligible for the prestigious Presidential Volunteer Service Award, recognizing contributions of over 50 hours to rehearsals and performances.

Designed for advanced musicians in grades 7-12, CYO sharpens ensemble performance skills and tackles both classical and contemporary repertoire, reflecting their artistic growth.

In essence, Camerata Youth Orchestra exemplifies musical prowess intertwined with social impact. Guided by Byung-Hyun Rhee, CYO shapes young musicians, resonating not only locally but also globally, using the transformative power of music to make a difference.

**REHEARSAL TIME** Friday evenings 5:15 – 7:45 pm

**REHEARSAL VENUE** NV Hall at NV Factory  
400 Sylvan Ave. Ste 100  
Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632

### OFFICE

Camerata New Jersey  
400 Sylvan Ave. Ste 105, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632  
info@cameratanewjersey.org  
(551) 800-1712

# CONCERTS

CYO performs one Annual Concert and two or more Outreach Concerts per season. All dates are in the Student Handbook. Each member of CYO is expected to play at all scheduled concerts. If for any reason a member is unable to play at a concert, he/she must let the CYO office know AT LEAST four weeks in advance. There may be additional performances.

**2024 Annual Concert:** CYO is celebrating its 12th annual concert, which will be held on **Saturday, June 22, 2024**, at West Side Presbyterian Church, 6 S Monroe St, Ridgewood, NJ 07450

## Outreach Concerts:

**Christmas Concert: Saturday, December 9, 2023** at Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, 155 Linwood Ave, Ridgewood, NJ 07450. Camerata Youth Orchestra and Camerata Men's Choir join forces for an extraordinary Christmas concert, showcasing their talents in a memorable and enchanting experience. Enjoy harmonious melodies, soul-stirring performances, and a festive atmosphere as they celebrate the joy of Christmas. Free community event.

**National Nursing Home Week Celebration Concert: Saturday, May 18, 2024** at Buckingham Care and Rehabilitation Center, 100 Mc Clellan St, Norwood, NJ 07648. Join us, the Camerata Youth Orchestra (CYO), for a spectacular concert at the Buckingham at Norwood. We're excited to be part of the celebration for National Nursing Home Week and to express our deep appreciation for the dedicated professionals in the field. This event is a not-to-be-missed opportunity to pay tribute to the hard-working individuals who truly make a difference in nursing homes. Your presence will make this occasion even more special.

## CONCERT ATTIRE

Annual Concert	Girls: long dress in black, closed-toe shoes Boys: black tuxedo or suit, white shirt, black bow tie, black shoes and dark socks
Outreach Concert	CYO Logo Shirts (White Polo Shirt & Black/Grey T-shirt), free bottom

## SEATING AUDITIONS

**Friday, October 6, 2023**

There will be a seating audition at the beginning of the fall semester. Specific passages will be assigned by the music director prior to the audition week. Additional seating auditions can be scheduled at any time when the music director deems them necessary, and they may occur in private or during rehearsals.

In addition to evaluating current performance, an assessment of preparation (including rehearsals and concerts) and participation (in terms of attendance and attitude) in the previous season will also be taken into account to determine seating arrangements.

## CONCERTO COMPETITION

**Friday, January 26, 2024**

The Concerto Competition is open to members who have been in CYO for at least one full season. The competition will take place in January, and the winner will have the opportunity to perform at the Annual Concert accompanied by CYO.

Application Deadline: Saturday, January 12, 2024

The application form link will be emailed on January 1, 2024.

For repertoire approval, please contact the office.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

You can expect to receive a weekly email containing schedule updates as well as other important messages.

All announcements, including rehearsal/concert cancellation due to inclement weather or any other emergency, will be notified through email and KakaoTalk.

## MUSIC

All CYO members will receive a folder with music repertoire at the first rehearsal. Each member is required to bring his/her music (in a folder) to every rehearsal and concert regardless of having a stand partner, along with other necessities including a pencil, rosin, rock-stop, etc. After all music is distributed and the performance order is set, members' folders will be collected and the music will be binded into a booklet. If the booklet is lost, members will be charged \$20 for a new one.



# ATTENDANCE POLICY

## Why is Attendance & Commitment Important?

Our attendance policy is strict in order to guarantee a program of the highest quality, which is possible only if all members of the orchestra are fully committed. Commitment comes in many forms: practicing your part at home and/or with your teacher, being alert and engaged in rehearsal, and, above all, being present at all rehearsals, dress rehearsals and performances. Your commitment to attend is not just to CYOC and your conductor, but most importantly, to your fellow players. An orchestra is a group effort; every member is important and contributes to the success of the ensemble.

**Attendance** is required at all regularly scheduled rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and performances. Students are expected to be ready on time, tuned and ready to play. That means the student must arrive AT LEAST 10 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE REHEARSAL TIME. Rehearsals, including dress rehearsals, start promptly at the appointed time.

**Tardiness** Anyone arriving more than 10 minutes late to a rehearsal will be considered absent without prior approval from the Executive Director. If you anticipate being late ahead of time, please notify the office in writing. If you are running late on the day of a rehearsal and/or concert, please make every effort to telephone us.

**Illness on the day of rehearsal** If your child is ill on the day of the rehearsal, please email or send a message on kakaotalk to Chelly Ko, our orchestra manager at least 2 hour prior to the rehearsal. The first absence will be considered excused, all subsequent absences will be reviewed by the ED and handled on a case-by-case basis. Excessive same-day rehearsal absences may result in a hearing with the conductor to ensure the student knows their part, and/or may result in a probationary period and seating change.

**Injury or Instrument Repairs** If you sustain a minor injury that prevents you from playing your instrument, or, if repairs are being done to your instrument, you are still required to attend rehearsals, sit in your section and follow along with your part and take notes.

## Approved Excused Absences:

- All-State/Region/County Music Festival Performances or Auditions



- Elementary/Middle/High School Ensemble Performance or Dress Rehearsals in which the student is performing
- Family Emergencies/Grievances
- Prolonged illness
- Religious Holidays & Observances (in general, CYO makes every attempt not to hold rehearsals and/or concerts close to these holidays such as Christmas, Easter etc.).
- SATs, ACT, SAT II Exams, College Interviews and Auditions, with prior notice at the beginning of the semester.

Other commitments, no matter how compelling, cannot be permitted. Please look at your upcoming year carefully; and plan your schedule in accordance with the CYO calendar.

### **Consequences**

The consequences for members who do not adhere to the attendance policy include: not being allowed to participate in a concert, being re-seated for a concert, and/or being asked to withdraw from CYO. These decisions will be made by the Executive Director in consultation with the Music Director/Conductor. CYO reserves the right to re-seat members who are absent for a concert, including those members whose absence is excused.

### **Re-Audition**

Members who are asked to withdraw under this attendance policy may request to formally re-audition to rejoin the orchestra. Requests to re-audition must be made in writing and addressed to the Executive Director. In addition to satisfactory musicianship, members who re-audition must demonstrate a commitment to full attendance at rehearsals and regularly scheduled concerts. Members who satisfactorily re-audition will not be required to pay additional membership dues for the season.

### **Other Grounds for Dismissal**

In addition to violating the attendance and commitment policy, the CYO association reserves the right to dismiss members in cases of: Inappropriate, disruptive, threatening, physical or criminal behavior directed towards or injurious to other CYO members and staff, parents, family members and/or guests during rehearsals/concerts/ meetings and/or the community at large. Destruction of property and/or equipment of CYO and/or any rehearsal/performance space and equipment where CYO is a guest.

### **Appeals**

Members asked to withdraw under this attendance policy may not appeal.

## PRESIDENTIAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

The Presidential Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) was created in 2003 as a means to recognize and honor those who contribute their time to make a difference in society as community service leaders and volunteers. Based on cumulative hours within a year-long period, awards are distributed in three levels:

<u>Hours by Award</u>	<u>Bronze</u>	<u>Silver</u>	<u>Gold</u>
Teens (11-15)	50-74	75-99	100+
Young Adults (16-25)	100-174	175-249	250+

- Each rehearsal counts as 3(Teens)/7(YA) hour points
- Performances will be considered extra points
- Each absence will result in deduction of 3(Teens)/7(YA) points
- Three tardies or leaving early (three times) equals as one absence
- From the 6th unexcused absence and each following will result in deduction of 10 points.
- Failure to attend rehearsals more than 75 percent will result in disqualification.

### EXTRA POINT OPPORTUNITY | INTERNSHIP

CYO members can earn extra points by assisting the orchestra in their own time, such as office internship or stage managing. Students are encouraged to offer their talents and abilities to help in any way and become an asset to CYO.

# CYO CALENDAR 2023-2024

Schedule may be subject to change

Friday, Sep 8, 2023

Parent-teacher Conference

Friday, Sep 15, 2023

First Day of Rehearsal

Saturday, Sep 30, 2023 | 10-2 PM

CNJ Family Annual Walk-a-Thon  
(A Fun Gathering for Students and the  
Entire Family)

Friday, Oct 6, 2023

Seating Audition (Rm. 105)

Tuesday, Nov 1, 2023

Tuition Payment Due for 2nd pay-  
ment plan

Nov 23 (Thu) – 25 (Sat), 2023

Thanksgiving Break

Saturday, Dec 9, 2023 | 5-9 PM

Christmas Outreach Concert

Dec 23 (Fri) – Jan 1 (Mon), 2024

Christmas Break

Saturday, Jan 12, 2024

Application Deadline for Annual  
Concerto Competition

Friday, Jan 26, 2024

Annual Concerto Competition

Friday, Feb 23, 2024

Mid-Winter Break

Friday, Apr 5, 2024

Spring Break

Saturday, May 18, 2024 | 2-3 PM

Outreach Concert: Buckingham  
Care and Rehab.Center

Saturday, Jun 22, 2024 | 4-10 PM

12th ANNUAL CONCERT

Jun 27 ~ Jul 7, 2024

SUMMER FESTIVAL IN VITERBO,  
ITALY

**ADDITIONAL CONCERTS AND EVENTS WILL BE  
ANNOUNCED AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE**