



Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony

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Scott A. Stewart, Music Director and Conductor

Information for Students, Parents, and Directors

2017-18 SEASON

ABOUT AYWS

The Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony (AYWS) is the premier honor wind band for metropolitan Atlanta and the state of Georgia. Established in 1988, its members include the most advanced wind and percussion instrumentalists in the area, and as an ensemble it ranks among the finest of its kind in the United States. The AYWS performs the highest quality of wind band repertoire in varying genres, including classical concert band and contemporary wind ensemble music. The AYWS has been involved in multiple commissions and premieres, frequently features composers and soloists of national renown, records annually, and occasionally tours the region.

The mission of the AYWS is to provide its members with an outstanding, positive musical, educational, and social experience in a non-competitive, artistic environment through the rehearsal and performance of high-quality musical repertoire and outstanding instruction.

Recent Appearances

Carnegie Hall (New York City), Walt Disney Concert Hall (Los Angeles, CA), Severance Hall (Cleveland, OH), New World Center (Miami Beach, FL), Atlanta Symphony Hall, The Midwest Clinic (Chicago), Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (New York City), Southern Methodist University (Dallas, TX), Georgia Music Educators Association State In-Service (Savannah), College Band Directors National Association/National Band Association Southern Division Conference (Atlanta), Public Radio International's radio show "From the Top," Music Educators National Conference national convention (Milwaukee), "Atlanta Music Scene" broadcasts on WABE 90.1 FM, "Strike Up the Band" broadcasts

Recent Soloists, Composers, and Conductors

The AYWS strives to surround its members with the world's leading musicians in teaching, performance, scholarship, and creativity through guest appearances and intentional interaction.

COMPOSERS: Bruce Broughton, Michael Giacchino, Jennifer Higdon, Christopher Theofanidis, Michael Daugherty, Frank Ticheli, James Oliverio, Aaron Perrine, Michael Markowski, Adam Gorb, Eric Whitacre, Steven Bryant, Jonathan Newman, Roger Cichy, Libby Larsen, Kevin Kaska, Stephen Paulus, Todd Stalter, William Pitts, Chris Rutkowski, Peter Child, Kevin Walczyk, Ron Nelson, John Mackey, Jim Bonney, Carolyn Bremer, John Leszczynski, Ryan George, David Holsinger, David Gillingham, James Barnes

SOLOISTS: Mark Yancich (timpani, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra), George Curran (bass trombone, New York Philharmonic), Jauvon Gilliam (timpani, National Symphony Orchestra), Joseph Alessi (trombone, New York Philharmonic), Carl Hall (piccolo, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra), Christopher Martin (trumpet, New York Philharmonic Orchestra), Jeff Nelson (horn, Canadian Brass), Kenneth Tse (saxophone, The University of Iowa), the Zagreb Saxophone Quartet, and members of "The President's Own" United States Marine Band (Susan Rider, trumpet; Steven Temme, saxophone; Michael Metzger, percussion)

CONDUCTORS and SCHOLARS: J. Peter Burkholder (Indiana University), Anthony Maiello (George Mason University), Mark Scatterday (Eastman School of Music), Stephen Pratt (Indiana University), Ray Cramer (Indiana University)

AYWS AUDITIONS and PARTICIPATION

Audition Requirements

Students should prepare approximately 2-3 total minutes of music consisting of two contrasting excerpts (one fast/technical and one slow/lyrical) from the standard solo and/or etude repertoire for their instrument. Selected major and chromatic scales will be asked, and sightreading will be provided. Students should *not* use GMEA All-State Band/Orchestra audition materials or orchestral excerpts. In addition to standard wind ensemble/concert band instrumentation, the AYWS seeks performers on piano, string bass, and harp. Students who play multiple instruments should indicate so at the audition, although only one audition is necessary.

Percussionists should prepare a solo from two out of the three of the following: snare, mallets (2 or 4 mallets), and timpani. Rudiments, scales, and timpani tuning will also be demonstrated. Students are evaluated on the basis of tone quality, intonation, rhythmic accuracy, musicianship, expressiveness, and reading ability.

Auditions are held August 3-10, 2017 at Lakeside High School at 3801 Briarcliff Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30345.

Results and First Rehearsal/Reception

ayws.org

Results will be posted online on Friday, August 11, 2017 at ayws.org. Alternates will be contacted individually via email.

The first rehearsal will be **Monday, August 14, 2017** from **7:30-9:30 pm** in Band Room of Lakeside High School. The "Meet Dr. Stewart" reception for students and parents will take place **6:30-7:20 pm** in the atrium of the Lakeside High School Auditorium, and a parent meeting will follow at 7:30 pm in the Orchestra Room.

Student Participation Fee and Student Operational Costs

STUDENT PARTICIPATION FEE	ACTUAL OPERATIONAL COST PER STUDENT*
\$485.00	\$1,400.00
Pay online (ayws.org) or make checks payable to Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony with "participation fee" in the subject line.	* The AYWS Foundation scholarships approximately 65% of operational costs per student through fundraising.

The participation fee is **\$485.00**. Please pay by **OCTOBER 1st**, and contact Kim Lorch Perrins (aywsops@gmail.com) if additional time for payment is required. Need-based financial aid is available through the AYWS Foundation.

School Music Participation Requirement

Members are required to be enrolled in their school's instrumental ensemble music program (band or orchestra) for the entire school year. *Students may not substitute AYWS for their primary ensemble experience in their home school.* Students who elect to not participate in their school program will be dismissed. If the student has no school ensemble program, is home-schooled, or has an irreconcilable scheduling conflict, he/she must be recommended by a school official (in the case of the former) or primary ensemble director (band or orchestra, in the case of the latter).

Rehearsal Location - Directions and Parking

<http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/lakeside>

Lakeside High School is located on Briarcliff Road in DeKalb County, easily accessed by highways I-285 (LaVista exit) and I-85 (Clairmont Road exit). The performing arts facility is on the north side (far left as you are looking at the school), and free parking surrounds the facility. Entry to the Band Room is from the *rear* of the building.

AYWS MISSION, VISION, DIVERSITY, and VALUES

“Music is the electrical soil in which the spirit lives, thinks, and creates.” --Ludwig van Beethoven

Mission Statement

The Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony (AYWS) aspires to enhance the lives of its members and those in the Atlanta community by promoting musical excellence, cultivating a lifelong appreciation for music, and collectively serving as a cultural ambassador and advocate throughout the United States and the world. By challenging and nurturing its members musically, socially, and intellectually, the AYWS seeks to foster the development of sophisticated musical skills and strong values among its members in an artistic, non-competitive, and inclusive environment.

Vision Statement

The Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony (AYWS) was founded in 1988 as the premier honor wind ensemble for high school youth in the Atlanta metropolitan area. Its purpose is to provide a positive musical experience in an artistic environment for advanced instrumentalists in wind and percussion performance. The AYWS rehearses and performs grade five and six (collegiate and professional) original wind band literature composed over a wide span of stylistic compositional periods. As an ensemble, it is one of the most visible ambassadors of culture and youth performance for Atlanta and the state of Georgia.

Diversity Statement

The AYWS celebrates the individuality and beauty of each of its members, embracing a wide diversity of age, race, ethnicity and national origin, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, faith background, religious affiliation, abilities and disabilities, and socioeconomic status. True artistry takes place when individuals present themselves as their true, honest, authentic selves.

A Statement of Values

Membership in the Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony is a privilege extended to a highly select, talented, vibrant, and distinguished group of individuals who are among the most accomplished high school musicians in the United States. The Music Director, Staff, Alumni, and AYWS Foundation are committed to help the members of the AYWS fully develop their intellectual, musical, artistic, aesthetic, and ethical capacities through excellence in music-making and fellowship.

“What do great musicians do?” is the fundamental question which much be addressed by those in pursuit of musical excellence and aesthetic expression. There are *technical* aspects of music-making, and there are *human* facets of music-making, and these items are inseparable in the ensemble setting. The AYWS continually explores what it means to fulfill our greatest potential as artists *and* as human beings—seeking counsel, observing models, striving for mastery, and persistently seeking answers—now and throughout our lives.

The spirit of the AYWS is generated out of the classical principles present in the experience of rehearsing and performing great music. By focusing on music (rather than rewards, profit, competition, or ego), we adopt a selfless attitude to the art of music, and in doing so, open a world of learning about ourselves and each other. Music soothes, heals, relaxes, excites, strengthens, weakens, remembers, forgets...it is many things to many people. Our responsibility is to seek the spirit, truth, and humanity in the music, so that it speaks that which cannot be spoken to those who play and those who listen.

These purposes rest upon the premise that education is the most powerful social force of our time for enabling and ennobling the human spirit, and that the privilege of education entails an obligation to use these skills and knowledge for positive transformation in the world.

AYWS VALUES

The ethic and aesthetic of the following commonly-held values and beliefs identify and unite the Music Director, Staff, Students, Parents, and Alumni of the Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony:

- ♪ We believe that the creative impulse is essential to the human soul, and that the arts—*especially music*—are the most realized expression of this impulse.
- ♪ We believe that the ultimate pursuit and practice of music creates values that are compassionate and humane.
- ♪ We value a society in which peoples of all ages, races, ethnicities, orientations, religions, economic backgrounds, and abilities live with mutual respect, generosity, interest in, and commitment to the greater good of all.
- ♪ We believe that the sum of the parts is greater than the whole, that each member's contribution to the ensemble by their own commitment to punctuality, preparation, self-discipline, diligence, dedication, loyalty, maturity, humility, and empathy fosters an environment of high achievement.
- ♪ We value lifelong music-making, so that students will leave their experience at AYWS with the desire to continue participating in music, either as performers or consumers, regardless of college major or vocation.
- ♪ We value the interaction of our students with the finest teachers, performing artists, scholars, and composers in our society.
- ♪ We value open and honest communication and strive to implement it on every level, even when difficult or unpleasant.
- ♪ We value intellectual curiosity, kindness, and respect for all people and property, a vigorous work ethic, and the exercise of wit and humor.
- ♪ We value the pursuit of excellence, and work to feel pride and pleasure in all our endeavors.

AYWS PARENTS

Please note that all communications relevant to student participation (schedules, part assignments, sign-ups, etc.) will be directed to students, who are expected to take care of all AYWS business in a timely and efficient manner.

Please visit ayws.org, click CONNECT, and subscribe to the AYWS monthly e-newsletter.

AYWS parents assist the AYWS Foundation with various facets of the AYWS operation, including, but not limited to:

- Fundraising (grant writing, corporate sponsorship or other non-grant writing activities)
- Receptions and hospitality (food and décor)
- Library work (sorting, filing, copying, stuffing, etc.)
- Social events (hosting or planning)
- Tour planning

Parents interested in assisting in any of these areas should contact the Parent Liaison (ayws2014@gmail.com). The first all-parents meeting will be held on **Monday, August 14th**—reception 6:30-7:20 pm, meeting at 7:30 pm at Lakeside.

Rehearsals and Concerts

Parents and guests are welcome to attend rehearsals. Concerts are open to the public. Doors open 30 minutes prior to the concert start time and seating is open. The "warm up" period is closed to the public.

Please turn off all cellular phones, pagers, and alarms. Flash photography is forbidden while music is being played and any photographers and videographers must have permission to shoot from the house manager prior to the concert. Receptions are held following most concerts.

AYWS REHEARSALS

Requirements for Preparation, Attire, Punctuality, and Obligation to the Ensemble

All students should have music, pencil, instrument and accessories (mutes, etc.) for all rehearsals. Attire is casual but appropriate and classy. Each member is expected to fulfill their obligation to the ensemble through preparation of individual playing and attendance at all rehearsals and performances.

ATTENDANCE PROTOCOL

EXCUSED ABSENCES include severe illness, religious observances, and school music performances/tours. These do NOT include homework, non-music events, and "sudden" additions to the calendar.

1. Notify the section leader via email or phone (not social media) – await confirmation of substitute.
2. If unsuccessful, contact the coordinator (brass—Kay Fairchild, percussion—Hunter McGee, woodwinds—Lindsey Foster) – await confirmation.
3. If unsuccessful, contact Lindsey Foster at atlantayouthwindsymphony@gmail.com.

Please do *not* contact Dr. Stewart about absences except in the case of emergencies.

Once an alternate has been secured, the student should work with the section leader and Lindsey to make sure the substitute has music for the rehearsal in question.

Students who are not able to honor their commitment will be dismissed from the ensemble.

Rehearsal Sequence

Arrive between 7:00-7:15 pm. Please note rehearsal order on the board. Order is called by the the concertmaster (principal chair clarinet) on the podium. The principal oboist provides a concert A (for woodwinds) and B-flat (for brass). Students should maintain quiet attention during rehearsal segments and mark music frequently. Cell phone use during rehearsal is prohibited. Conversation should be limited to in-between pieces.

Rotations

Some sections rotate part assignments. The Music Director, coordinators, and section leaders facilitate these rotations for each concert sequence.

Food

Students arriving from other school activities and may wish to eat en route. There are a number of restaurants in the Northlake Mall, Toco Hills, and Oak Grove areas for quick, healthy dinners, snacks, and coffee.

Valuables

Students should not bring valuables to rehearsals or performances. Purses, backpacks, and other valuables should be locked in car trunks while at rehearsal, or left at home. The AYWS is not responsible for lost or stolen items during rehearsals or performances.

AYWS BRASS

Brass players are expected to provide their own mutes: Trumpet (straight, cup, harmon, and plunger), Trombone (straight, cup, plunger), Horn (straight, optional stopped). Euphonium and tuba mutes will be provided.

AYWS PERCUSSION

Percussionists are expected to provide a standard complement of sticks and mallets for rehearsal and performance. Please notify Hunter McGee (mcghtster@gmail.com) if an instrument requires repair, head replacement, etc.

For rehearsals, percussionists are expected to arrive early (15-30 minutes) to set up and stay after (15-30 minutes) to stow instruments safely and securely. For performances, plan on 60-90 minutes prior to warm-up for stage setup, as well as 30-60 minutes following the concert to strike.

AYWS PERFORMANCES

Concert Attire

- Option 1: black tuxedo, white tuxedo shirt, black bowtie, cummerbund, black & black dress shoes
- Option 2: black floor-length dress (or blouse/skirt/slacks), black hose/socks & black dress shoes
- Option 3: all-black outfit

AYWS FOUNDATION

The AYWS Foundation serves as the primary fundraising vehicle for the Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony through corporate philanthropy, grant writing, and strategic giving. Please contact Dr. Stewart or Mr. John Larkin (President) at jclarkin93@gmail.com if interested in serving on the Board or assisting with fundraising and/or operational efforts.

AYWS PERFORMANCE TOURS

The AYWS regularly embarks on performance tours at sophisticated performing venues. Trips are not required and availability has no bearing on AYWS participation during the season. Travel is funded by members beyond the membership fee. Need-based financial aid is available from the AYWS Foundation.

AYWS SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS



AYWS GIVING LINKS



Students, parents, and fans are encouraged to promote AYWS and AYWS events through social media. All posts, including text, photographs and recordings, should be positive, supportive, respectful, classy, and representative of the high standards of musicianship and values of the AYWS.

TENETS OF ENSEMBLE PLAYING



QUALITY OF SOUND

TONE QUALITY IN ALL REGISTERS, RESONANCE, EVENNESS, CONSISTENCY, AND INTONATION

TECHNIQUE

PITCH ACCURACY, FACILITY, FLUIDITY, ARTICULATION/STICKING, COORDINATION, INSTRUMENT AND PART MASTERY

PRECISION and TIMING

RHYTHMIC ACCURACY IN TIME, STEADINESS

BALANCE and BLEND

PLAYING AS A SOLOIST, AS A CHAMBER MUSICIAN, OR SECTION MEMBER IN AN ENSEMBLE

LEADING AND FOLLOWING

KNOW YOUR ROLE IN THE SECTION AND THE ROLE OF YOUR PART

MATCHING MUSICAL EXPRESSION

IMITATING THE TONE, PITCH, VOLUME, INTENSITY, ARTICULATION, PHRASING, EMPHASIS, AND STYLE OF THE LEADER

PRESENCE

POSTURE, FOCUS, CONFIDENCE, INTEREST, COLLEGIALITY, AWARENESS OF "THEATER"

Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony

Scott A. Stewart, Music Director and Conductor

c/o Dr. Scott A. Stewart

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(o) 404.367.5163 (email) scottstewart@westminster.net

Lindsey Foster, AYWS Manager (email) atlantayouthwindsymphony@gmail.com

Kay Fairchild, Brass Coordinator | Hunter McGee, Percussion Coordinator

Nicholas Doss, Special Projects Manager | David Fairchild (Lakeside High School), Host

Mark Yancich (Atlanta Symphony Orchestra), Percussion Faculty

Cathy Metzger, Designer | Huy Cat, Videographer | Eric Richards, Photographer

ayws.org

Kim Lorch Perrins, Executive Administrator

(email) aywsops@gmail.com