



SPRING 2021 • *Chamber Ensemble Series*

Continuing the season, the ASYO will maintain its Chamber Ensemble Series, led by the same talented directors & motivated staff. ASYO serves as a performance-based program for young instrumentalists throughout the Texas Panhandle, focusing on their continued training and development.

To move forward this season, big changes were made and put into action to ensure we can offer the best type of experience while maintaining standards and safe music-making.

AUDITIONS & STUDENT REGISTRATION

- **All ASYO members returning from Fall 2020 DO NOT need to re-audition for Spring 2021;** this applies to ALL ensembles – Preparatory Strings, Sinfonia, Philharmonic, AND Youth Symphony.

IMPORTANT: With the health, social distancing, and size-management of each ensemble as the utmost priority, ASYO will be capping its enrollment for Spring 2021; all registrations and ensemble enrollments are first-come, first-served.

- **NEW members will need to complete an audition.** This applies to the Sinfonia, Philharmonic, and Youth Symphony ensembles; students enrolling in the Preparatory Strings DO NOT need to audition.

Please [register for Spring 2021 online](#).

[Audition excerpts](#) are available on the Amarillo Symphony website; excerpts do not change mid-year.

Students will **record & upload** their video to a Dropbox account monitored by the Amarillo Symphony Education staff. The link with detailed recording instructions will follow once a student has registered.

Deadline to submit audition videos is Tuesday, January 26, 2021.

- **IMPORTANT:** For planning and public health purposes, walk-ups (*students showing up to audition the first day of a rehearsal without registering online*) will NOT be allowed. **All students MUST pre-register online.**

TUITION

- Tuition for Spring 2021 will remain reduced* and collected in two (2) payments:
 - **Preparatory Strings**, Sinfonia**, Philharmonic** – \$90.00:**
 - February 2021 \$45.00
 - March 2021 \$45.00
 - **Youth Symphony** – \$110.00:**
 - February 2021 \$55.00
 - March 2021 \$55.00

* Tuition during an average semester ranges from \$125-\$150 per student.

** Tuition Assistance & Payment Plans will still be available for families who qualify.

ATTENDANCE

- **All students will have two (2) available absences;** this applies to ALL students across the 4 ensembles – Preparatory Strings, Sinfonia, Philharmonic, and Youth Symphony.
 - **IMPORTANT:** Should a student contract COVID-19 or be instructed to quarantine as a result of exposure, the student will be exempt from further rehearsals until a letter from the City of Amarillo Health Department or other health official is provided, stating the student is eligible to return to normal day-to-day activities.
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REHEARSALS

- **Rehearsals will begin Sunday, January 31, 2021 at Amarillo College** (*Washington St. campus; corner of 22nd & Van Buren*). Rehearsal schedules will be as follows:

SUNDAY –
YOUTH SYMPHONY

String rehearsals will be held in the Concert Hall Theater.

WW/B/P rehearsals will begin in the Concert Hall Theater (*with masks & bell covers*).

January/February 2021 –

String Ensemble	1:00-2:00 p.m.
Woodwind/Brass/Percussion Ensemble	2:30-3:15 p.m.

March/April 2021 –

Full Symphony Orchestra	1:00-1:50 p.m.
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PHILHARMONIC

Rehearsals will be held in the Music Building: Band Room 104

String Orchestra	1:30-2:30 p.m.
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SINFONIA

Rehearsals will be held in the Music Building: Band Room 104

String Orchestra	3:00-4:00 p.m.
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MONDAY –
PREPARATORY STRINGS

Rehearsals will be held in the Music Building: Band Room 104

String Orchestra	5:00-6:00 p.m.
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- Students will meet in sectionals intermittently throughout the Spring 2021 semester.
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The Amarillo Symphony is committed to providing a safe space for its staff, directors, and young musicians to meet, rehearse, and perform. While research is ongoing, the statements below are based on current scientific knowledge and the expertise of trusted physicians, musicians, and instrument specialists to avoid the risks of infection of COVID-19.

ORCHESTRA SET-UP & INSTRUMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Musicians & Conductor: Distance will be set to 6' between each chair/body. All musicians will be set one-to-a-stand, including strings. DO NOT share equipment, instruments, rosin, pencils, etc.

Brass/Woodwinds: Masks & bell covers provided to Youth Symphony musicians are required. Dripping condensation onto the floor/stage is NOT permitted on the Amarillo College CHT stage. Musicians are responsible for the removal of condensation and instrument cleaning; use cloths, towelettes, or puppy pads (for brass players) to capture and dispose of instrument condensation.

Percussion: Avoid co-usage of instruments and equipment, including sticks/mallets.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Self-Screening: All students and family members bringing students to rehearsals are asked to self-screen each day prior to coming to rehearsal.

IMPORTANT: DO NOT attend a rehearsal with any of the following signs: cough, chills, fever, runny nose, sore throat, shortness of breath and/or difficulty breathing, head or body aches, fatigue, digestive issues, loss of taste or smell, and/or known close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. If anyone experiences one or more of these symptoms, they should stay home and contact a physician.

AMARILLO COLLEGE MUSIC DEPARTMENT PROTOCOLS

*Listed are procedures Amarillo College has implemented to provide a safe learning environment for its students, teachers, and staff. **The Amarillo Symphony Youth Orchestra is a guest organization on the Amarillo College campus and is expected to comply with the guidelines outlined below, when applicable (except for face shields).***

Social Distancing: All students, faculty, staff, and the general public are advised to practice social distancing by standing at least six feet away from others while standing in lines, using elevators, and moving around the facilities.

Face coverings: All students, faculty, staff, and the general public are required to wear masks and/or face shields while on campus, including ensemble rehearsal spaces. Students should have BOTH a mask and a shield on campus. All music students and faculty will be provided with a face shield as classes resume. Replacement shields will be available for purchase at the AC Bookstore. Students and faculty may remove their mask while performing/demonstrating their instrument or singing, at the direction of the instructor, given that they remain 6' minimum (8' recommended) from others, and cover-up when the task or exercise is completed. Students, faculty, and staff working alone in a practice room or office are not required to wear the face covering but must replace it before leaving the room or interacting with another individual.

Hand Sanitization: All students, faculty, staff, and the general public are encouraged to utilize the hand sanitizer dispensers placed at key entry/exit points and soap dispensers in the restrooms. Hands should be thoroughly washed immediately after a cough or sneeze.

Cough Etiquette: To avoid spraying fluids into the surrounding air, please cough or sneeze into a tissue and discard.

Music Ensembles will meet on campus with 6' social distancing, hand sanitizing stations provided at building entry points, and instructor/student sanitation of spaces at the end of rehearsal. Large instrumental and all vocal ensembles will rehearse outdoors in the amphitheater as weather allows, and

break into sectionals between rooms for any inside rehearsals where number of students may exceed social distancing capacity of each individual room. Masks are required in the room for vocalists, wind, and brass players, until they are seated for rehearsal..., and masks back in place before they leave their seat. Musicians **not** hindered by a mask due to the nature of their instrument (strings, percussion, etc.) should wear their masks at all times. It is recommended that a 20-minute break for each hour of rehearsal be included in each rehearsal plan.

Classrooms, studios, and practice rooms in the Music Building have been outfitted with HEPA/UVC air filters and air sanitizers. These were purchased from music supplies and donation support, so please leave them in their assigned spaces.

The Music and Concert Hall Theater buildings HVAC systems have been upgraded with Ultravation MERV 11 (hospital grade) air filters, which will be changed monthly.