



Midwest Young
Artists
inspiration through music

Tuning Fork

MYA's Weekly News

GENERAL INFORMATION

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- 3 Important Websites
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VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Welcome to MYA's 2008-09 Season!

We are looking forward to a wonderful year full of great performances in wonderful concert venues, with exceptional guest artists including: Mathieu Dufour, Principal Flute, Chicago Symphony Orchestra; Carrie Dennis, MYA Alum, Principal Viola, Los Angeles Philharmonic and daughter of Karen and Allan Dennis; and Orbert Davis, local Chicago jazz trumpeter extraordinaire! MYA offers many free concerts and events each month, so be sure to keep up-to-date with all of our activities by reading MYA's weekly newsletter and by viewing our weekly e-blasts!

We are welcoming 142 new students to MYA this fall! Please look for new faces and make them feel at home! 18 new members in the Jazz Program; 37 in the Choral Program; 83 in the Orchestra Program; and 4 in the Honors Wind Symphony!

MYA has 3 Important Websites!

Keep up-to-date with all of MYA's activities at the following sites – be sure and stay connected!!

1. www.mya.org – MYA's main website. All of MYA's upcoming concerts and events are posted on this site. You can purchase tickets to MYA's concerts at this site, find out about all of MYA's fundraising activities and events, and find information about all of MYA's programs. Go to the Member's page for important information pertaining to your ensemble!
2. www.wmya.org – MYA's podcast site. The site includes interviews with master teachers and artists, and performances by MYA students and ensembles. Download new weekly episodes each week! This is a great way to stay connected and to share MYA with your friends and family!
3. www.privateteaching.org – an on-line resource to find a private lesson instructor or accompanist in your area. This is an excellent website for teachers, parents and students.

Start Dates for ALL Ensembles

Start Dates at a Glance	
August 23	Symphony, Chorale, Big Band
	Chamber Music for Strings & Brass ONLY
August 25 & 27	Percussion Ensembles begin
August 26 & 28	Woodwind Chamber Ensembles begin as notified by instructor
September 6	Reading, Cadet, Prep & Concert Orchestras
	Chamber Music for Woodwinds & Brass begins
	Theory placement questionnaires
September 7	Jazz Ensemble & Jazz Orchestra
	Choristers & Chorale Ensembles
	Chamber Music for Choral begins (5:00 PM meeting)
	Theory placement questionnaires
September 9 & 11	Jazz Combos begin
September 11	Saxophone Quartets begin

Saturday, August 23:

- Lock-in for Big Band, Chorale and Symphony

Saturday Schedule	
9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Chamber Groups rehearse at regularly scheduled times
12:00 – 3:00 pm	Symphony
4:00 – 6:00 pm	Big Band & Chorale rehearsals
6:00 pm	BBQ – all are invited!
7:00 – 8:30 pm	Symphony rehearses
8:00 – 9:30 pm	Big Band & Chorale rehearsals
9:30 – midnight	Free time within the MYA building
10:00 pm	Doors close to MYA building

Midwest Young Artists:
Building a Home
with the Power of Music
to Enrich the Lives
of our Students
and Community

Sunday Schedule	
9:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Seating auditions for Symphony
10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Big Band, Chorale & Symphony Rehearsals

- First Week of Chamber Music Rehearsals for strings, winds and brass (chamber music placements will be announced by August 17).
- Saxophone quartets will begin the week of September 7 (placement will be announced by September 1).
- Choral chamber music will begin September 7 with a parent & student meeting at 5:00 PM.

Sunday, August 24:

- Lock-in continues
- 4:30 – 6:30 PM: Voices Rising Blue & Purple combined rehearsal

Monday & Wednesday, August 25 & 27:

Percussion Ensemble rehearsals begin (group placements will be announced by August 17)

Thursday, August 28:

4:00 – 6:00 PM: Symphony Orchestra make-up seating auditions

Saturday, September 6:

- Theory Placement Questionnaires (written & aural)
10:15, 11:15, 12:15, 1:15, 2:15, 3:15
- First day of rehearsals for ALL Orchestras
9:30 – 11:00 AM: Cadet
10:00 – noon: Concert
11:00 – noon: Reading
12:00 – 2:00 PM: Prep
12:00 – 3:00 PM: Symphony
- 12:00 PM: Parent Meeting for parents NEW to MYA!

Sunday, September 7:

First day of rehearsals for ALL Jazz Ensembles and Choral Ensembles.

- Jazz Theory placement questionnaires:
12:00 PM: Jazz Ensemble
2:30 PM: Jazz Orchestra
4:45 PM: Big Band
- Jazz Ensemble Schedule:
12:30 – 2:00 PM Jazz Ensemble
3:00 – 4:30 PM Jazz Orchestra
5:30 – 7:30 PM Big Band
- Choral Ensemble Schedule
4:30 – 5:30 PM Choristers
7:00 – 9:00 PM Chorale
Voices Rising Schedule
3:00 – 3:45 PM VR BLUE Musicianship Class (optional)
4:00 – 5:30 PM VR BLUE Rehearsal
5:00 – 6:30 PM VR PURPLE Rehearsal
6:30 – 7:00 PM Pizza for purchase (\$2 per slice)
7:00 – 8:00 PM VR PURPLE Musicianship Class (optional)
- 5:00 PM: Choral Chamber Music Meeting for Parents and Students
- 6:00 PM: Parent Meeting for parents NEW to MYA!

Tuesday & Thursday, September 9 & 11:

Jazz Combo rehearsals begin

Getting to Midwest Young Artists (Road construction detours)

The bridge on Old Elm Road is under construction and Old Elm Road will be closed until November. To get to the MYA Center by driving, when coming from the South take Half Day Road and turn left on Summit and follow to Old Elm. If coming from the North exit at Westleigh Road and head east. Westleigh will turn into Sheridan – just follow Sheridan to Old Elm Road and turn left into Ft. Sheridan.

Mandatory Parent Meetings for parents NEW to MYA!

Gena Andreassen, Parent Volunteer Coordinator, will be able to answer all of your questions! She will go over important information including: Season Overview, Student Directory, Volunteer Opportunities, and Introduction of Ensemble Liaisons

Saturday, September 6: 12:00 PM

Sunday, September 7: 6:00 PM

Please Note: Parent meetings will be held outside, under a tent on the front lawn. Parents not new to MYA are also welcome and encouraged to attend!

Theory

MYA offers four levels of Music Theory, free to all students enrolled in a large ensemble. If you were enrolled in the Theory Program last year, please check the theory page of the MYA website to see your placement for this year: <http://www.mya.org/programs/theory.php>. If you are new to MYA this year and want to take a theory class, you will have to take a theory placement questionnaire on Saturday, September 6. If you do not think you are appropriately placed or have questions, please direct them to Peter Kupfer at peterkupfer@mya.org.

MYA General Q & A's

Q. *I have a marching band conflict this month with orchestra this month. What should I do?*

A. We hope that when you are absent for any reason, you go to the Members' page of our website and fill out the on-line absence form. This puts it into a database that we print out and give to our coaches and directors so they know who is going to be absent each week. We usually print it out before we leave on Friday evening, so as soon as you know the absence is coming up, please let us know. If you're in a chamber music ensemble, don't forget to find a sub for your part. This should be easier as you get to know students in your section.

Q. *My child will be at MYA for quite awhile on Saturday or Sunday. Is there anywhere close by to get something to eat?*

A. We've been told that one of the best memories of our Alum's MYA experience was eating pizza and hanging out with their friends. On Saturday (and maybe we'll also start on Sunday if we find a volunteer), we have bagels and pizza for sale, as well as fruit, snacks, and drinks.

Q. *When do the ensembles perform and is there a schedule where I can locate upcoming events?*

A. MYA has more than 40 performances each year. Please keep up-to-date with our events by going to the calendar on the Members page of the MYA website, by viewing the Concerts & Events page on the website, by reading our weekly newsletter, and by viewing information posted on the bulletin boards. Please also pick up a copy of our Season Brochure, which has all major concerts and ticket prices listed. Purchasing tickets prior to September 20th will provide substantial savings!!

Order Your Season Tickets Now & Save!

Please pick up a copy of MYA's 2008-09 Season Brochure and order your season tickets by September 20 to save on MYA's concert tickets for the fall!

MYA Photo Days: September 20 & 21

Each year MYA has professional group photos taken of each ensemble for the annual concert program book. Students must wear their concert attire on this day for their regular rehearsals. A complete description of proper dress for each ensemble can be found on our website at www.mya.org/handbook/dresscode.php.

Saturday Photo Times

9:15 Cadet
9:45 Concert
11:45 Reading
12:00 Prep
2:45 Symphony

Sunday Photo Times

2:00 Jazz Ensemble
3:30 Tuesday Combos
4:00 Voices Rising
4:15 Jazz Orchestra
4:30 Thursday Combos
5:00 Big Band
5:30 Choristers
6:30 Chorale

Current Openings at MYA!

Please Spread the Word! Midwest Young Artists' nationally acclaimed music program is currently accepting applicants for its Choristers & Chorale Vocal Ensembles and selected instruments for both MYA's Jazz and Orchestra program as listed on the MYA website at <http://www.mya.org/audition>! Interested parties may register on-line or contact the MYA office at 847.926.9898.

Students can sign up for MYA's Honors Wind Symphony through the end of September. Current Symphony members do not have to audition. The Honors Wind Symphony will begin after marching season and after MYA's October 26th concert.

Volunteer Needs

Contact Gena Andreasen for more info: genaandreasen@mya.org

Immediate need: Mailing August 22 - 23: Friday 10:00 – 3:00 & Saturday 10:00 – 3:00

1. **Auction Co-chair**
2. **Weekend Concessions Coordinator:**
 - Saturday - morning and afternoon (2 people)
 - Sunday - 6:30 – 7:00pm (1 person)
3. **Pick Staiger Concert Concessions** (Feb. 21, 22 & Apr. 25, 26). 1 or 2 people
4. **Soiree Refreshment Coordinator** during our Sunday Soirees
5. **Ensemble Liaisons:** Choristers, Cadet, Prep, Symphony
6. **PVO Co-Secretary:** We are looking for an alternate note taker at our 6 PVO meetings.

We are Looking Forward to a Terrific Year!