



ACYO Schedule 2009-2010

Mark Your Calendars!

ACYO rehearsals are
Sunday nights
from 5:30-8:00pm

The ACYO Board meets on
the first Sunday of each
month during rehearsal.

Sunday, Nov. 29th, 2009
Phillips Center

for the Performing Arts:
Holiday Tradition/Stop
Children's Cancer Concert
at 4:00 pm

&

ACYO Winter Concert
7:30 pm (Free)

Monday, April 19, 2010
5th Grade

Meet the Orchestra Concert
Phillips Center
9:30 am

Sunday, April 25th, 2010
University Auditorium
ACYO Spring Concert
7:00 pm (Free)

There will be no rehearsal:
All of December
(resume Jan 10th)
April 4th - (spring break)

Note-there will be rehearsal
on April 11th

*Watch this space
each month for
calendar updates!*



ACYO NEWSLETTER

September 2009

Notes from the President

Congratulations to both new and returning members. We're all looking forward to another wonderful year of music making and fun with this special orchestra.

I hope you will find useful information about the upcoming season in this first newsletter of the year. If you have any questions about something not covered, please do not hesitate to ask a board member or our conductor, Mr. Langford. (Information about the Board, including the elections to be held at **Sept. 13th Parent Meeting**, is provided later in this Newsletter; an organizational meeting of the Board will take place following the Parent Meeting at which officers will be elected for the year.)

Please note that from time to time information including our monthly newsletter will be sent to you via e-mail using the address you provided on the audition forms. (A couple of years ago, for example, e-mail was used about cancellation of rehearsal due to weather—we hope to not be repeating that kind of communication, but this possibility highlights the importance of being able to reach you by e-mail.) Please look for a test e-mail in the next few weeks from our membership secretary; if you don't receive one, send an e-mail to Pim Kosalwat at acyo.org@gmail.com with your correct address. Also, refer to our website www.acyo.org.

The most favorable climate for the hard work of our student musicians and Mr. Langford is created through the volunteer activities of parents in connection with both rehearsals (such as Symphony Café, pizza night, and Minuet Meals) and in the help provided by parents in connection with our concerts and receptions to make them as enjoyable and smoothly run as possible. Some of the major volunteer opportunities are discussed in this newsletter and will be talked about at our parent meeting on September 13th and in future newsletters and/or e-mails. This is **your ACYO**, and a nonprofit, volunteer-based organization such as ours is only as strong as the broad base of commitments of time, energy and talents by all of its members.

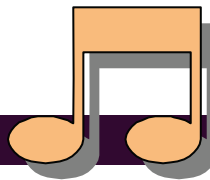
Sincerely,

Ken Zeichner, ksz98@yahoo.com

Welcome from the Conductor

Congratulations to all ACYO musicians, both new and returning! Each year at this time, with the future unknown and the past as a firm foundation, I am always excited about the upcoming season. Only you and I and your parents are aware of the amount of work, dedication and commitment necessary to maintain the level of excellence that has been established by those who have gone before you. With an extremely limited amount of rehearsal time I am always amazed at how the orchestra rises to each and every occasion. You are to be congratulated on that accomplishment. In my new role as Musical Director of Holiday Traditions I have implemented a few changes that I hope will not only continue the level of excellence established over the past 12 years, but will add a slightly different twist to the event. This of course translates into several new pieces for us to master and combine with the choirs. Change is always a bit stressful, but I know that we will, once again, rise to the occasion and continue to be an integral part of this wonderful and important event. To be successful in reaching the full potential of the orchestra, each and every one of you, regardless of part, chair placement or instrument, need to be diligent in your individual preparation, be responsible for taking care of business, maintain a positive attitude and be steadfast in your commitment to the musical and social ideals of the orchestra. Together we will reach the goals that will enrich all our lives. All of you are very special and I am eternally grateful for the opportunity to work with you, see you mature as a person and a musician, and to bring that special joy to our audiences that only music can bring.

Gary Langford, Conductor, glangford@arts.ufl.edu



Safety Tips For Youth Orchestra Students

It will soon be dark when students leave the UF Music Building after ACYO practice on Sunday evenings. For safety reasons, students who drive are being asked to use the "buddy system" when walking to your cars in the parking lot. Please find one or more ACYO students to walk with. If you see an ACYO student walking alone, invite them to join your group. Be sure each person gets to his or her car safely. **Possible parking locations include the spaces behind Tigert Hall (main entrance off 13th St) or the parking garage across from the Campus Police Station.**

The UF website on student safety gives several additional recommendations about parking/driving on campus:

- Lock all doors and close all windows when leaving your car.
- Park in well-lighted areas.
- Have your keys ready as you approach your car.

- Look in the front and back seats for intruders before entering, and lock the doors immediately after getting into your car.
- On your way to the parking area, avoid shortcuts through isolated areas.
- Walk purposefully, confidently, and be alert to your surroundings.
- If needed, there are blue emergency phones on campus. You may also call 392-SNAP to request an escort instead of walking alone in the dark. SNAP is a student operated nighttime escort service sponsored by the UF student government and University Police Department.

If you have any questions/concerns please speak with Mr. Langford

Thanks for your attention. We look forward to another safe and successful year with ACYO!

Everything you need to know ... at [ACYO.org](http://www.acyo.org) !!!

The ACYO website is the place to go when you have a question! The web address is <http://www.acyo.org>, the Monthly Newsletter will be posted on the ACYO website at <http://www.acyo.org/newsletter.htm>. Please take some time to go and explore the site. The design and content of the current site is only the beginning. The more you use the site the more you will discover information that should be added. We are interested in adding pictures of members and orchestra activities. On the Announcement page we would also like to list studio and senior recitals and upcoming community music events. We are also looking for additional music links for the Links Page.

The posting of pictures and issues regarding privacy and identification of individuals on the website has been extensively discussed by the Board of Directors which has developed a privacy policy. In brief this policy states that orchestra members' names and contact information will not be posted on the site. This policy is waived when someone wishes to place an announcement of a musical event such as a senior recital. Pictures offered for posting that feature identifiable faces must be accompanied by signed releases for everyone in the picture. To obtain a copy of the policy or picture release, submit text or pictures or make general suggestions about the site please contact Ken Zeichner at ksz98@yahoo.com.

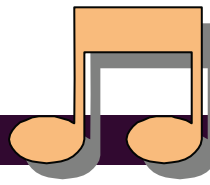
From the Editor:

Welcome to all new and returning members!

The deadline for submitting articles to the ACYO Newsletter is 12 Noon of the Wednesday immediately preceding the 2nd Sunday of the month. The newsletter will be sent electronically the 2nd Sunday of each month with limited paper copies provided at rehearsal. You may email me with your text and/or pictures. The next deadline is Wed, October 7th.

May Zhang (mayzhang15@gmail.com)





Volunteer Opportunities ... "WE NEED YOU!"

Symphony Café

As a convenience to orchestra members during break time, symphony cafe sells 100 calorie snack packs and bottled water. Any profits from this go towards the purchase of pizza for the first Sunday of the month.

This volunteer opportunity needs 1 or 2 people to run, with others helping on occasion. Duties include purchase of snacks and bottled water. Arrive at 5.30 to set up 3 tables. Take the wheeled cooler to the Broward dining Hall to fill with ice (Speak with the manager to arrange). Stock coolers with bottled water and cover with ice to chill.



Set out the snack packs. Sell the snacks and bottled water at break time. Assist with clean up and put away items and check if extra supplies are needed for the following week. Count the money and record the takings - give to the treasurer on board meeting nights, and collect reimbursement for snacks purchased. After that you can watch the remainder of the rehearsal or leave! This job is EASY and is not that time consuming- it just needs someone who can come regularly to keep it going. For more info: contact Christine Richards at 514-1211 or littlemumc@yahoo.com.

Volunteers Needed for Minuet Meals !!!

Purpose - To provide a nutritious snack, and to sustain energy and enthusiasm during orchestra practice for our children in ACYO.

Number of volunteers needed - At least 35.

Job description - Cook and serve 30~35 small servings of food (preferably homemade, such as sandwiches, spaghetti, pasta, dumplings, fried rice/or noodle, curry rice, sushi, chili...etc.). Bowls or plates, spoons or forks, etc should be provided along with the food for the number of servings each meal is expected to be.

Place - Atrium of UF Music building (bring the food and serve)

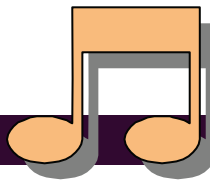
Time - Sunday, 6:30–7:00 p.m.

Frequency - Once per semester, on nights when pizza is not ordered

How - 1. Come to the ACYO Parents Meeting on September 13, 2009 and sign up
2. Contact JingJing Zhuo (373-6412; jzhuo@cox.net);
Wei Xi (514-4049; wei-x2000@yahoo.com);
Yuping Sun (yupingsun@hotmail.com)

Volunteers Needed for "Who Wants Pizza ???"

On the first Sunday of each month, pizza, cookies, soda and juice are provided free for the ACYO students, funded partly through sales from the Symphony Café. In order to rotate a team every other month and spread the work out, we need 6 to 8 volunteers. On pizza days, we set up tables, get ice, fix drinks, pick up around 20 pizzas and serve 100 ravenous (but polite) teenagers with a smile. Clean-up is very easy because there is nothing left to clean. The only things they haven't eaten are the tables and the boxes! We start setting up about 6:00 pm and we are usually finished by around 7 or 7:15. To volunteer to help or for more info, please sign up at the parent's meeting or contact Jennifer Godshalk at godshalkbl@yahoo.com or at 352-331-4425.



Orchestra Concert

Dress

Women:

- *Black full-length skirt*, NO side or front slits; or
- *black dressy pants*, (NO jeans) and
- *black blouse*, (NO midriff showing), or
- *Black full-length dress*. NO side or front slits.
- *Black dress shoes and black hose*.

ALL dresses and blouse tops MUST have defined sleeves, 3/4 length, or long.

Men:

- *Black dress pants*, (NO jeans)
- *Black dress shoes*, (NO sneakers, athletic shoes)
- *Black socks*
- *White tuxedo shirt with pleated front*.
- *Black tie and cummerbund (you provide)*.

Orchestra Dues

If you have not already done so, please be sure to pay your annual Orchestra Dues. The amount is \$160 per orchestra member. Families with more than one member pay \$80 for each additional musician. These dues help pay for our conductor, Gary Langford, pay for music, and pay for rental of concert spaces, so it is important that we receive the dues from you ASAP. Please pay by check or money order payable to "ACYO", write your child's name in the memo space, fill

out the 2009-2010 ACYO Dues and Donation form attached to the back of this newsletter and submit the check and the form to our treasurer, Jodi Oren or conductor Gary Langford. If you have questions, contact Jodi at joren@phttp.ufl.edu. (Note, need-based scholarships reducing the dues to \$40 are available to those who provide documentation from their school of eligibility for free or reduced lunch.)

Donations

ACYO's dues do not cover all of our costs. Fortunately, over the years, grants and donations have helped to supplement dues. The results of grant applications are unpredictable though, and ACYO does not require members to engage in fundraising activities required for many school band booster organizations (e.g., "fair share" cookie dough sales, etc.) In lieu of such fundraising, tax-deductible donations above the dues are welcomed. If you or someone you know would like to make such a tax-deductible donation, please make out a separate check to ACYO, indicating "donation" in the memo and on the payment form provided in the back of this newsletter.



CONCERT CDs!

Concerts for the 2009-2010 year will be recorded and will be available for sale for \$15.00. Proceeds benefit ACYO. Order forms will be made available prior to concerts for your convenience.

All-State Info

Parents of those members who timely submitted their applications and fees to their school band/music directors, may wish to meet after the ACYO Parent Meeting on September 13th to attempt to coordinate on the audition and other aspects of this year's All-State Orchestra process. All-State Band candidates must make arrangements per each school's band director.

ACYO Tee's !!

Buy your t-shirts Sunday, September 13, at the annual membership meeting.

Short sleeves - \$10.00
Long sleeves - \$15.00

Short sleeved t-shirts available in all sizes, Black shirt with red/yellow graphic. Long sleeved t-shirts available in all sizes, Black shirt with blue graphic and ACYO on one sleeve. For more info call or e-mail:

Debra Jones 352-495-3214
djone@mse.ufl.edu



Board of Directors 2009-2010

The Board of Directors of our independent non-profit corporation is made up of members serving 2 year terms. Parent and At-Large nominees for new 2 year term running from September 2009 through the parent meeting in September 2010 will be voted on at the September 13, 2009 annual meeting. The nominating committee has identified the following list of nominees for election to serve new 2 year terms.

Parents of orchestra participants: Irma Alvarez, Marina Petrovokaia, Brent Godshalk, Rick Sapp, Dongshi Tang, Jennifer Lu, Andrea Mansolo, Cheryl Valantis, Ken Zeichner

Members at large: Pim Kosalwat, Kim Chalmers

For Ratification:

Gainesville Music Teachers Assoc: Sally Fouse

Alachua County Public Schools: Todd Eckstein

The floor will be open to additional nominations at the September 13 parent meeting. Those elected will join the following members who are returning to serve out the 2nd year of their current 2 year terms:

Steven Thomas: sthomas@arts.ufl.edu

Debra Jones: djone@mse.ufl.edu

May Zhang: mayzhang15@gmail.com

Jay Mahajan: j_vakharia@cox.net

Lisa Tumarkin: lisatumarkin@gmail.com

Christine Richards: littlemumc@yahoo.com

Eva Dimitrov: evadimitrov@cox.net

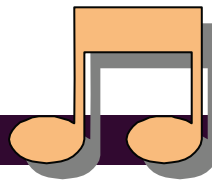
Board Officers for the 2009-2010 year will be elected at the Board organizational meeting on Sept. 13th following the Parent meeting.

THE
Alachua County Youth Orchestra

PO Box 14313
University Station
Gainesville, FL 32604
<http://www.ACYO.org>

Gary Langford, Conductor and Music Director
glangford@arts.ufl.edu





ACYO Dues and Donations 2009-2010 Mail-in form / Contact update

ACYO dues for 2009-2010 year:

1st child: \$160.00

2nd child: \$80.00

Need-Based Scholarship: \$40.00 (provide documentation from school of eligibility for free/reduced lunch).

Checks or money order may be made payable to: "ACYO" (write name of student(s) in memo portion of the check)

Dues payment: _____

Names of children in ACYO: _____ email _____
_____ email _____
_____ email _____

If you would like to contribute an additional tax deductible donation to help with the orchestra expenses you may add any amount to your dues check.

Dues payment _____
Donation (optional) _____
Total enclosed _____
Check no. _____

Parent name: _____
Address _____
Preferred email _____

Mail completed form and check to:
(or bring to Prof. Langford at rehearsal, or give to Jodi Oren)

*Alachua County Youth Orchestra
PO Box 14313
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Gainesville, FL 32604*