

Johnstown Symphony Youth Orchestra

Fact Sheet

- Established in 1958, the JSYO rehearses every Saturday morning and performs 2-3 concerts per season. One performance this season will be a side-by-side with the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra.
- The JSYO features two honors chamber ensembles. Students are selected by audition and are coached each week by professional musicians. They perform in JSYO performances, in schools, and for other community events.
- This season, 45 students from 14 schools make up the JSYO.
- Students commute from 5 to 75 minutes away to participate.
- Ages range from 8th grade to college.
- Students are typically the most advanced players from their schools and it is quite common to have JSYO representation at district, region, and state honors band and orchestra festivals.
- The orchestra performs standard symphonic repertoire including the following from current and past seasons:
 - Bizet, Suites from *Carmen*
 - Holst, Mars and Jupiter from *The Planets*
 - Rimsky-Korsakov, Capriccio Espagnol
 - Schubert, Unfinished Symphony
 - Smetana, Three Dances from *Bartered Bride*
 - Music from *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Sound of Music*
- Their conductor, David Anderson is in his second year with the JSYO, and has over a decade of experience conducting youth orchestras and working with young musicians.
- This semester, JSYO players will have the opportunity to work with JSO Maestro James Blachly, once as a guest conductor in a rehearsal, and also in the JSO/JSYO side-by-side performance in May.
- In the January performance, JSYO players had the chance to work with Jessica Victoria Ewell, an amazingly talented soprano with a growing international reputation.
- The JSYO is one branch of the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra, and this is where we receive funding. Tuition consistently remains much lower than nearly all similar organizations throughout the country, because of the JSO Board of Directors' commitment to young musicians in our region. In fact, the tuition covers only about 20% of the total expense to the JSO.
- The NOTES Campaign is a way for JSYO family, friends, and supporters to contribute to an extraordinary organization, support young musicians, and ultimately ensure that tuition remains affordable in the long term.
- We are very proud of the fact that many former JSYO members are now or have been members of the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra. Currently there are seven who play regularly and several who are substitutes.