

SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

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Young People's Concerts

Frequently Asked Questions

We're so glad you've chosen to join us for this very special experience! If you're new to attending a concert, this list of questions will help you prepare.

Q: Where do the performances take place?

A. San Diego Symphony's Young People's Concerts (YPCs) take place in the beautiful, historic Copley Symphony Hall in the Jacobs Music Center located at 750 B Street, San Diego, 92101 (near the corner of 7th Ave. and B Street in downtown San Diego).

Q: What time do we need to arrive?

A: Large groups (50 people or more) should arrive at the hall one (1) hour before the performance. This may seem like a long time but over 2,000 people must be seated in the hall, and we appreciate your patience! Smaller groups should arrive no later than 30 minutes before your scheduled concert time (for example, arrive at 9:30 a.m. for a 10:00 a.m. concert or arrive at 11:00 a.m. for an 11:30 a.m. concert).

Q: How long are the performances?

A. Approximately 50 minutes.

Q: How much does it cost to attend?

A. We charge only \$5 per person, whether it's a student or adult (parent, teacher, and aid/chaperone).

Q: Do we have to pay anything to reserve our seats?

You may reserve seats without paying, however, seats are not confirmed until payment is received. Go to www.sandiegosymphony.org, and click on "Learning" then "Young People's Concerts" to make a reservation.

Q: When can I pay for our seats?

Schools may pay at time of registration but must pay at least three (3) weeks in advance of the concert.

Q: Do you ever assist schools with paying for the seats?

Yes, we have a small scholarship fund that we use to help schools attend. We give preference to Title I schools in San Diego County, but we try to help as many public schools as possible.

Q: Our busing costs would prohibit us from attending. Do you ever help schools pay for transportation?

A. Yes, we have a fund to help Title I public schools in San Diego County with either ticket costs or payment for buses. It is given out on a first come, first served basis. If your school needs this assistance, please let us know when you reserve your seats. You will be asked to provide a detailed estimate of the cost of busing. **PLEASE NOTE: We can help with either transportation costs or ticket cost. Our limited funds do not allow us to assist with both.**

Q: We will be coming to the concert in cars. Is there a way for the Symphony to validate our parking?

A. The Symphony is not able to validate parking for any of the lots, meters or structures downtown.

Q: Will we get an invoice for the cost of the tickets?

Our online reservation form will tell you how much your payment will be when you enter the number of people you plan to bring. Then you will receive an email invoice that gives you the cost of attending the concert. Payment is required three (3) weeks prior to your concert date to confirm seats.

Q: What happens if my numbers change? Do I still have to pay for students who don't show due to illness?

If you need to change ticket numbers, requests must be received by the San Diego Symphony no later than two weeks prior to the concert date. If you need to decrease ticket numbers less than two weeks prior to the concert, note there will not be a refund for the unused tickets. If you find that you need to change your group number, please

email: epersinko@sandiegosymphony.org. If you require immediate assistance please call us at **619-237-1967** to adjust your reservation.

Q: Is it possible to change the date and/or time that we attend after we've signed up?

A. It is usually possible to change the date and time that you attend up to six (6) weeks prior to a concert. Please email Emily Persinko at: epersinko@sandiegosymphony.org or call her at **619-237-1967** to ask about availability of seats.

Q: Is there a minimum number of people needed to attend as a group?

A. No, there is no minimum number of people to attend as a group.

Q: Is there a minimum age?

A. Yes, we ask that children be at least 4 years old to attend.

Q: How many musicians will we see onstage?

A. Approximately 65-80 musicians will be onstage. We often have other types of artists with us such as actors and dancers as well.

Q: Are these concerts educational in content?

A. Yes, our concerts align with Common Core and address California State Learning Standards in music and other subjects.

Q: How do you help teachers prepare the students for the concerts?

A. We produce learning resources for teachers/guardians along with a curriculum guide that is published on our website. Schools are also given the option to have a volunteer docent from the Advocates for Classical Music (www.advocatesforclassicalmusic.org) visit their classroom for a presentation on the music and inform about concert etiquette. The docent visits are offered without charge and are contingent upon demand and sufficient notice.

PLEASE NOTE: If you sign up within four weeks of a concert, we cannot guarantee that docent visits will be available.

Q: When can I reserve seats?

A. Reservations are taken starting in late May/early June for the upcoming season and you may reserve seats up to a week before any concert, as long as there are seats available. Reservations can be made online (go to www.sandiegosymphony.com, click on "Menu"/ "Learning", / "Young People's Concerts/Sign Up").

Q: I received my visit confirmation notice but there were no tickets. Will we receive tickets for these concerts?

A. We do not issue physical tickets for the YPCs. Seating is pre-determined based on a number of factors.

Q: What should we wear? Do you have a dress code?

A. We do not have a dress code for attending the YPCs and we suggest that everyone dress for comfort. However, teachers tell us that their students' behavior is better when they are dressed up a little. Another good option that we've seen is students wearing their school t-shirt so that they are easily spotted in a crowd.

Q: Following the concert, our students want to show appreciation by writing letters and drawing pictures for the musicians and conductor. Where should we send our notes?

A. We enjoy getting your letters and drawings! We share them with our musicians, conductor, staff and board of directors. We also send them to the generous donors who help keep these concerts affordable for schools. Please send them to: San Diego Symphony, 1245 Seventh Ave., San Diego, CA 92101, ATTN: Learning Department.

THANK YOU! We look forward to seeing you at our Young People's Concerts!