



COVID-19 Procedures for Knoxville Symphony Youth Orchestra Rehearsals/Performances 2020-2021

The Knoxville Symphony Orchestra (KSO) is working diligently to follow all mandates and guidelines established by the state of Tennessee and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). For the Knoxville Symphony Youth Orchestra's (KSYO) weekly rehearsals and performances to take place, we must follow those mandates and guidelines to help mitigate the spread and impact of COVID-19 and to create the safest environment possible for students and staff. At all times, Knoxville Symphony Orchestra/Youth Orchestra staff will strive to follow the most current guidance from the CDC and the state of Tennessee in all activities. The procedures listed below apply to KSYO 2020-2021 weekly rehearsals and performances. Before rehearsals, each conductor, rehearsal assistant, staff and students must confirm that he or she has reviewed and will abide by these procedures for the duration of KSYO 2020-2021 weekly rehearsals and performances. Each conductor will review with their orchestra ensemble those procedures listed below that apply to students. If a student is unwilling or unable to comply with any procedure, the student will not be able to remain at rehearsal; the conductor will ask the student to leave the rehearsal room and wait until a parent can be contacted before leaving the building. In the unlikely event that a student or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, affected KSYO participants and personnel will be notified immediately.

PROCEDURES FOR EVERYONE (Students, Conductors, Rehearsal Assistants, Staff)

Self-screen before reporting to rehearsals/performances with the following questions:

- Have you experienced any of the following symptoms in the past 48 hours:
 - fever or chills
 - cough
 - shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - fatigue
 - muscle or body aches
 - headache
 - new loss of taste or smell
 - sore throat
 - congestion or runny nose
 - nausea or vomiting
 - diarrhea
- Within the past 14 days, have you been in close physical contact (6 feet or closer for at least 15 minutes) with a person who is known to have laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 or with anyone who has any symptoms consistent with COVID-19?
- Are you isolating or quarantining because you may have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 or are worried that you may be sick with COVID-19?
- Are you currently waiting on the results of a COVID-19 test?
- What is your temperature?

Anyone with an answer of “yes” to any of the above questions, or with a temperature reading of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, may not come to rehearsal or a performance and/or will be asked to leave the premises immediately and seek medical care and/or COVID-19 testing, per Tennessee Department of Health and CDC guidelines.

PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS

- The KSYO 2020-2021 weekly rehearsals will include rehearsals only: no snack breaks or extra activities. In lieu of a fall concert, each group will be recorded in their own rehearsal room and the recording will be shared with all participants via digital platform.
- Students should inform their parents if they are not feeling well before rehearsal, and in such case, should not attend rehearsal.
- Separate entrances/exits will be used for different ensembles, with staggered arrival/departure times. Students will remain in cars until summoned by staff to allow for physical distancing; students may not enter the building until summoned, no more than 20 minutes prior to their assigned rehearsal time.
- Students will wear properly fitted face masks from the moment they enter the building until after they have exited. Neck gaiters, bandanas and scarves are not allowed to be worn in lieu of masks.
- Students will have a weekly temperature check, after which students will report directly to their chairs in their rehearsal room.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at entrances/exits and in each rehearsal space, but students should bring their own hand sanitizer for personal use during rehearsals. Students should always practice proper hygiene by washing hands before and after rehearsal and should use hand sanitizer frequently during rehearsal.
- Students should bring their own water bottles to rehearsals. They must not share water bottles.
- Students should not greet each other with handshakes, hugs, “high fives” or any physical contact, and should maintain a physical distance of at least six feet from staff and other students at all times, including while in line for temperature checks, during bathroom breaks and inside the rehearsal room.
- KidCheck will not be used to check attendance; staff/rehearsal assistants will check students in for each rehearsal “on paper.”
- Rehearsals will not include any students, staff or rehearsal assistants except those assigned to each particular ensemble. Each ensemble will be limited to 30 maximum people, including staff.
- Each rehearsal room will have adequate space for students and staff to observe a physical distance of at least six feet during rehearsal. Students will not share stands. Conductor’s podiums will be set with 12 feet of space from students.
- Students should inform their conductor or a rehearsal assistant if they are not feeling well during rehearsal. In such case, the student will leave the rehearsal space, maintaining physical distance, until able to leave the building with a parent.
- Conductors/rehearsal assistants will assist students individually with tuning of instruments, while the student remains in his/her chair. Students should not handle any instrument, bow, case or rosin other than their own.
- Conductors/rehearsal assistants will allow student bathroom breaks with only one student out of the rehearsal room at a time. Students must wash their hands thoroughly before returning to the rehearsal room.
- Students will depart immediately at end of rehearsal, following staff directions to maintain physical distance as they exit the building.

PROCEDURES FOR PARENTS

- Parents should review the procedures for students, particularly younger students, before driving the student to rehearsal on their assigned week.
- KSYO rehearsals will run using a divided group schedule and only the group listed should attend on any given week. All students will be provided with a link to join via technology each week.
- Make sure your student understands the importance of maintaining a six-foot distance from all other people during rehearsals, and model what six feet “looks like.”
- Parents should check their students’ temperatures before leaving home for the rehearsal location. If a student has a temperature reading of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, he/she may not come to rehearsal. Parents should not allow students who are high-risk individuals to attend KSYO. These students may join via technology each week. Nor should a student attend KSYO rehearsals/performances if the student or anyone in the student’s immediate family has had contact with a person infected with COVID-19, or who is displaying coronavirus symptoms.
- Parents and students should use the restroom before leaving home. Although students will be allowed bathroom breaks during rehearsals, restrooms will not be available for parents or other family members.
- Separate entrances/exits will be used for different ensembles, with staggered arrival/departure times. Students should arrive no more than 20 minutes prior to their scheduled rehearsal time and will remain in cars until summoned by staff to allow for physical distancing. Parents should observe from the parent’s vehicle that the student has safely arrived at the building entrance.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at entrances/exits and in each rehearsal space, but students should bring their own hand sanitizer for personal use during rehearsals. They may also want to bring disinfectant wipes.
- Rehearsal assistants or staff will wipe all chairs, music stands and any other high-touch surfaces before and after each rehearsal. Rehearsals will be scheduled so that one complete air change will occur in rehearsal spaces at West Valley Middle School before another group enters the building (this occurs every 8 minutes)
- Parents should convey to their students that rehearsal is not mandatory during the KSYO 2020-2021 season, and that their ability to perform with the KSYO will not be affected if a student’s family does not feel comfortable with the student attending rehearsal.
- Note: Any student who travels to locations outside of Knox County that have a higher incidence rates of COVID-19 should not return to KSYO rehearsal for 14 days. This may affect attendance following Labor Day, Fall Break and Thanksgiving. Students who have traveled are welcome to join online.
- During rehearsal, parents should remain in their car, leave the rehearsal location, or disperse sufficiently to observe physical distance from other parents.
- Parents and other family members are not permitted in the building during KSYO rehearsals. Parents of very young children may escort them to the entrance for the weekly health screening, and may meet them at the exit after rehearsal. Staff will escort students inside the building.
- KSYO staff will not approach your vehicle or any parent or guardian to answer questions unless you are wearing a face mask.

PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTORS, REHEARSAL ASSISTANTS and STAFF

- The KSYO 2020-2021 weekly rehearsals will include rehearsals only: no snack breaks or extra activities. In lieu of a fall concert, each group will be recorded in their own rehearsal room and the recording will be shared with all participants via digital platform.
- Separate entrances/exits will be used for different ensembles, with staggered arrival/departure times. Students will remain in cars until summoned by staff to allow for physical distancing.
- Conductors, rehearsal assistants and staff will have a weekly temperature check upon arrival at the school.
- Conductors, rehearsal assistants and staff will wear properly fitted face masks for the duration of rehearsals (no neck gaiters, bandanas or scarves are allowed in lieu of masks).
- Parents and other family members are not permitted in the building during KSYO rehearsals. Parents of very young children may escort them to the entrance for the weekly health screening, and may meet them at the exit after rehearsal. Staff will escort students inside the building.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at entrances/exits and in each rehearsal space. Conductors, rehearsal assistants and staff should always practice proper hygiene by washing hands before and after rehearsal and should use hand sanitizer frequently during rehearsal, especially between tuning student instruments.
- Staff should maintain a distance of six feet from students and other staff at all times, including while in line for temperature checks, during bathroom breaks and inside the rehearsal room.
- Rehearsal assistants or staff will wipe all chairs, music stands and any other high-touch surfaces before and after each rehearsal.
- KidCheck will not be used to check attendance; staff/rehearsal assistants will check students in for each rehearsal “on paper.”
- Rehearsals will not include any students, staff or rehearsal assistants except those assigned to each particular ensemble. Each ensemble will be limited to 30 maximum people, including staff.
- Each rehearsal room will have adequate space for students and staff to observe a physical distance of at least six feet during rehearsal. Students will not share stands. Conductor’s podiums will be set with 12 feet of space from students.
- Conductors/rehearsal assistants will assist students individually with the tuning of instruments, maintaining a distance from the student’s chair while tuning, and using hand sanitizer between instruments.
- Conductors/rehearsal assistants should allow student bathroom breaks with only one student out of the rehearsal room at a time.
- Staff should ensure that students and parents understand that KSYO rehearsals are not mandatory, that students always have the option to join via technology and that students must stay home if feeling unwell.
- Staff will oversee the immediate departure of students at the end of rehearsal, ensuring that physical distances are maintained.