

South Bend Youth Symphony Orchestras

Website: <https://sbyso.org>

For audition information: <https://sbyso.org/join/>

South Bend Youth Symphony Orchestras (SBYSO)'s mission statement is "Educating, inspiring, and enriching young musicians and our community through music since 1968." Our program consists of two orchestras:

Concert Orchestra (intermediate ensemble) Zac Coudret, conductor
(coudretsbyso@gmail.com)

- Rehearses Sundays from 12:15-2:45pm
- Typically this ensemble is for upper elementary or middle school students who have played their instrument for at least two years and can read music.

Symphony Orchestra (advanced ensemble) Dr. Robert Boardman, Music Director & conductor
(robertwboardman@gmail.com)

- Rehearses Sundays from 3:00-6:00pm
- Typically this ensemble is for students who have already had orchestral experience and have several years of experience playing their instrument.

Both Concert Orchestra & Symphony Orchestra rehearse on the Indiana University-South Bend campus in the Education & Arts building, Room 1103.

SBYSO offers a series of programs to supplement orchestral instruction:

- Weekly sectional program, led by professional musicians in the Michiana area
- Master classes
- Week-long summer camp at Saint Mary's College (June)
- Performance Travel opportunities to hear the Chicago Symphony perform
- Annual scholarship program (College Scholarship & Summer Music Camp scholarships are available.)

Additional online registration and audition are required for all partnership students.

SBYSO begins rehearsals each season the Sunday following Labor Day (September 7, 2025) and rehearses weekly until the Sunday before Thanksgiving (November 23, 2025). After the holiday season, rehearsals resume the first Sunday following New Year's Day (January 4, 2026) and continue until early May. (For our 2025-26 season, our final concert is on May 3, 2026.) There is no rehearsal on Easter Sunday.

Students are allowed 2 excused absences per concert cycle are expected to practice outside of rehearsal time.

All partnership students are required to audition in person or online regardless of previous participation.

Students can submit a video audition - details at <https://sbyso.org/join>.

For questions about SBYSO, please email Diane Economakis, Executive Director, at sbyso@sbyso.org or text/call 574-302-5900.