

Minnesota Youth Symphonies



Member of the Board of Directors Job Description and Expectations

Board Purpose: To support the organization's mission and needs by advising, governing, overseeing policy and direction, ensuring the fiscal stability of the organization, and assisting with the leadership and general promotion of Minnesota Youth Symphonies (MYS).

Mission Statement: Minnesota Youth Symphonies develops pride, self-esteem and discipline in young people through individual musical achievement; provides access and opportunity for artistic growth through a challenging program of orchestral repertoire; fosters a lifelong appreciation of classical music; and uplifts the community through inspiring performances by dedicated young musicians.

MYS Core Purpose: Minnesota Youth Symphonies enriches and inspires talented K-12 orchestral musicians by providing professional, conservatory-style experiences, and thrills audiences with outstanding performances of orchestral repertoire.

- MYS cultivates leadership in students by fostering a sense of commitment, modeling, demanding excellence and encouraging achievement.
- MYS broadens cultural horizons, develops a sense of community and cultivates a life-long love of classical music in audiences comprised of students, families and concert-goers.

*Major responsibilities of Board:

- Provide governance, leadership and advisement, oversight and formulation of MYS by-laws, policies and procedures
- Financial management, including adoption and oversight of the annual budget and fundraising projects
- Oversight of artistic and educational program planning and evaluation
- Personnel evaluation and staff development
- Promotion of MYS and community outreach, as it fits the MYS Mission and Purpose
- Participation in standing and ad-hoc committees

**Members of the board share these responsibilities while acting in the interest of MYS. Each member is expected to make recommendations based on his or her experience and vantage point in the community.*

Length of term: Three years, not to exceed two consecutive three-year terms.

Meetings and time commitment:

- Board meets August through June on the second Tuesday of the month, beginning at 6:30 p.m, and typically last for 90 minutes
- Committees of the board meet as needed, as determined by committee members
- Attend MYS concerts and special events, as able

Expectations of board members:

- Attend and participate in meetings on a regular basis; attend concerts and special events as able
- Participate in standing or ad-hoc committees as able
- Be alert to and communicate community concerns that can be addressed by the MYS mission, objectives, and programs
- Help communicate and promote the MYS mission and programs to the community
- Become familiar with MYS finances, budget, and financial/resource needs
- Understand the policies and procedures of MYS
- Financially support MYS in a manner commensurate with one's ability
- Share talents, experiences and skills to provide balance in board discussions and to address specific organization needs, as appropriate and able