

The Conductors

CLAIRE GORDON, WVYO Director, a native of Phoenix, graduated *Summa Cum Laude* from Arizona State University with a Bachelor's degree in Music Education. Mrs. Gordon taught strings in the Washington Elementary School District for fifteen years. Currently, she maintains a large private studio of violin, viola and piano students. Mrs. Gordon's goal is to instill a lifelong love of music in her students.

Mrs. Gordon has been the music director of the West Valley Youth Orchestra since 1997. She has served as an adjudicator for various music festivals and has conducted honor orchestras for several school districts in the Phoenix area. Mrs. Gordon had the privilege of conducting Arizona Elementary All-State Orchestra in 2001 and 2014, the 2008 Arizona Junior High All-State Orchestra, and the 2014 Greater Phoenix Honor Orchestra Festival. She was a featured conductor in the PMTA Piano Ensemble Concert in February 2015. Mrs. Gordon plays in the West Valley Symphony, is an active church musician, and free-lance violinist throughout the Phoenix area.

TRISTA KRUCKENBERG, Cadet Conductor, graduated from Brigham Young University—Idaho with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education, Orchestra Emphasis, and holds a Masters of Arts in Education, Curriculum and Instruction. She began her teaching career as the District Orchestra Teacher in Idaho Falls for grades 4-12 and has held positions as Director of Orchestra and Choir at Tempe High School, Director of Strings at Rancho Santa Fe Elementary and Lanai Road Elementary in Encino, CA respectively. In addition, Mrs. Kruckenberg was the conductor of the West Valley Cadet Strings from 2007-2011 and again from 2013 to the present.

Mrs. Kruckenberg recorded the solo string tracks for a nationwide Mercedes-Benz 2012 commercial and currently performs around the valley as a free-lance violinist while maintaining her private teaching studio of violin, viola, and cello students. Mrs. Kruckenberg firmly believes music enhances the knowledge and abilities of students in a unique way unmatched by any other discipline.

The Program

WEEKLY REHEARSALS

Rehearsals are held Monday evenings at
Wigwam Creek Middle School
4510 N. 127th Ave., Litchfield Park

Youth Orchestra: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Cadet Strings: 6:15 – 7:30 p.m.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Auditions take place at Wigwam Creek Middle School

CADET STRINGS

- **Major Scales:** 1 or 2 octaves through 2 sharps and 2 flats with accurate intonation
- **Prepared Solo:** Student's Choice (two minutes) the equivalent of *Suzuki Book 2* or above
- **Sight Reading:** short orchestral excerpt

YOUTH ORCHESTRA STRINGS

- **Major and Melodic Minor Scales:** 2 or 3 octaves through 4 sharps and 4 flats with accurate intonation
- **Prepared Solo:** Student's Choice (two minutes) the equivalent of *Suzuki Book 4* or above
- **Sight Reading:** short orchestral excerpt

YOUTH ORCHESTRA WOODWINDS AND BRASS

- **Major and Melodic Minor Scales:** 2 octaves through 3 sharps and 3 flats with accurate intonation
- **Prepared Solo:** Student's Choice (two minutes)
- **Sight Reading:** short orchestral excerpt

IMPORTANT DATES

Application Due Date: August 19, 2023
Audition Dates: August 28–30, 2023
Rehearsals run September 11, 2023–May 13, 2024

FEES (NON-REFUNDABLE)

Early Audition Fee (due with application)	\$20
Audition Fee after June 24, 2023	\$30
Tuition (includes T-Shirt and Fall Workshop):	
Cadet Strings	\$295
Youth Orchestra	\$390

Installment plans and partial tuition scholarships are available (based on financial need).

Registration Form

AUDITIONING FOR:

☐ Cadet Strings ☐ Youth Orchestra

PLEASE PRINT

Student Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Instrument: _____ Years Studied: _____

Name, Phone, and Email of Private Instructor:

Signature of Private Teacher

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Parent

☐ By checking this box, I give permission for photos of my child to be used for WVYO publicity.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE AUG. 19, 2023

Register online at www.wvyo.org/application

OR

Mail audition fee and registration to
PO Box 206, Litchfield Park AZ 85340

Please make checks payable to West Valley Youth Orchestra.

THE WEST VALLEY YOUTH ORCHESTRA PROGRAM

offers young talented musicians an opportunity to join their peers for a year of intensive orchestral training and exciting music performances.

The West Valley Youth Orchestra and Cadet Strings perform at various venues throughout the West Valley. The Youth Orchestra performed side-by-side concerts with the West Valley Symphony in 2014, 2017, and 2019. In June 2012 and 2014 the WVYO performed at the West Coast Youth Orchestra Festival in Disney Concert Hall in L.A.

CADET STRINGS is a training orchestra, offering the opportunity for beginning string students to play in a group setting.



YOUTH ORCHESTRA allows more advanced students to develop orchestral playing skills in a full orchestra with strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion.



The West Valley Youth Orchestra Program supports our public and private schools' music programs. Therefore, it is expected that each student who auditions for membership be a member in good standing of their local school orchestra if one exists in the school curriculum.

West Valley Youth Orchestra
PO Box 206
Litchfield Park, AZ 85340-0206

The West Valley Youth Orchestra is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Tax deductible donations are welcomed.

WVYO

WEST VALLEY YOUTH ORCHESTRA

2023-2024 Season

Information and Application

Audition Dates:

Aug. 28-30, 2023

Rehearsals begin Sep. 11, 2023

Claire Gordon, Director
(602) 826-9453

wvyoconductor@wvyo.org

Beth Othon, Orchestra Manager
orchestramanager@wvyo.org

www.wvyo.org