



Job Description: Dayton Philharmonic Youth Strings Conductor

Program Description

First founded in 1937, the youth orchestras of the Dayton Performing Arts Alliance bring together the greater Dayton area's most gifted young orchestral musicians, providing the opportunity to study and perform a broad range of orchestral repertoire.

The Dayton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, Dayton Philharmonic Youth Strings, and Dayton Philharmonic Junior Strings were founded to inspire an overall cultural awareness and appreciation of music in their members and audiences, strengthen our region's existing school music programs, and stimulate interest in the development of school orchestral programs where none exist.

Established in September 1982 with the support of Mrs. Virginia Kettering, the purpose of Dayton Philharmonic Youth Strings is to provide advanced musical experience for string students. Youth Strings presently comprises students from the greater Dayton area. Members of DPYS are selected through annual auditions open to all string students in grades 6 through 12.

Conductor Responsibilities

The Conductor's contractual term spans the 2026-2027 Season, effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. Before the official start date, the Conductor is responsible for the recruitment and selection process. This includes reviewing applicant materials, attending all auditions throughout April and May 2026, and serving on the adjudication panel to select the ensemble for the upcoming season.

Qualified individuals' duties and responsibilities would include, but not limited to, the following professionally and courteously:

- To program, rehearse, and conduct the DPYS for at least three concert programs per season, including a side-by-side concert with our Q the Music Ruskin Strings program.
- To recruit, audition, and select members of the DPYS, and to provide them with an educational and artistically stimulating learning environment.
- To develop and implement a curriculum that strengthens music reading, playing technique, ensemble playing, and general musicianship skills.
- To work with the DPAA's Vice President of Learning and Community Engagement and directly with the Engagement Programs Manager to ensure the smooth and successful operation of the DPYS in all areas.
- Oversee the YS/JS music library, disseminate folders to students and decide what new music to purchase annually.
- To communicate with parents concerning the goals and expectations of DPYS members.
- To coordinate rehearsal room setup and cleanup.
- To work with the DPAA's Vice President of Learning and Community Engagement, Engagement Programs Manager, the Dayton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra conductor, and the Dayton Philharmonic Junior Strings conductors to ensure a well-coordinated, and integrated program across all three ensembles.
- To represent the DPAA and the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra as a leader in and advocate for the Dayton music education community.



- Establishing and maintaining a positive and supportive environment for students and communication with their families.
- The Conductor will communicate closely with the Learning programs team to plan and facilitate concerts, community engagement presentations, and donor special events.

Supporting experience should include:

- Teaching and understanding of Orchestra strings instruction.
- Teaching private instruction and in a group setting (sectionals, classroom, orchestra).
- Teaching or mentoring elementary and middle school students.
- Teaching or mentoring traditionally underserved populations.
- Experience in community engagement.
- String Pedagogy courses or certifications.
- Ability to collaborate with students, staff, and administrators of diverse backgrounds.

Note: The job description is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties, or responsibilities that are required of the employee.

Position Reports to: Vice President for Learning and Community Engagement

Classification status: Part-time

Last updated: 1/13/26

Compensation: \$8,240 per season

Application Process: To apply, please email a cover letter, references, and a chronological resume with a summary of demonstrable accomplishments with program-oriented curriculum vitae related to conducting symphonic music. If possible, please include links to teaching/conducting samples. Applicants may be asked to attend a rehearsal to conduct the Youth Strings musicians. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, and the position will be filled as soon as possible. The ideal start date is April 1, 2026.

The email can be sent to: Jeanita Olowe, Vice President for Learning and Community Engagement | Dayton Performing Arts Alliance, education@daytonperformingarts.org.

The Dayton Performing Arts Alliance is an equal-opportunity employer.