CONTACT INFORMATION

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The Charlotte Youth Wind Ensembles

The Charlotte Youth Wind Ensembles (CYWE), now preparing for its twenty-sixth season, has established itself as one of the Carolinas’ premier student musical organizations. Past repertoire has included some of the most famous and respected titles in band literature as well as new literature.

CYWE includes two bands, the Charlotte Youth Wind Orchestra, conducted by Shawn Smith, and the Charlotte Youth Symphonic Band, conducted by Jeffrey Miller.

Following a series of eight rehearsals, the bands will present a number of regional concerts. In the past, CYWE has been featured on local television in Charlotte.

Students from an 80-mile radius of Charlotte have been members of the Charlotte Youth Wind Ensembles, which are sponsored by the Department of Music of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Mission

The mission of CYWE is to provide the ultimate concert band experience for highly-talented high school students as a musical enrichment program. Very high standards for performance and attendance are expected of all CYWE musicians. Our aim is to present the highest caliber band music in a university-level rehearsal and performance atmosphere.

Eligibility

CYWE auditions are open to all North and South Carolina band students in grades 9-12. All CYWE musicians must be enrolled in their school band or orchestra program. Home-schooled musicians are also eligible.

Auditions

Auditions will be held at Robinson Hall for the Performing Arts, UNC Charlotte on Sunday, December 3, 2017, beginning at 2:00pm. All auditions must be in person, and no alternative audition dates are possible. Audition materials consist of All-State Solos required for North and South Carolina. Students in grades 9-10 can choose to play either the 9-10 or the 11-12 solo for either state, however to be eligible for placement in the Wind Orchestra, students must perform the 11-12 solo. Students will be expected to play their district cuts. Students should also be prepared to play major scales and a short sight-reading excerpt.

Rehearsals/Concerts

Wind Orchestra rehearsals will be held on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 – 9:15 p.m. and Symphonic Band rehearsals will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-9:15pm. All rehearsals are held at UNC Charlotte’s Robinson Hall for the Performing Arts. This site is easily accessible for students traveling from any part of the region.

Wind Orchestra rehearsals will begin on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 and will continue through Tuesday, February 20, 2018. Symphonic Band rehearsals will begin on January 3, 2018 and continue through February 21, 2018. Students accepted into CYWE will receive music well in advance of the first rehearsal and, similar to an All-State band or orchestra experience, will be expected to come to the first rehearsal with the music technically prepared. Up to three concerts will be given throughout the region late February to early March.

CYWE Soloist Competition

Any student selected for membership in the Wind Orchestra is also eligible to compete in the CYWE Soloist Competition to be held before rehearsal on January 9, 2018. The winner of the competition will have the honor of performing as a featured soloist in this season’s CYWE concerts. Students selected for the Symphonic Band are not eligible for the soloist competition. Solos must be less than ten minutes and have a band accompaniment that is readily available. Soloists should consult with their band director or private instructor to select an appropriate solo.

CYWE Application/Fees

CYWE application materials are available online at: www.music.uncc.edu. A $10 audition fee (check or money order) must accompany the application materials. Upon receipt of notification that a student is accepted as a member of CYWE, s/he will receive a rehearsal schedule and a contract for membership which must be signed by the student and parent and returned to CYWE at the first rehearsal.

The tuition for membership is $100 for the season, payable by check or money order to UNC Charlotte Department of Music (no cash accepted). The tuition fee covers parking, music, staff and clinician expenses, printing, and other related costs.

NEW THIS YEAR: An online registration and payment option is available on the CYWE website which is found at: www.music.uncc.edu