



## YOUNG LEADERS (YL) PROGRAM 2025-26

### GOAL

To provide opportunities for ESYO members to cultivate leadership skills, explore career paths, and positively impact the organization and the broader community.

### REQUIRED: Attendance & Good Standing

- Maintain good standing in your ESYO ensemble(s)
- Attend all 2025-26 Young Leader meetings on the following **WEDNESDAYS**:  
(Please note: BLUE meetings are VIRTUAL – to be held by Google Meet.)

Sept. 24	Welcome & Program Orientation, <b>6-7:30 pm</b>
Oct. 8	YL Advocacy Session #1; Training & Volunteer Tracks Overview & Selection, <b>6-8:30 pm</b>
Oct. 29*	Fall Leadership Workshop, <b>6-8:30 pm</b> - see additional info below
Nov. 10-14	Individual Program Progress Check-ins [Scheduled individually w/ YL Advisor – VIRTUAL]
Nov. 19	Volunteer Track Training Session #1, <b>6-7:30 pm</b>
Dec. 8-12	Individual Program Progress Check-ins [Scheduled individually w/ YL Advisor – VIRTUAL]
Jan. 14	Welcome Back! YL Advocacy Session # 2 / Volunteer Track Training Session #2, <b>6-8:30 pm</b>
Feb. 4*	Spring Leadership Workshop, <b>6-8:30 pm</b> - see additional info below
Feb. 9-13	Individual Program Progress Check-ins [Scheduled individually w/ YL Advisor – VIRTUAL]
Feb. 25	YL-led Meeting, <b>6-7:30 pm</b>
Mar. 18	YL-led Meeting, <b>6-7:30 pm</b>
Mar. 30- April 3	Individual Program Progress Check-ins [Scheduled individually w/ YL Advisor – VIRTUAL]
April 15	YL-led Meeting / Volunteer Track Training Session #3, <b>6-8:30 pm</b>
May 20	YL-led Meeting / Wrap-up & End-of-Season Party! <b>6-8:30 pm</b>

- \*Attend twice yearly **in-person** YL Leadership Workshops on the following dates (also above):  
Wednesday, Oct. 29, 6-8:30 pm – Topic: Youth Leadership/Advocacy  
Wednesday, Feb. 4, 6-8:30 pm – Topic: Nonprofit Arts Management
- Participate in individual program progress check-ins with assigned YL Advisors.
- Participate in a Young Leader Training & Volunteer Track (see below).

### REQUIRED: Young Leader Training & Volunteer Tracks

All Young Leaders are expected to select *one* of the following tracks for the season. It is possible to participate in volunteer opportunities in either track, but Young Leaders are expected to receive training and dedicate the majority of their YL time to one or the other.

#### 1. ESYO Young Leader Ambassador

- **Training**
  - Receive training to give public presentations about ESYO (can include outreach performances)
  - Receive training to give music education & recruitment presentations in schools
- **Volunteer Opportunities**
  - Participate in public presentations on behalf of ESYO
  - Participate in public performances on behalf of ESYO
  - Participate in ESYO social media, marketing and/or recruitment campaigns

#### 2. ESYO Young Leader Teaching Assistant

- **Training**
  - Receive training on peer mentorship
  - Receive training on teaching
- **Volunteer Opportunities**
  - Teaching Assistant in the CHIME program
  - Teaching Assistant in one of ESYO's performing ensembles and/or chamber music
  - Teaching Assistant in the ESYO/CHIME summer program
  - Participate in professional development workshops with ESYO teachers/conductors

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In addition to the required activities listed above, Young Leaders are encouraged to explore the following **optional** activities as time, schedule and inclination allow.

### OPTIONAL: Capstone Projects

Young Leaders are invited to submit a Capstone Project proposal by October 29, 2025 for review and approval. Approved projects will be supported by ESYO staff and members of the ESYO community as needed. YLs are invited to submit a budget request along with their project proposal for review and approval. While open to all, this experience is recommended for returning Young Leaders in their junior or senior year, and will require a significant time commitment.

### OPTIONAL: Governance & Strategic Initiatives

Young Leaders are encouraged to serve on strategic committees and serve as ESYO Youth Board Representatives. While not required, these opportunities are strongly recommended as they build leadership skills and positively impact the organization.