



Welcome to Vermont Youth Strings (VYS)!

Please print out this packet & read this important information carefully.

IMPORTANT VYS DATES

Conductor: David Gusakov

Orchestra Manager: Mia Fritze

Email: mia@vyo.org

Phone: 655-5030 ext 304

Please contact [Mia Fritze](#) with any questions you may have regarding participation in VYS. The best form of communication will be via email as Orchestra Managers do not hold regular office hours.

Mini-Camp: Tues & Wed, August 16 & 17, 2011; 9am-3pm at Elley-Long Music Center
This is the first opportunity students will have to rehearse their music & meet the other students. Attendance is expected of all VYS members, but if you must miss Mini-Camp please inform [Mia Fritze](#). Missing both days of Mini-Camp counts as 1 whole absence & missing 1 day of Mini-Camp counts as 1/2 an absence. Additional information will be sent out in early August, including carpool lists.

Rehearsals: Saturdays; **10:00am-12:15pm** (unless noted) at Elley-Long Music Center

Fall 2011

Sept. 10, 17, 24

Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Nov. 5, 12, 19

Nov. 27 [2-4pm] **this is a SUNDAY rehearsal**

Dec. 3

Spring 2012

Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28

Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25

Mar. 10, 17, 24

***Mar. 31* [10:30 start time]**

Please mark these dates on your calendar! *Nov. 19 & 27* are especially important rehearsals as the students prepare for the Orchestrapalooza concert. Nov. 19 will include a small performance & Nov. 27 is scheduled so that the students do not miss a rehearsal due to the Holiday so close to their concert (**see Concert Dates below**).

Attendance Policy: VYS students are allowed no more than **2** absences per semester. Students / parents must contact Mia Fritze regarding any rehearsals that must be missed. The success of VYS is dependent upon the full participation of all members.

Concert Dates: Sunday, Dec. 4, 2011; 4pm Orchestrapalooza [Flynn Center, Burlington]

Saturday, March 31, 2012; 1:00pm [Elley-Long Music Center]

Please note that for both of these concert dates the students will need to arrive early for a dress rehearsal. More detailed information will be sent out in regards to timing prior to the concerts.

A complete list of VYS's rehearsal & concert schedule will be listed on www.vyo.org by late August

2011-2012 VYOA Music Theory Classes

Each level of VYOA Music Theory Classes consists of ten one-hour sessions taught by composer Erik Nielsen. The classes are informative and engaging, containing both history and humor. Not only are the materials helpful to students in understanding more about the music they perform, they are essential to those who have any thoughts of further musical study after high school. Enrollment costs \$55 for each ten-week session (i.e. only \$5.50 per class), and students are welcome and encouraged to sign up for more than one. Sign up by checking the appropriate boxes on the enclosed registration form. Students or parents who have questions about the classes can contact Erik Nielsen at nielsen@sover.net.

IMPORTANT NOTE

*These music theory classes meet only ten times, which means that a great deal of material must be presented in a short time and the amount of work required is fairly substantial. The classes are geared toward getting older students ready for further study in music. **Parents who are considering theory classes for a child who is 12 years of age or under must contact Mr. Nielsen first.***

IF YOU SIGN UP FOR THEORY CLASSES PLEASE MARK THE BELOW DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!

Fall Sessions

(September 11, 18; October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; November 6, 13, 20)

2:45-3:45 **Theory Level II** (triads and the fundamentals of harmony)
Open to VYStrings, Sinfonia, VYP, VYCW, Concert Chorale & VYO Chorus

4:00-5:00 **Theory Level III** (harmonic principles of four-part writing)
Open to VYCW, VYStrings, VYO, Concert Chorale & VYO Chorus
Students must have already taken Theory II in a previous year or have spoken with Mr. Nielsen about taking this class.

Spring Sessions

(January 8, 15, 22; February 5, 12, 19; March 4, 11, 18, 25)

2:45-3:45 **Theory Level III** (harmonic principles of four-part writing)
Open to VYCW, VYStrings, Sinfonia, VYP, Concert Chorale & VYO Chorus
Students must have already taken Theory II in a previous year or have spoken with Mr. Nielsen about taking this class.

4:00-5:00 **Theory Level I** (scales, keys & key signatures, rhythmic notation & intervals)
Open to VYStrings, VYCW, VYO, Concert Chorale & VYO Chorus