

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

**Do I have to write a piece for the whole orchestra?**

No. You can compose a single-line melody, a melody with harmony, a piano piece or a piece for any instrument or combination of instruments. (No lyrics, please.)

Compositions selected for performance will be arranged for the full orchestra by Mr. Harrison Orr.

**I've never taken a composition class. Can I still enter?**

Sure! If composing is something you are interested in, we encourage you to participate! All participants will receive constructive feedback from the adjudicators, who are local composers.

**Do I need to write the piece down?**

Yes. Our adjudicators will read your written score to understand your piece. If you need help notating your musical ideas, ask your school music teacher or private music instructor for help.

**Do I need to send in a recording?**

A recording on cassette tape or CD is highly recommended, as it helps the adjudicators understand your tempo and other musical ideas. This is not a performance contest, so the level of playing will not be rated. If you write a piece for more than one instrument, or an instrument you don't play, you can have another person play on the recording. Computer files on CD are acceptable as well--just make sure the disk will play in a regular CD player!

**I don't live in Kalamazoo. Can I still participate?**

If you are a K-12th grade student in one of these counties, you are eligible to enter: Allegan, Barry, Branch, Cass, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Van Buren



## Young Composers in Concert

- ♪ Do you enjoy creating your own music?
- ♪ Would you like a chance to have your work arranged for and performed by a full orchestra?
- ♪ Would you like constructive feedback on your work from area composers?
- ♪ Take part in the Kalamazoo Symphony's Young Composers in Concert contest!



For K-12 students from Allegan, Barry, Branch, Cass, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren counties.

# Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra Young Composers in Concert

Students are invited to compose a piece of music for the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra's Youth Concerts

**DUE: November 1 (Postmarked)**

**Entry fee: \$15**

Make check payable to *Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra*  
Families on Free/Reduced lunch can submit letter of verification from school instead of a check.



**Send compositions to:**

Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra  
Attn.: Education Director  
359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 100  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

**Be sure to include:**

Your Name, Age, Grade, and School  
Address and Phone Number  
Parent/Guardians' Names

Two student compositions may be selected:

-  one entry from K-6th Grade
-  one entry from 7th-12th Grade

Selected compositions will be arranged for the orchestra and performed during the KSO Youth Concerts.

This program encourages the highly creative talents of student musicians. We look forward to seeing your compositions!

## **Questions? Contact:**

**Elizabeth Youker, Education Director**, 269/349-7759, ext. 204  
E-mail: [eyouker@KalamazooSymphony.com](mailto:eyouker@KalamazooSymphony.com)  
**Aaron Cassette, Education Assistant**, 269/349-7759, ext. 210  
E-mail: [acassette@KalamazooSymphony.com](mailto:acassette@KalamazooSymphony.com)

## **Guidelines**

1. The piece must be a single, instrumental work (or 1 movement of a multi-movement work) and up to 4 minutes in length. Vocal or choral works with words cannot be accepted, as KSO will not have singers available for the performance.
2. The piece must be the original work of the student.
3. The music can be melody only or melody with accompaniment or chords.
4. The music must be written out. (Students may seek assistance with notation if needed.) Students should also submit a recording of the piece on cassette tape or CD.
5. Compositions must be postmarked by November 1 and include the age, grade, school, parents' names, address and telephone number.
6. The winning work(s) will be orchestrated by Mr. Harrison Orr and performed in concert during the annual Youth Concerts (usually in late February and/or early March).
7. Student composers whose works are chosen will have the opportunity to meet or talk with Mr. Harrison Orr about the orchestration of their piece. It is hoped that the winners could attend the concerts.
8. By submitting a composition to the contest, the student gives permission for KSO to orchestrate, and perform the resulting arrangement of the piece. The **arrangement** becomes the property of the KSO. (The student retains ownership of the original composition.)
9. All final decisions as to the performance and revisions will be made by Musical Director, Raymond Harvey, and Assistant Conductor, Barry Ross.
10. Students from the following counties are eligible to participate: Allegan, Barry, Branch, Cass, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Van Buren.
11. Students are eligible to win the contest once in each grade division (K-6th Grade and 7th-12th Grade).
12. One composition (or one movement) per student per year.