

FRYS ENSEMBLES

FRONT RANGE YOUTH SYMPHONY

Conducted by Danielle Johnson, this orchestra provides in-depth training in orchestral repertoire for advanced musicians up to the age of 21. All orchestral string, brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments are welcome. All instrumentalists should have commanding facility on their instrument.

*Rehearsals on Tuesday evenings from 6:30PM-9:00PM

YOUTH SYMPHONY PARTICIPANTS:

- Are advanced players with solid instrumental technique and good intonation
- Are familiar with all key signatures and time signatures
- Have had several years of ensemble experience
- Are a member of their school's instrumental music program, unless one is not available

Orchestra music: Grade 5+

Suzuki level (strings): Book 7 - 10

Ages: 9th grade-age 21

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

STRINGS:

- A 3-octave scale based on the key of your solo
- A solo of your choice (about 2-3 minutes) that shows your highest level of technique on your instrument
- At the audition you will be given a short excerpt to sight-read

WOODWIND AND BRASS:

- A 2-octave scale based on the key of your solo
- A chromatic 2-octave scale
- Be prepared to articulate your scales in various ways
- A solo of your choice (about 2-3 minutes) that shows your highest level of technique on your instrument
- At the audition you will be given a short excerpt to sight-read

PERCUSSION:

- A solo on any 2 of the 3 following areas: timpani, keyboard, percussion, or snare drum. Timpani and xylophone will be provided.
- Timpanists should be able to tune the timpani using relative pitch and demonstrate a proper forte-piano roll
- Keyboard percussionists need to play a major and minor scale of the adjudicator's choice
- Snare drum percussionists will be asked to demonstrate 2 of the 26 rudiments of the adjudicator's choice, slow to fast to slow

The season begins with a jump-start two-day summer music camp, starting at the Arvada Center.

Tuition: \$550 for the Season

Summer Camp Tuition: \$200

Audition Fee: \$20

ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

Rehearsals: Tuesdays, 6:30 to 9:00 PM August, 2023 - April, 2024

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Conducted by Javan Carson, this is a high-level string ensemble, performing advanced chamber literature. This is a program for students who have played for several years and have had private lessons. The Chamber Orchestra concentrates on refining students' orchestral playing techniques by focusing on ensemble skills, sight-reading, advanced playing positions, and advanced bowing techniques. Students must audition to participate in the program.

*Rehearsals on Wednesday evenings from 7:40PM-9:10PM

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA PARTICIPANTS:

- Can tune their own instrument
- Can sight-read in 1st through 3rd positions (violins/violas), 1st through 4th (cellos)
- Are familiar with keys up to 4 sharps and 3 flats
- Are able to play spiccato at different speeds and have started working on more advanced bow techniques
- Violins and violas can play fluently in 1st through 3rd positions and can play in 4th and 5th positions (Violas should have basic knowledge of treble clef). Cellos can play fluently in 1st through 4th positions and have basic knowledge of tenor clef
- Can play with fluent vibrato
- Have at least one year of ensemble experience
- Are a member of their school's instrumental music program, unless one is not available

Orchestra music: Grade 3.5 -5

Suzuki level: Late Book 4 - Book 7 (violin),

late Book 4- 6 (viola and cello)

Ages: 11-Senior in high school

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

- A 3-octave major and a 3-octave minor scale
- A solo of your choice (about 2-3 minutes) that shows your highest level of technique on your instrument
- At the audition you will be given a short excerpt to sight-read

The season begins with a jump-start three-day summer music camp at the Arvada Center.

Tuition: \$450 for the Season

Summer Camp Tuition: \$135

Audition Fee: \$20

ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 7:40 to 9:10 PM August, 2023 -April, 2024

CONCERT STRINGS

Conducted by Javan Carson, this is a program for students who have played for two to three years and have had private lessons for at least one year. This group emphasizes ensemble and music reading skills, and the development of orchestral playing techniques. Students must audition to participate in the program.

*Rehearsals on Wednesday evenings from 6:40PM-7:40PM

CONCERT STRINGS PARTICIPANTS:

- Can sight-read all notes in 1st position
- Are familiar with keys up to 3 sharps and 2 flats
- Are able to use their whole bow, and have started working on spiccato
- Have started working on shifting (violins/violas), can shift (cellos)
- Have started working on vibrato
- Have some ensemble experience
- Are a member of their school's instrumental music program, unless one is not available

Orchestra music: Grade 2 - 3

Suzuki level: Book 3 -5

Ages: 8-15

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

- A 2-octave major and a 2-octave minor scale
- A solo of your choice (about 2-3 minutes) that shows your highest level of technique on your instrument
- At the audition you will be given a short excerpt to sight-read

The season begins with a jump start three-day summer music camp at the Arvada Center.

Tuition: \$425 for the Season

Summer Camp Tuition: \$135

Audition Fee: \$20

ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6:40 to 7:40 PM August, 2023 -April, 2024

ACADEMY STRINGS

Conducted by Michelle Ewer, this is a preparatory group intended for students with between one and three years of experience. This group will help students with their school music programs using a curriculum that supports and augments their musical endeavors. Focus is on technique and creating a quality string tone while having fun learning. This class is perfect for those students who may need a smaller ensemble opportunity or for those who have switched instruments and need some extra help.

*Rehearsals on Wednesday evenings from 5:45PM-6:30PM

ACADEMY STRINGS PARTICIPANTS:

- Can sight-read all notes in 1st position
- Have 1 - 3 years of playing experience
- Are a member of their school's instrumental music program, unless one is not available

Orchestra music: Grade 1 - 2

Suzuki level: Book 1 - 3

Ages: 8 - 8th grade

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

- A 1-octave major scale, two octaves if capable
- A solo of your choice (about 2-3 minutes) that shows your highest level of technique on your instrument (no school sheet music please)
- At the audition you will be given a short excerpt to sight-read

The season begins with a jump-start three-day summer music camp at the Arvada Center.

Tuition: \$375 for the Season

Summer Camp Tuition: \$100

Audition Fee: \$20

ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 PM August, 2023 - April, 2024

FRYS CONDUCTORS

DANIELLE JOHNSON

Front Range Youth Symphony

Danielle Johnson is currently in her 15th season with the Front Range Youth Symphony at the Arvada Center. She is sought after as a guest clinician and adjudicator across the state and teaches in the Adams12 Five Star Schools. An active freelance performer, Johnson plays associate principal viola in the Steamboat Symphony Orchestra. For twelve years, she spent the summer months as Dean of Women and Interdisciplinary Faculty Instructor for the string chamber music program, Rocky Mountain Summer Conservatory (Steamboat Springs). The last 10 summers she conducted internationally in Europe (Voyageurs, Int.) and the Middle East (Lebanese International String Orchestra Workshop). In 2013, Johnson was named Colorado's "Music Director Who Makes a Difference" by the publication, School Band & Orchestra. Previously, she taught for Wheaton's pre-college program outside Chicago, Illinois, the International School of Bangkok in Thailand, Boulder Suzuki Strings, and the public schools in Omaha, Nebraska and Northglenn, Colorado. Johnson received her Bachelor of Music Education from Wheaton College Conservatory in Wheaton, Illinois, her Masters in Violin Performance/Pedagogy at the University of Colorado at Boulder, and her Suzuki certification/apprenticeship with William Starr.

JAVAN CARSON

Chamber Orchestra, Concert Strings

Javan Carson has been playing the violin for most of her life, having started as a Suzuki student at age two. She earned her degree in violin performance from the University of Denver on a full scholarship, and began playing professionally with the Denver Chamber Orchestra while still in college. Ms. Carson has played in professional string quartets since 1988, and has performed with countless orchestras, including the Colorado Ballet Orchestra and the Colorado Symphony Orchestra. She has been a violinist and vocalist with the Denver-based 70s tribute band, Mr. Majestyk's 8-Track Revival, since 2015, and has performed with them at Red Rocks Amphitheater and at Fiddler's Green Amphitheater.

Ms. Carson has been teaching private violin, viola, and piano lessons since 1988, has instructed Suzuki group classes for fifteen years, and has taught string classes in four metro-area school districts. She was the conductor of the Sinfonia at Colorado Youth Symphony Orchestras for five years, and for two years was the Music Director and Conductor of Eklectika Youth Ensembles, an innovative youth orchestra that she founded. She was the conductor for the String Ensembles and the Conservatory Orchestras at Denver Young Artists Orchestras for ten years, and has been with Front Range Youth Symphony as the conductor of the Concert Strings and the Chamber Orchestras since 2015.

MICHELLE EWER

Academy Strings

Michelle Ewer is a semi-retired music educator who has taught for over 40 years. She retired in 2017 from Jefferson County Public Schools, teaching Orchestra at Creighton MS. She continues to teach part time while staying involved with music educators in Jeffco as well as across the state. She has mentored new music teachers in Jeffco and is a CBA mentor for Band Director teaching strings. Michelle is currently on staff at CU Boulder as a Music Lecturer, student teacher support. She places student teachers and conducts seminar class as well as supervises their student teaching experience. She continues to be in contact with many of the graduates who have entered the education field. Ms. Ewer is the current State Chapter President for Tr-M Music Honor Society and plans the annual Tri-M day convention in Colorado Springs. She serves as an adjudicator for CHSAA, as well as Music in the parks. She has been a guest conductor for multiple orchestra festivals across the state as well as Wyoming.

Michelle is a past president of CMEA, CASTA and was inducted into the CMEA Hall of Fame in 2014. She is currently teaching Orchestra at Ralston Valley HS as well as conducts the Academy Strings Orchestra with the Front Range Youth Symphony. She is married to a free-lance percussionist, and their twins are also music educators.

FRONT RANGE YOUTH SYMPHONY

2023/24 SEASON

The Front Range Youth Symphony Orchestras, housed at the Arvada Center, bring together talented young musicians from across the Front Range for comprehensive study and training in orchestra repertoire. The program offers four levels of participation: Academy Strings, Concert Strings, Chamber Strings, and Youth Symphony.

Because FRYs is based at the Arvada Center, members enjoy the advantages of rehearsals and concerts in one location, affordable tuition, and reasonable ticket prices, without compromising the quality of instruction. Nurturing and growing students into well-rounded individuals is as important to our staff as excellence in performance.

The group has toured on both coasts of the United States, the Bahamas, and Europe including a Walt Disney World performance tour. They have performed with national and guest artists such as the Lehnert Duo, Skip Devol, Charles Langley, and Colcannon. The Youth Symphony has enjoyed many years of cooperation, and educational collaborations, with the National Repertory Orchestra, Breckenridge Music Institute, Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra and the Colorado Chamber Orchestra.

FEATURES OF THE ORCHESTRAS INCLUDE:

- Weekly rehearsals at the Arvada Center August through April
- At least three performances per season on the Arvada Center main stage
- Professional section coaches

Students who are members of any FRYs group are also required to participate in their school's instrumental music program, unless there is no school program available. It is our belief that public school music programs offer students, among other things, valuable ensemble training and necessary repetition. The Front Range Youth Symphony orchestras seek to enhance, not replace, school music programs.

AUDITIONS: MAY 5, 6, 12, & 13, 2023

By appointment only. Annual auditions are held in May.

Auditions for openings that may exist are held throughout the year by appointment

To set up an audition appointment and pay the \$20 audition fee, contact the Arvada Center Box Office at 720-898-7200 during regular business hours:

Monday- Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

For other questions contact Julie Payne at

jpayne@arvadacenter.org

arvada  center
for the arts & humanities

6901 Wadsworth Blvd
Arvada, CO 80003
720.898.7200
arvadacenter.org



2023/24
SEASON
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