



Siskiyou Violins

Dear Siskiyou Violins Student,

We welcome all new and returning students to the 2014 - 2015 season! We have some great plans ahead for this year! We value your participation, and ask that all members, new and old, please take a few moments to review all the information in this packet carefully, and return your completed forms promptly to help us keep Siskiyou Violins running smoothly.

ABOUT SISKIYOU VIOLINS

We are a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit organization, approved by the IRS in 2009 just six weeks after submitting the lengthy application. Originally started by Faina Podolnaya as a group of advanced students from her private studio, Siskiyou Violins was formally organized in late 2008 after their Gold Medal performance in the magnificent Walt Disney Concert Hall – one of the greatest achievements of famed architect Frank Gehry, it was designed to be one of the most acoustically superior concert halls in the world and took 16 years to build at a cost of over \$273 million. The judges at this event were so impressed with the Siskiyou Violins, they urged Faina to formally organize this group so they could be heard.

Since that time, Siskiyou Violins has steadily established their presence as a premiere music group of young students in the Rogue Valley, with numerous local appearances, and repeat performances at several venues including Ginger Rogers Craterian Theatre, Ashland Shakespeare Festival's Green Show, Peter Britt Festival and more. Additionally, the group has delivered notable performances at the ASTA (American String Teachers' Association) in Santa Clara, CA, the OMEA (Oregon Music Educators' Association) in Eugene, OR, their second Gold Medal performance in New York's world famous Carnegie Hall, as well as performing at the historic Naumberg Bandshell in Central Park – a venue even older than Carnegie Hall, and scene of the popular movie August Rush in March 2012, and most recently, their third Gold Medal performance at Walt Disney Concert Hall in June 2014.

MEMBERSHIP

The Siskiyou Violins' policy in regard to membership and Alumni status is defined as follows:

- a. A Member is a young student up to college age, not to exceed age 29, who has been approved for membership by Artistic Director and Board, filled out and submitted membership forms required by the Board, and fulfilled tuition obligations.
- b. Members in Good Standing are members who participate in at least 80% of rehearsals and performances unless otherwise excused due to unavoidable conflict or illness.
- c. Alumni are high school graduates who were former Members in Good Standing of Siskiyou Violins for at least one year.
- d. Scholarship eligibility is for Members in Good Standing and Alumni Only. Members in Good Standing may apply for scholarships for tuition, violin lessons, performance and event travel, or workshops, as needed. Alumni do not need tuition, but may apply for other scholarships when they are available and they are invited by the Artistic Director to join in performances.

IMPORTANT NOTE: To track attendance and keep your Participation In Good Standing Record up to date, YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE SHEETS when you come in.

TUITION

Annual Tuition for membership in Siskiyou Violins is \$225 for the year (\$25 per month for 9 month season), which generally runs from the beginning of September through the end of June. Payment is due, together with the filled out forms, by the first rehearsal in September. If you are unable to pay the whole amount at once, please speak with the Treasurer, Thresia Haugen, haugenthresia@msn.com, to arrange to pay your account in installments. If you have a financial hardship and are unable to afford the tuition at all, you may request a scholarship and must submit the scholarship request form on time in lieu of payment. Scholarship requests for annual tuition must be received no later than October 9, 2014, to be considered. This deadline must be firm in order for us to determine the availability of funds we will have for tuition scholarship requests. All other filled out forms and tuition payments **must** be received by a **FINAL DEADLINE** of Oct 23, 2014. Students who have not turned in the necessary forms and paid the tuition by this time **may not participate in rehearsals or performances until these requirements are satisfied.** We ask your consideration in respecting these rules to be fair to the majority of students who do honor them.

NEW STUDENTS

New students who enroll after the beginning of the fall session will be charged annual tuition at a pro-rated charge of \$25 per month beginning with the month they enroll, x the number of months remaining through June. Forms and tuition for new students will be due no later than 30 days following their enrollment.

Siskiyou Violins

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SISKIYOU VIOLINS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Greg Frederick, President

Peter Jensen, Vice President

Thresia Haugen, Treasurer

Brenda Tippin, Secretary

Walter Haussner, Member

Artistic Director: Faina Podolnaya

Assistant Director – Juniors: Sarah Klein

Student Liaison: Sara Settimo