

Festival Strings 2019

*an educational outreach program
sponsored by the Ridgewood Symphony Orchestra*

January 2019

Calling all strings players in grades 5-8! Come join us for Festival Strings 2019!

Sponsored by the Ridgewood Symphony Orchestra, Festival Strings is an all-string orchestra of young musicians who come together for five intense rehearsals and a wonderful concert each winter. This year's concert will be at Benjamin Franklin Middle School, Ridgewood, NJ, on Saturday afternoon, **March 16, 2019**.

The conductor for Festival Strings 2019 is once again Todd Van Beveren. Mr. Van Beveren is the founder and artistic director of the Northern NJ Youth Orchestra. He also conducts the Montclair Chamber Ensemble and is the Orchestra Director at Columbia High School.

To participate in this orchestra, **students must be in grades 5-8** and must be recommended by their school orchestra **or** private music teacher, who agrees to help the student prepare the music. Abilities on their instruments must include a command of first position, with extensions and accidentals, and facility in the higher positions for more advanced sections of the orchestra.

There is no limit to the number of qualified students that each school or teacher may send. Feel free to duplicate this information page and the enclosed forms. All forms will also be available on the Festival Strings website: www.rsofestivalstrings.org. Musicians in grades 9-12 who are former members of Festival Strings are welcome as Rehearsal Assistants. Contact Festival Strings at info@rsofestivalstrings.org for an application.

Students will receive their music packet in early February. **It is extremely important that all pieces are learned before rehearsals begin.** Seating auditions will be part of the second rehearsal. Festival Strings participants are expected to attend all rehearsals.

Parents must complete the Parent Volunteer Form. Please fill out all dates and times when you could be available to help at rehearsals, or in other capacities. Parent volunteer assignments will be included with the student's acceptance package.

Fee: Check for \$80 payable to "Ridgewood Symphony Orchestra" (need-based scholarships are available)

Questions: Contact Festival Strings at info@rsofestivalstrings.org

*****NEW DATES & LOCATION!!!!*****

Rehearsals at

**OLD PARAMUS REFORMED CHURCH
660 E. Glen Ave., Ridgewood**

Tuesday, February 26, 2019 4:30-8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 5, 2019 4:30-8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 12, 2019 4:30-8:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:30-8:00 p.m.

Dress rehearsal at

Benjamin Franklin Middle School, Ridgewood
Saturday, March 16, 2019 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Concert at Benjamin Franklin Middle School
Saturday, March 16, 2019 4 p.m.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Thursday, January 31, 2019

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Application Information

Name (please print) _____ Instrument _____

Grade _____ Age _____ Gender _____

Address _____

Phone (home): _____ Cell phone (student): _____

E-mail _____ Cell phone (parent): _____

School name _____

School address _____

Years of study _____ Violins only – have you studied the following positions: 3rd _____ 5th _____

Any previous orchestral experience or other comments can be listed on the back of this application form → → →

Signatures

I certify that, if I am selected to be a member of RSO Festival Strings, I will faithfully prepare the music, attend all the rehearsals, and attend the performance.

★ Student Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

As parent or legal guardian of the above named student, I give my permission for him/her to participate in this activity. I recognize that the care and safety of my child's instrument is solely his/her responsibility. I further attest to the statement that is signed by my child and will assist in fulfilling the obligations undertaken. I understand that the Ridgewood Symphony, rehearsal/performance hosts, or individual teachers and coaches do not assume responsibility for accident or illness.

★ Parent or legal guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Teacher Recommendation

I endorse the applicant as an excellent and hard-working music student. I will encourage him/her to fulfill his/her duties as a member of the Festival Strings Orchestra member and will assist in preparation of the music.

★ Teacher Signature _____ Date _____

Please check the appropriate box: School Orchestra Teacher Private Teacher

Teacher Name _____ Years of private study _____

Address: _____

Teacher phone _____ E-mail: _____

Send complete application, along with parent volunteer form and check for \$80 (payable to "Ridgewood Symphony Orchestra") to the address below. Application fee is non-refundable unless the student is not accepted into the orchestra. **Applications with missing signatures will be not be processed until all signatures are submitted.**

Application deadline is **Thursday, January 31, 2019.**

**RSO Festival Strings
P.O. Box 176
Ridgewood, NJ 07450**

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Parent Volunteer Form

In order for your child to have the best musical experience possible, parent volunteers are expected to work behind the scenes. There are many ways to participate. At the rehearsals, options include setting up chairs before rehearsals, working at the registration table, chaperoning during rehearsals, or supervising dinner breaks (circulate while students eat, oversee clean-up, etc.). On concert day, we need help chaperoning the students and selling tickets.

Your participation is essential, and everyone is expected to participate! To make things easier for the scheduler, please indicate all possible ways in which you could help, including specific days and times when you can be available. Before rehearsals begin, you will be notified to confirm your assignment for only one volunteer opportunity.

Student Name _____ Instrument _____

Parent Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

Volunteer opportunities at weekday rehearsals:

	Tues 2/26	Tues 3/5	Tues 3/12	Thurs 3/14
4:00 - 4:30 chair setup				
4:15 - 5:00 registration				
5:00 - 6:00 chaperone				
5:45 - 6:45 dinner chaperone				
7:00 - 8:15 chaperone / clean-up				
Make reminder calls to volunteers a few days before				

Volunteer opportunities on concert day, Saturday, March 16:

	03/16/19
1:00-3:30 chair setup / registration / chaperone rehearsal	
3:30 until the orchestra plays: chaperone students in cafeteria	
3:30 until concert: assist with ticket sales	
After concert: collect music and/or clean up	
Make reminder calls to volunteers a few days before	

Note: All volunteers on concert day will get to hear the orchestra play!

Questions?? Contact Festival Strings info@rsfestivalstrings.org

Send complete application, parent volunteer form, and check for \$80 (payable to "Ridgewood Symphony Orchestra") to:

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Ridgewood, NJ 07450**

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