

# MVSO

## YOUTH STRINGS

# 2023-2024





## ABOUT US

We are a community of diverse and spirited young musicians that share the love of making music. Join us on Saturdays from August to May to explore, challenge and refine student musicians. Wherever you are in your playing, you deserve a youth orchestra that thinks you are a BIG DEAL! Our door is open to all string players in grades 1-12.

Our students come from across the Miami Valley from communities such as Troy, Englewood, Cedarville, Kettering, Springboro and northern Cincinnati and represent over 20 schools.

Students rehearse weekly in level-appropriate ensembles. All groups spend time on string playing and ensemble techniques in addition to learning concert pieces. Additionally, students will learn the value of personal preparation and regular attendance to create a powerful and positive group dynamic.



# A Community of Musicians

MVSO Youth Strings is a branch of the Miami Valley Symphony Orchestra, a community based non-profit organization that brings together accomplished and dedicated musicians to provide high quality performances to entertain, enrich and inspire the community, and advance the knowledge and appreciation of music.

We aim to provide quality musical experiences in the rehearsal room, concert hall and within the community.

Our ensembles have been found in local parades, assisted living communities, demonstrating at an instrument petting zoo, auditioning for a national anthem performance, competing at King's Island's Music in the Parks, and in 2024 at ASTA's National Orchestra Festival.



## REPERTOIRE

We choose bold programming that is relevant to today's youth and will give a foundation for a life of music appreciation. We honor the classics while discovering new composers and eclectic styles. Our theme for 2023-24 is You Are Here! Fall Concert music will feature music from America while Spring Concert music will showcase music from around the world.

## PERFORMANCES

Performances are held several times per year and serve not only as a display of beautiful music but as a celebration of accomplishment for the students who have dedicated so much of themselves.

### TENTATIVE 2023-24 CONCERT DATES:

Saturday, October 28, 2023

Saturday end April/beginning May 2024

Holiday Pre-Shows Performances December 10, 2023

YS CODA: National Orchestra Festival, March 21-23, 2024

# REPERTOIRE & PERFORMANCES





## CONGRATULATIONS YS: CODA!

MVSO Youth Strings: Coda was recently selected to perform at American String Teachers Association's National Orchestra Festival in March 2024. This is an incredibly prestigious opportunity, and we are so excited Youth Strings: Coda has been chosen to participate! The orchestra will receive valuable written and recorded comments from expert adjudicators, a personalized post-performance clinic with a leading clinician, as well as have the opportunity to build relationships with orchestras from across the country, access the ASTA Conference exhibit hall, and receive national recognition. Students must be registered for BOTH Semesters 1 and 2, attend rehearsals regularly, and be in good standing in their school orchestra if they have one in order to participate.

# NATIONAL ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL





## Location

Our 2023-2024 activities will take place at Christ United Methodist Church in Kettering, OH.

Our rehearsal space is a fun area for students to rehearse and socialize.

Fall and Spring concerts will be held in the beautiful sanctuary.





Class and rehearsals held most Saturdays from late August to early May.

LOCATION:  
Christ United Methodist Church  
3440 Shroyer Rd,  
Kettering, OH 45429

**Beginning String Class 1**

Instruction in violin, viola, cello and bass for complete beginners.

**Beginning String Class 2**

An extension of our beginner class 1 for students who know the basics and are ready to begin reading notation.

**Youth Strings: Da Capo**

A first or early ensemble experience for students with basic skills.

**Youth Strings: Sinfonia**

For the developing string player who has good command of their instrument and is ready to expand their ensemble playing abilities.

Eligible for CHAMBER MUSIC participation.

**Youth Strings: Coda**

For mature students who have several years playing experience who are ready to challenge their skills and expand their repertoire.

Eligible for CHAMBER MUSIC participation.

**Chamber Music**

Small groups of players from Sinfonia and Coda. Weekly coaching sessions and performances at all concert.

For  
complete  
beginners.

## Class Time & Cost

Saturdays, 9:00-9:50am, \$75/ semester. Full year enrollment ONLY.

## Instructor

Caroline Slocum

## Description

Students in grades 2-5 can begin their study of violin, viola, cello or bass from the very beginning. Students will begin by exploring each of the 4 instruments before making their choice. Families will be guided through renting instruments, home practice and instrument care. Materials will be provided but families must rent their own instrument. The culmination of learning will be demonstrated by participation on our Spring 2024 concert.

A young boy with short brown hair, wearing a light blue short-sleeved shirt and dark pants, is playing a double bass. He is standing in a music room with rows of black chairs in the background. The lighting is dramatic, with a strong light source from the side, creating highlights on his shirt and the instrument. The text 'Beginning String Class 1' is overlaid in large white font on the right side of the image.

# Beginning String Class 1



**For First  
Years**

## **Class Time & Cost**

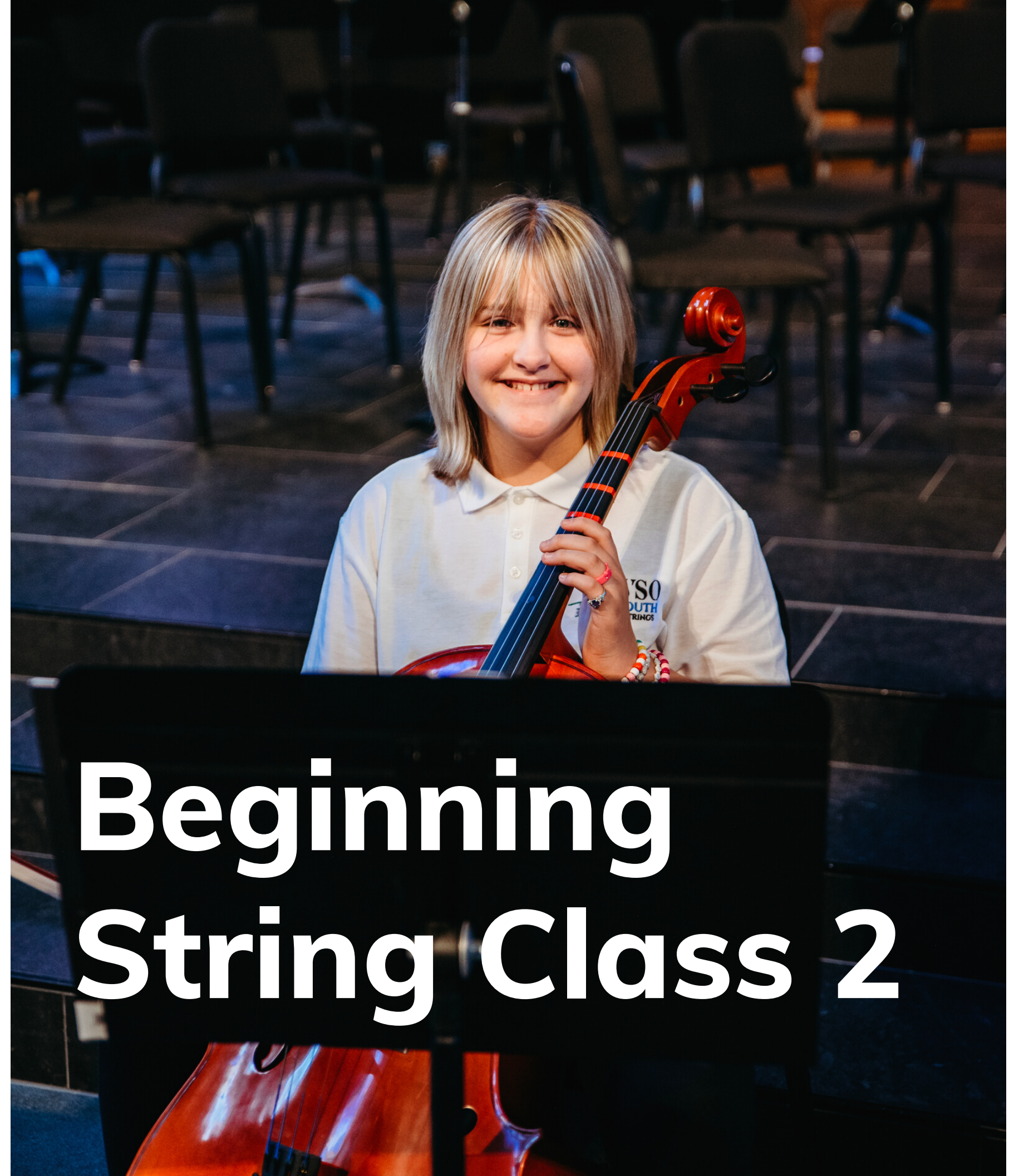
Saturdays, 10:00-11:00am, \$75/ semester. Full year enrollment **ONLY**.

## **Instructor**

Caroline Slocum

## **Description**

This is an extension of our Beginning String Class 1. Offered to students in grades 2-5 who have learned the basics of instrument hold and posture, basic bow hold and use, and left hand finger placement. These students are ready to begin learning to read notation while continuing to develop their beginner skills on violin, viola, cello, and bass. Materials will be provided but families must rent their own instrument. The culmination of learning will be demonstrated by participation on our Spring 2024 concert.



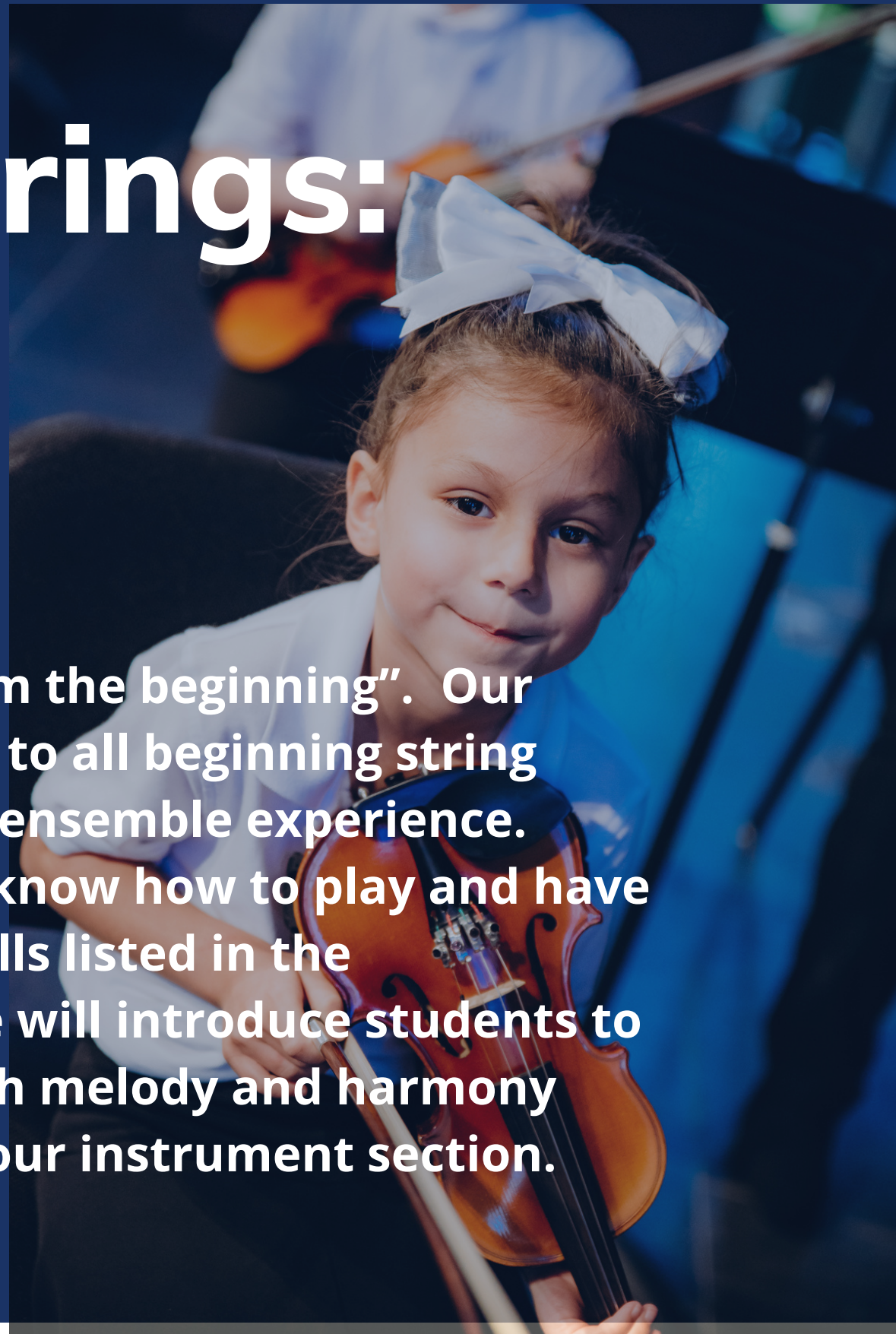
# **Beginning String Class 2**

Standard  
Repertoire  
level  
.5-1.5

REHEARSAL TIME: 11:15am-12:15pm  
COST: \$75/semester  
DIRECTOR: Lois Clond

# Youth Strings: Da Capo

Da Capo is Italian for "from the beginning". Our newest orchestra is open to all beginning string players as a first or early ensemble experience. Students should already know how to play and have good command of the skills listed in the requirements. Repertoire will introduce students to the sounds of playing with melody and harmony and how to play within your instrument section.



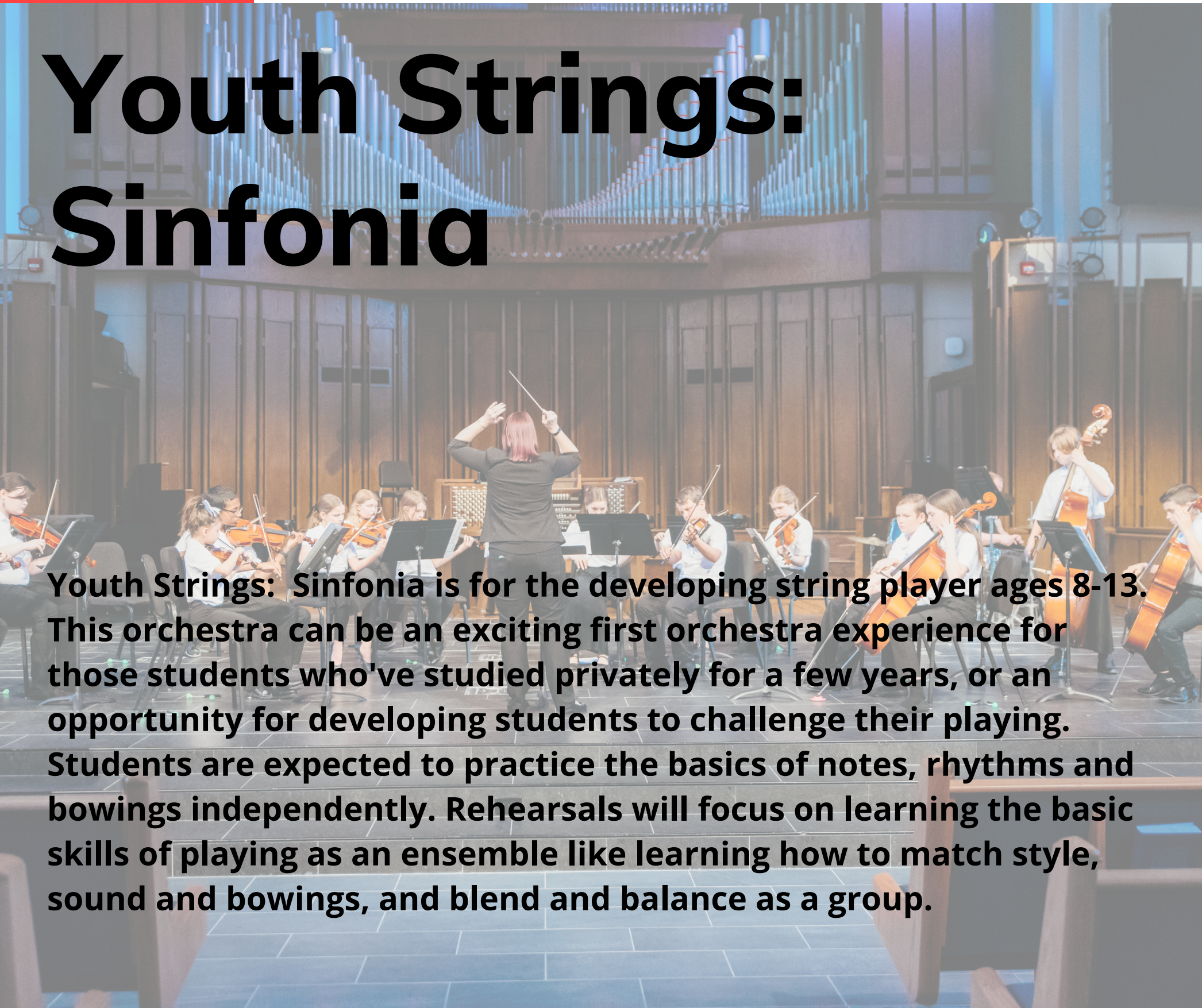
While the ages and skills vary within each ensemble, instruction will be most appropriate for the following:

Approx. ages 7-12	1-2 years of playing experience	Can play in the keys of G, D, C in one and/or 2 octaves
Loud and soft dynamics	Rhythm: eighths, quarters, halves, dotted half and whole notes	able to follow basic downbow and upbow marking and slurs

**Standard  
Repertoire  
level  
2-3**

**REHEARSAL TIME: 12:45-2:15pm  
COST: \$125/semester  
DIRECTOR: Kristen Hruby**

# Youth Strings: Sinfonia



**Youth Strings: Sinfonia is for the developing string player ages 8-13. This orchestra can be an exciting first orchestra experience for those students who've studied privately for a few years, or an opportunity for developing students to challenge their playing. Students are expected to practice the basics of notes, rhythms and bowings independently. Rehearsals will focus on learning the basic skills of playing as an ensemble like learning how to match style, sound and bowings, and blend and balance as a group.**

**While the ages and skills vary within each ensemble, instruction will be most appropriate for the following:**

<p><b>Ages 8-13</b></p>	<p><b>Approx. 1-3 years playing experience</b></p>	<p><b>1-2 octave major scales in keys of D, G, A, C, F, Bb</b></p>
<p><b>Slurs, staccato, legato, hooked bowing</b></p>	<p><b>quarters, halves, dotted half and whole notes, eighth notes, sixteenth notes, simple dotted rhythms, some syncopation, triplets</b></p>	<p><b>METERS: 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8</b></p>
<p><b>POSITIONS: Violins &amp; violas mostly 1st position (1st violins some 3rd), Cellos positions 1-2, Bass positions 1 &amp; 3</b></p>	<p><b>DYNAMICS: f, mf, mp, p and crescendo and decrescendo</b></p>	<p><b>BOOK EQUIVALENTS Suzuki Book 2-3 Essential Elements or School Orchestra Book 2 equivalent</b></p>

**Standard  
Repertoire  
level  
3-4**

**REHEARSAL TIME: Saturdays, 3:30-5:30**

**COST: \$150/semester**

**DIRECTOR: Denise Carter**

# Youth Strings: Coda

**This ensemble is for the string player in grades 6-12 with strong interest in learning the art of ensemble playing and improving their performance skills. More demanding repertoire is offered to challenge students who have already mastered basic string playing skills and wish to expand their playing abilities**

**In addition to the skills listed, students should have the ability to prepare their parts independently and to work in a fast paced rehearsal for two hours.**

**While the ages and skills vary within each ensemble, instruction will be most appropriate for the following:**

**Ages 12-18  
Approx. 3+ years  
playing experience**

**2-3 octave Major  
and minor scales  
up to 4 sharps and  
4 flats**

**BOWING: Slurs,  
staccato, spiccato,  
hooked bowing,  
tremolo, accents.**

**RHYTHM: quarters,  
halves, dotted half  
and whole notes,  
eighth notes,  
sixteenth notes,  
simple dotted  
rhythms, some  
syncopation, triplets.**

**METER:  
2/4, 3/4, 4/4,  
5/4, 6/8**

**Learning or using  
vibrato.**

**POSITIONS:  
Violins 1 positions 1- 5  
Violin 2 positions 1-3  
Viola positions: 1-3  
Cello positions: 1-4  
Bass positions: 1- 5**

**DYNAMICS:  
Full range of  
dynamics**

**Suzuki Book  
Equivalents:  
Suzuki Book 4+  
(Violins, Cellos)  
Suzuki Book 3 -  
Humoresque and  
subsequent pieces  
(Viola)**

Open to all Youth Strings Sinfonia and Coda players. Each chamber group will be coached by a MVSO member and will present their pieces at concerts and community events. Chamber musicians will develop personal musical expression and interpersonal communication since ensembles play without a conductor. All groups will be formed according to instrument, age and skill level and will be re-formed each semester.

To increase performance skills and opportunities for chamber musicians, a performance hour will be held monthly during the chamber music time. Here, chamber groups will gather in a workshop setting to practice performing and will receive comments and suggestions from the chamber music staff. Individual students may also opt to play in performance hour to ready themselves for recitals, contests and auditions.

# Chamber Music



# Registration and Payment

## Registration and Ensemble Placement

We believe it is important that your musician is placed in a group where they will be challenged and have fun, without being overwhelmed. We look at what the student is working on or working toward, their current and previous ensemble experiences, and private lesson experiences. Please be sure the information on the previous page is filled out as completely and accurately as possible to help us determine the best ensemble fit for your student. Please consider if the student is actively working toward each benchmark. If uncertain, please contact MVSO Youth Strings Acting Director, Kristen Hruby at [mvsyouthstrings@gmail.com](mailto:mvsyouthstrings@gmail.com) with questions.

**ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM** at [www.mvso.org/youthstrings](http://www.mvso.org/youthstrings)

## Semesters

Our program offers participation by the semester to help you and your family navigate around your many activities. While most students opt for the full year, you may choose semester one, AND/OR semester two. Please note that Beginning String Class is a full year option only.

**Semester one: Late August-December**

**Semester two: January-May**

## Payment & Assistance

Payments are collected at the start of each semester, **No payment is due at registration.** Families in need of financial assistance may request a no questions asked fee waiver on the registration form. Accepting the waiver does not require any additional responsibilities, though volunteering when the need arises is always appreciated.



# 2023-24 tuition and other costs

- Payments are collected at the start of each semester.
- Every family must provide a properly sized instrument in excellent working condition and uniform shirt for concerts.
- Class materials, sheet music, folders, etc... will be provided

## SIBLING DISCOUNT

The oldest pays full price and each sibling pays 50%

## FEE WAIVER

No questions asked fee waiver for families in need. Simply indicate on the registration form.

### **Beginning String Class 1** **COST: \$75/semester**

Instruction in violin, viola, cello and bass for complete beginners.

### **Beginning String Class 2** **COST: \$75/semester**

n extension of our beginner class 1 for students who know the basics and are ready to begin reading notation.

### **Youth Strings: Da Capo** **COST: \$75/semester**

A first or early ensemble experience for students with basic skills.

### **Youth Strings: Sinfonia** **COST: \$125/semester**

For the developing string player who has good command of their instrument and is ready to expand their ensemble playing abilities.

### **Chamber Music** **COST: \$50/SEMESTER**

### **Youth Strings: Coda** **COST: \$150/semester**

For mature students who have several years playing experience who are ready to challenge their skills and expand their repertoire.

### **Chamber Music** **COST: \$50/SEMESTER**

Thank you!

"You've created an amazing thing here in Dayton. Thank you, thank you, thank you!"

Opportunity

"MVS0 YS issues a rare opportunity for my daughter to be involved with other students - beginning and advanced in sharing the love of strings and helping her grow at minimal cost, that we otherwise would not be able to find. We are so grateful for MVS0 YS!"

Growth

"I have had two children join MVS0 Youth Strings and with both I saw a huge improvement in skill and engagement that began in the first semester and continues to grow each year"



**What our  
families are  
saying...**



# Your Youth Strings Teaching Staff

## Denise Carter, MVSO Youth Strings Director

Director, Youth Strings: Coda  
MVSO Principal Violin II



## Lois Clond

Director, Youth Strings: Da Capo / Chamber Music  
MVSO Associate Concertmaster



## Kristen Hruby

Director, Youth Strings: Sinfonia / Chamber Music  
MVSO Violin



## Caroline Slocum

Beginning String Class 1 & 2 instructor  
MVSO Cello



## Jamie Whitmore

Chamber Music



# "See you Saturday!"

Please complete the online  
registration form.

[www.mvso.org/youthstrings](http://www.mvso.org/youthstrings)

