

Zion's Youth  
Symphony & Chorus

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Musician's Handbook

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# About Zion's Youth Symphony & Chorus

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## **Zion's Youth Mission Statement**

The mission of Zion's Youth Symphony & Chorus is to cultivate the Spirit of the Lord and build testimonies of the gospel through the development of musical talent and performance of inspiring music.

## **Who can participate?**

Zion's Youth Symphony & Chorus invites all youth ages 14 - 18 to audition. All chorus members must also currently be enrolled in High School or comparable High School program.

## **Symphony & Chorus Auditions**

Fall auditions are mandatory for all musicians. Those returning in the spring do not need to audition. If you did not audition in the fall and would like to perform with us in the spring, auditions will be held for the seats we have available. Specific instructions for auditions are on the Chorus and Symphony pages on the website at [www.zionsyouth.org](http://www.zionsyouth.org). After the auditioning process, names of those accepted will be posted on the website.

Choir Seniors: If you have performed in every show since your freshman year (both fall and spring season), you will not have to audition for your senior year performances.

## **Registration Fees**

Registration fees for the Zion's Youth Symphony and Chorus are \$50 per concert. Payments must be made at the designated date before the Director's Fireside. This information will be posted on the Chorus Tab and Symphony Tab of our web site. You will also receive an email from a Zion's Youth Secretary with the specific payment due date. If payment or a waiver is not received by the due date the musician will lose his/her seat to an alternate.

## **Registration Fee Waiver**

For those who cannot afford to pay the registration fee, we have a limited number of scholarship waivers available. We recommend that if a waiver is needed, a member apply early. All waiver requests must be submitted on or before the registration payment due date.

## Choir Attendance Policy

Please be aware that our attendance policies were developed to help ensure a high quality performance.

- Members may have no more than two absences during the season kickoff, sectionals, and regular rehearsals.
- Missing more than one hour of rehearsal will constitute an absence.
- Members must receive prior approval from section leaders to leave early.

## Dress Rehearsals

Attendance at all Dress Rehearsals is mandatory. Participants who miss dress rehearsal will not be permitted to perform.

## Symphony Attendance Policy

Please be aware that our attendance policies were developed to help ensure a high quality performance.

- Because our practice time is limited, we ask that all Symphony members fully commit to the rehearsal process by making every effort to be at **all rehearsals**.
- We recognize that conflicts will arise, and so require that all absences be submitted for review **before rehearsals begin** to the Symphony Secretary at [symphonysecretary@gmail.com](mailto:symphonysecretary@gmail.com).
- Please be aware that preference will be given to absences caused by other musical or school commitments, and family emergencies or major family events such as weddings.
- We expect, if musicians wish to perform in a given season, that our limited rehearsals take priority over family vacations or other recreational conflicts.
- It is the responsibility of the musician to communicate with the Symphony Secretary, even in the case of last minute emergency or illness.

## Rehearsal Locations

- Alta/Jones Building [6100 Alta Dr. Las Vegas, NV 89107](#)
- 9th Church St. Building – [509 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St., Las Vegas, NV 89101](#)
- Smith Center – [361 Symphony Park Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89106](#)

## Rehearsal Expectations

- It is expected that all musicians will be in their seats, ready to begin, five minutes before rehearsal start time.
- Musicians will always bring their music, instrument, and a pencil.
- Musicians will be respectful during rehearsals. They will not use cell phones, complete homework, or disrupt the rehearsal in any other way.
- Musicians will not chew gum or eat food during rehearsal time.

- Musicians will practice and listen to their music outside of rehearsals. They will understand that rehearsal time is for polishing, not learning notes.
- Choir members will memorize their music.
- Musicians will help clean up after rehearsals.
- Musicians will return music and music binders in good condition.

## Smith Center Expectations

- As a representative of Zion's Youth Symphony & Chorus, musicians will be on their best behavior at all times.
- Musicians may not leave the Smith Center facility or grounds without prior authorization.
- Musicians must stay in assigned areas and not explore.
- Musicians must clean up after themselves including food and beverages.
- Musicians are advised to leave valuables at home.

## Dress Code

Rehearsals: Participants will abide by the dress standards in the Strength of Youth Pamphlet. Participants need to be in modest clothing at all rehearsals.

### Performance Clothing

**Choir Girls:** The girls will wear black floor length skirts and black tops with  $\frac{3}{4}$  or full length sleeves. Shoes must be black, flat and worn with black hose. It is too difficult to wear heels as the kids stand for the majority of the day. No jewelry will be allowed except for small earrings. Watches must be taken off prior to performance.

**Choir Boys:** Black suit, black socks, black dress shoes and white long sleeved dress shirt are mandatory. The tie will be provided.

**Orchestra Girls:** Long, solid black dress, preferably long sleeved dress with black hose and black shoes.

**Orchestra Boys:** Black suit or tux, black dress shoes and socks, white dress shirt. The tie will be provided.

## Day of Performance

Performance day is physically demanding. All participants should be well rested and well hydrated.

### Approximate Schedule:

10:00	Sacrament Meeting at 9 <sup>th</sup> Street Chapel (509 S 9 <sup>th</sup> Street). Please be early.
11:00	Lunch
11:30	Musicians transported to Smith Center
12:00	Rehearsal
2:00	Break
2:20	Rehearsal
4:00	Snack

5:00	Performance
6:30	Dinner
7:30	Performance

- ❑ For security reasons, participants may not leave the Smith Center after the first performance to meet family.
- ❑ Please make arrangements to meet your family after the last performance, in a particular location. PARENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED BACK STAGE FOR SECURITY REASONS.
- ❑ We are on stage all day, and do not have facilities to lock possessions away. Participants should not bring anything with them of great value.

## **Tickets**

Tickets are available several ways:

- ❑ Tickets can be obtained through the Smith Center Ticketing Booth or [online](#).
- ❑ Premium seating available to donors at [www.zionsyouth.org](http://www.zionsyouth.org)
- ❑ You can reserve tickets with a per/seat donation [www.zionsyouth.org](http://www.zionsyouth.org)
- ❑ Tickets will be available at the door the day of the performance regardless of online ticket status.