

Concerts

There is usually a brush-up rehearsal an hour and a half before each concert. Plan to arrive at a concert at 1:15 (for a 3:00 concert) so you are tuned and ready to play at 1:30.

Dress Code for concerts

Men

tuxedo or black suit
white shirt with black bow-tie
black shoes and socks

Women

black skirt (below the knee) or slacks
white long-sleeved top (optional: black)
black shoes, and socks or stockings
optional black jacket

Contact Information

Music Director and Conductor

Matthew Fritz

Conductor Emeritus

Lawrence Isaacson

Stage Manager

Chris Bergeron

Contact Information (continued)

Web Site

www.ParkwayConcertOrchestra.org

President

Bill Scherban

First Vice President

Vicki Nelson

Treasurer

Leslie Powers

Manager

Susan Silverman

Personnel Manager

Jen Digiacomo

Librarians

Nona Childress

Jen Digiacomo

Parkway Concert Orchestra



Member Guide

September, 2008 edition

About the Orchestra

The Parkway Concert Orchestra was founded in 1945 by Ferdinand Fassnacht. The ensemble presents six to eight concerts each year with a mix of classical and pops-style music. The orchestra provides performance opportunities for gifted young soloists, as well as a showcase for professional-caliber musical talent. The 50 members of this non-profit symphonic organization are predominantly amateur musicians.

Membership

Performance ability and dependability are the only criteria for membership. There are no auditions or dues to play with the orchestra. Members only need an instrument, music stand, and a commitment to support the orchestra's fund-raising concerts, ticket sales, and other related activities.

It is expected that student members of the orchestra will concurrently pursue their musical education, either by taking lessons or playing in a school orchestra or band.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals are on Monday nights from 7:30-9:30 at the First Congregational Church, 100 Winter Street, Norwood. Please arrive a little earlier so you are ready to tune at 7:25. Also, please put away your own chair and music stand after rehearsal. This is a way in which everybody can help.

We do not rehearse after the last December concert until after the first of the year. We also take a break after the last concert in late spring / early summer and resume rehearsals in September.

As an amateur ensemble, we are aware that you may not be able to practice every day. We do hope, however, that you will be able to spend some time each week preparing the music. It benefits the group as a whole to have everyone ready at rehearsals and concerts.

Attendance

Every rehearsal is important. It is expected that members will attend each rehearsal. We have a policy requiring attendance at the last two rehearsals before each concert. If you would like to request an absence from either of the last two rehearsals before a concert, as soon as you know, you must speak with the music director personally to clear the absence. Exceptions are made at the discretion of the music director. You will not be allowed to miss both of the last two rehearsals.

If you know you're going to miss rehearsal, contact the personnel manager, who will let the conductor and manager know. If at all possible, 24 hours' notice is expected, as a courtesy. It is especially important for winds and brass to let us know as far ahead of time as possible so that a substitute may be found for that rehearsal.

Teamwork

It takes a lot of effort from a lot of people to run an orchestra. If everyone helps out a little, then the orchestra as a whole runs smoothly. We appreciate any help you can give us!

There are plenty of opportunities that require only a small contribution of your time. Here are some suggestions:

- Serve on a concert committee.
- Help with annual fundraiser mailing.
- Participate in an instrument petting zoo.
- Set up chairs & stands before concerts & rehearsals, and help put them away afterwards.
- Help librarians prepare and hand out music.

See any of the orchestra officers for more information.

Music

Please take loving care of each Parkway music folder and the many pieces of music that are contained inside. When you need to make markings, lightly use a #2 pencil only. Any rented music we use requires *all* penciled marks to be erased before returning the music. If you bring your music folder home, and you are welcome to do so in order to practice, please be sure to register this by signing it out with your name and date in the sign out book and return it if you won't be at a rehearsal or concert. Please sign out again each new concert period.

The music librarians hope to have all the music pieces for the next concert in each folder. It may occasionally be necessary for you to do the finishing taping or folding of your music copies. If you are missing a part please first seek it yourself in the master collection for that piece of music (usually set on the table behind the conductor or in the black music folder box). Sometimes you may need to borrow your colleague's part to make an extra copy for yourself. If you need further assistance with your music, speak with one of the librarians.

Snow Cancellations

The orchestra maintains a snow list with a phone chain in case a rehearsal or concert is called off because of bad weather. If a rehearsal is cancelled, we will aim to get a message to you by 6:30.

If the weather looks chancy and you're coming to rehearsal straight from work or school, be sure to check at home to see if there's a cancellation message for you. We'll also try to put an announcement on the website and send out an email to everybody, so you can check your email and the website, too.

Cancellations will also be listed on 7 News.