

indian hill music  
**youth orchestras**



**STUDENT  
HANDBOOK  
2017-2018**

## **INDIAN HILL MUSIC YOUTH ORCHESTRAS**

### **IHM MISSION**

To share the transformative power of music, through teaching and performing, and giving music generously when there is need.

### **Purpose of Indian Hill Music Youth Orchestras**

Indian Hill Music Youth Orchestras (IHMYO) offer young musicians the opportunity to develop their performance and ensemble skills. Through the study and performance of appropriate repertoire including some of the world's finest musical literature, IHMYO musicians are given the opportunity and tools to realize their fullest artistic potential and to share in an ensemble experience with other like-minded and skilled young musicians.

### **History of the Indian Hill Music Youth Orchestras**

Indian Hill Music Youth Orchestras (IHMYO) was founded through the Parish Center for the Arts in Westford, Massachusetts as The Nashoba Youth Orchestra in 2004 by a dedicated group of professional musicians, music educators, performers, and parents who shared a common vision for a high-quality youth orchestra located in the Nashoba Valley region which would serve the needs of motivated musicians throughout the region. After ten successful years as an independent youth orchestra, the orchestra became a part of IHM's program offerings in 2014.

### **About the Orchestras**

IHMYO is comprised of three performing groups: Chamber Strings ensemble (for developing string students), Camerata Strings (for intermediate through advancing string students) and Sinfonia Concert Orchestra (for advanced string, wind, brass, and percussion students). Each of these groups meets once per week on Mondays during the academic year to work on music that has been carefully selected by the Conductor. There are three concert performances per year – on Tuesdays in November and March, and Monday in May – and all the ensembles perform.

Membership is by audition. Auditions for new applicants and for current year IHMYO members who wish to move up to Camerata or Sinfonia are held at the end of May as well as in late August, beginning of September, and late November. Audition guidelines and application forms can be found on our website [www.indianhillmusic.org](http://www.indianhillmusic.org).

## CONDUCTOR BIOGRAPHIES

**Todd Hamelin - Chamber Strings Ensemble** - Todd Hamelin is Strings Director at the Norman E. Day and Abbot Elementary Schools in Westford, MA. As a youth, Todd took violin lessons right here at Indian Hill Music. Today, he also enjoys playing violin in the Orchestra of Indian Hill's violin section, conducting the Chamber Strings Ensemble of the IHM Youth Orchestras, and teaching private lessons. Todd holds degrees from University of Massachusetts Lowell and Boston University.

**Deanna Leedy-Andreozzi - Camerata Strings Ensemble** - Deanna Leedy-Andreozzi, an Ohio native, attended Boston University where she majored in Music Education. She completed her Master's at the Hartt School of Music and is currently pursuing a doctorate in Educational Leadership from Lesley University. A cellist, she has performed with the Civic Symphony of Boston, the West Virginia Symphony, Rivers Symphony Orchestra, and the Quincy Symphony. Deanna is currently President of the Massachusetts Chapter of the American String Teacher's Association, and has adjudicated for both the Junior and Senior District Festivals. She maintains a private teaching studio in addition to teaching in Sudbury Public Schools.

**Bruce Hangen - Sinfonia Orchestra** - Artistic Director and Conductor of the Orchestra of Indian Hill, Bruce Hangen is now in his 21st season of exceptional music-making at Indian Hill, and is known for his ability to make music come alive. He is also Director of Orchestral Activities at Boston Conservatory, and served as Principal Guest Conductor of the Boston Pops for nearly 30 years. Guest appearances have taken him around the U.S. and Canada as well as to Japan, Albania, Taiwan, and New Zealand.

Bruce is dedicated to the cultivation of young musicians at all stages of their musical study. Most recently, he was guest conductor for the Nebraska All-State Festival High School Orchestra. He has also conducted All-States in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Maine, Montana, Rhode Island, Colorado, New Hampshire, and Minnesota. Additionally, Bruce has conducted the Massachusetts Northeastern, Eastern and Southeastern District High School Orchestras. His other festival engagements include conducting the Denver City-Wide Youth Orchestra, the Maine ASTA Conference, the Lincoln (NE) City-Wide Orchestra, Omaha Area Youth Orchestras, and the Central Massachusetts Youth Orchestra. A graduate of the Eastman School of Music, Bruce was a conducting fellow at the Berkshire Music Center at Tanglewood for two summers where his teachers were Gunther Schuller, Seiji Ozawa, Leonard Bernstein, Michael Tilson Thomas, Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, Bruno Maderna, and Joseph Silverstein.

## **Student Benefits**

As students of Indian Hill Music School, IHMYO members can access all of the benefits we offer, including: free and reduced-price tickets to performances of the Orchestra of Indian Hill and other concert series; free admission to workshops and masterclasses; and numerous special educational and entertainment events throughout the year specifically for our student families.

IHMYO members and their families are encouraged to explore all the programs of the Music School including chamber music, music theory classes, large and small ensembles, early childhood classes, beginning instrument classes, and more.

## **Student Concerto Competition**

Sinfonia Orchestra members are eligible to participate in IHM's Student Concerto Competition. This year the competition takes place on Saturday, December 9 at 7pm. The winner performs with the Orchestra of Indian Hill at the January concert. Full details and forms are available in early fall.

## **IHMYO Costs**

Tuition is \$395 per year for Chamber Strings, and \$550 for the year for Camerata and Sinfonia. There is a \$25 audition fee for new members and also for current members who wish to move up to the next ensemble level. Tuition is pro-rated for members who join after the mid-year (November) auditions. For students who audition successfully, the audition form will enroll the student into the program, and no additional registration form is required.

Concert tickets for family members over 18 are \$10 each. Concert recordings are \$25 (CD or DVD). When the recordings are delivered they will be available for pick-up at the check-in table during regular rehearsal times.

Indian Hill Music accepts cash, checks, and Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. There is a \$25 fee for returned checks. New registrations will not be processed until past due balances are paid in full. IHM reserves the right to suspend or discontinue instruction of any student who is delinquent in fulfilling their financial obligation.

## **Scholarships**

Need-based scholarship assistance is available for all programs of the Music School. To apply, student families should submit a registration form, a scholarship application, a copy of the most recent 1040 tax form, and a \$50 deposit (applied to tuition and fees). Deadline to apply for the school term is August 1. Applications received after that date will be considered on a rolling basis, pending available funds. Scholarship applications may be submitted with the audition or registration form.

## **IHMYO POLICIES AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP**

1. IHMYO membership is for the orchestral program year, which begins in September and ends in May. Subsequent to accepting IHMYO membership, tuition will not be refunded.
2. Members of each orchestra are required to attend all dress rehearsals and concerts unless excused by the Conductor. At the discretion of the Conductor, students who miss a dress rehearsal may not be allowed to perform in the concert. Please refer to the section on Attendance below for complete info.
3. IHMYO members must be prepared for each rehearsal through daily practice at home. Students are strongly urged to take private lessons with the teacher of their choice. There is no requirement to take lessons at IHM.
4. IHMYO members are expected to participate in their school's music ensemble program if one is offered. The youth orchestras are considered extra-curricular, and are not intended to replace any school's music curriculum or ensemble. If there are extraordinary circumstances preventing an IHMYO Youth Orchestra student or potential student from participating in their school's music ensemble program, the family should contact IHM's Class and Ensemble Manager.
5. A respectful and attentive attitude is expected in all rehearsals. Students not adhering to this basic standard of behavior will be given a warning and then at the discretion of the Conductor, may be put on probation and risk expulsion from IHMYO. If the musician is expelled, tuition will not be refunded.
6. Cell phone use of any kind (calls, texts, games, web surfing, etc.) is not allowed during rehearsals or concerts. Cell phones may be confiscated by the Conductor and returned at the end of the rehearsal or concert. Students may use their phones during break periods.
7. There will be no gum-chewing in rehearsals or concerts.
8. Students are to have with them at all times (1) a sharpened pencil with eraser; (2) music folder with all assigned music for the current concert; (3) required basic accessories for their instrument, e.g. an extra set of strings, reeds, cork grease, valve oil, etc.
9. Students should arrive 10 minutes early and be tuned and ready to play at the start of rehearsal. Anyone not in his/her seat when tuning begins will be considered tardy. Excessive tardiness, as determined by the Conductor, may result in reseating for the remainder of the rehearsals and concert.
10. It is expected that parents will volunteer as needed at rehearsals, and assist as needed at the concerts. A list of volunteer roles will be provided during the season.

## **OTHER POLICIES AND INFORMATION**

### **Non-Discrimination Policy**

Indian Hill Music does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, citizenship, ancestry, age, mental or physical disability, veteran status, or any other category protected under applicable law in its admissions, education programs, activities, or employment policies.

## **Accessibility**

Our facility at 36 King Street in Littleton, and the Littleton High School performance hall at 56 King Street are fully handicapped accessible.

## **Photography and Other Media**

Indian Hill Music reserves the right to create photographs or audio/video recordings of classes, ensembles, recitals, or other group activities. These materials may appear in print, audio, and digital media, including Indian Hill Music's website and social media platforms. Photographs or audio/video recordings taken during Indian Hill Music private lessons and classes are considered eligible for the above uses unless the school receives prior written notification as well as a photograph of the student (for internal identification purposes only). Indian Hill Music will not publish the names of students involved in any private lesson or group activity without parental consent.

## **For Families with Young Students: Supervision of Children**

To ensure your child's safety, please be sure to pick him/her up promptly after rehearsal. Children waiting in the lobbies before and/or after their lesson/class/ensemble are NOT supervised. Children are under supervision during their instruction time only. Neither teachers, conductors, nor administrative staff are responsible for supervising children outside of teaching times.

## **ATTENDANCE**

The attendance policy is strict in order to guarantee a program of the highest quality. An orchestra is a group effort, and only with the commitment of every member can that effort be successful. Consistent attendance at all regular rehearsals, dress rehearsals, sectionals, and concerts is required of all members.

Please review your school/music/family commitments against the IHMYO calendar and follow the proper procedure for notification. If you are unsure about a possible conflict or have concerns about complying with the attendance policy, talk with your Conductor.

**Unexcused Absences are not allowed from rehearsals, dress rehearsals, or concerts.** Any absence for which we have no advanced notice will be recorded as an unexcused absence. One unexcused absence will result in a warning from the Orchestra Manager. At the discretion of the Conductor and the Director of Education, two or more unexcused absences may result in: demotion in seating, dismissal from performing in a concert, and suspension or expulsion from the program. Circumstances surrounding all absences, along with other factors, will be taken into consideration prior to any action.

### **Excused Absences**

Students are allowed **one (1) excused absence for each of the three concert semesters**. More than one excused absence may require a re-audition with the Conductor to ensure preparedness for the concert. Students are expected to review the IHMYO calendar and notify the Orchestra Manager and the Conductors in writing using the Absence Request Form at least two weeks in advance of any potential conflicts.

### **Approved Excused Absences**

Examples of commitments and circumstances which can be eligible as excused absences: district/regional/state music festivals and competitions, school concerts and dress rehearsals in which the student is performing, family emergencies, prolonged illness, observance of major religious holidays. Absences which do not fall within these guidelines will not be permitted. **Except in case of sudden illness or emergencies, Absence Request Forms are required at least two weeks prior to any planned absence.**

### **Illness on Day of Rehearsal**

We want students to attend all rehearsals! However, if they are really sick, have flu symptoms, are recovering from the flu, or come home sick from school, they should not come to rehearsal. Please inform us by email ([kate@indianhillmusic.org](mailto:kate@indianhillmusic.org)) **no later than 3:00 pm**, or by phone (978-486-9524) **by 4:15 pm that Monday**.

### **To Report a Late Arrival or Early Departure**

Anyone arriving more than 10 minutes late for a rehearsal or leaving before the official ending time without prior notification/approval will be considered a partial absence. **Three (3) tardies and/or early departures will equal one unexcused absence.** To avoid an absence, if you are running late for any reason on the day of any orchestra activity, call the IHM office at (978) 486-9524.

### **To Report an Absence**

Complete the Absence Request Form (available on the youth orchestra pages on our website or at the check-in table at Monday rehearsals) at least two weeks prior to the schedule conflict, and please speak with your Conductor directly so that s/he is aware of your situation.

In the case of an unplanned absence, email [kate@indianhillmusic.org](mailto:kate@indianhillmusic.org) **before 3:00 pm** on a given Monday. Please indicate the child's name and the reason for the absence.

If an email is not possible, call (978) 486-9524 by 4:15 pm that Monday.

## **Rehearsals**

Rehearsals start the first Monday after Labor Day. All IHMYO Orchestras will meet each Monday between September and May except for dates noted on the IHMYO calendar and below, or in the case of an inclement weather cancellation. The weekly rehearsal schedule is:

- Chamber Strings - Mondays 5:00-6:00 pm
- Camerata Strings - Mondays 5:00-6:20 pm
- Sinfonia Orchestra – Mondays 6:30-8:30 pm

The Monday holidays in 2017-2018 when there are **no rehearsals**:

- October 9 - Columbus Day
- December 25 – Christmas Day
- January 1 – New Year’s Day
- January 15 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- February 19 - Presidents’ Day
- April 16 - Patriots’ Day

## **Sectional Rehearsals**

Throughout the school year professional coaches from the Music School faculty and musicians from the Orchestra of Indian Hill provide additional instruction for each section of the orchestra (violin 1, violin 2, violas, cellos, basses, winds, brass, and percussion). There are two sectionals scheduled for each concert cycle for Camerata and Sinfonia. Chamber Strings does not have sectionals

For Camerata the sectionals are held after regular rehearsal from 6:30-7:00 pm. For Sinfonia sectionals for all instruments (except percussion) are held from 8:00-8:45 pm. For percussion students sectionals are from 8:30-9:15 pm. Attendance is required at sectional rehearsals.

## **Rehearsal Cancellation Policy**

If an IHMYO rehearsal is cancelled due to inclement weather, a notice will be placed on the homepage of the website ([www.indianhillmusic.org](http://www.indianhillmusic.org)), and a voice message will be recorded on IHM’s main phone line (978-486-9524). Please note that IHM does not always follow the closings of the Littleton Public School system or other local school districts. Since most IHM lessons, classes and other activities occur in the afternoon and evenings, and weather conditions can change, student families should always check the website or phone messages for correct information. There are no tuition refunds for cancelled rehearsals.

## **Dress Rehearsals and Concert Schedules**

The three concert dress rehearsals (last full rehearsal before the concert) are:  
Monday, November 13, 2017    Monday, March 5, 2018    Monday, May 14, 2018

**Attendance is mandatory at each of these rehearsals.** Concert attire does not need to be worn at any of the dress rehearsals.



**Concert dates for 2017-18:**

Tuesday, November 14, 2017    Tuesday, March 6, 2018    Monday, May 21, 2018

Concerts are held at 7:00 pm in the Littleton Performing Arts Center at Littleton High School, 56 King Street.

Students will have a brief rehearsal at Littleton High School auditorium before their concert. Students must arrive at the times listed below in order to tune, receive stage instructions and be seated on stage for the start of their rehearsal.

Sinfonia	Arrive at LHS 4:45 pm	Rehearsal 5:00-5:45 pm
Camerata	Arrive at LHS 5:30 pm	Rehearsal 5:50-6:20 pm
Chamber	Arrive at LHS 6:15 pm	Rehearsal 6:25-6:45 pm

**CONCERT DRESS:**

**Chamber Strings, Camerata Strings:**

Girls: Black skirt: ankle length; black hosiery and black shoes. Girls may wear black, loose fitting slacks instead of the skirt. Long-sleeved white shirt or blouse.

Boys: Black slacks, black socks, black shoes, white shirt (long sleeves), and dark-colored necktie.

**Sinfonia Orchestra:**

Girls: Long black skirt or black trousers; black long sleeved blouse; black hosiery, black shoes.

Boys: Black suit or black jacket and black slacks, long sleeved white shirt, black bow tie, black socks, black shoes.

**Communication:** IHMYO’s main method of communication with you is through email.

Please be sure that we have ONE primary email address from you that you will check on a regular basis for updates. **The primary address must be one for a parent or guardian.** IHMYO members and parents are responsible for reading these updates and informing IHM of any contact information changes.

**Online Video/Audio Postings**

The posting of audio or video recordings of IHMYO-related meetings, gatherings, rehearsals or concerts to the internet (email, blogs, networking sites, web sites, Vimeo, YouTube, etc.) is prohibited without prior written consent of the Director of Education.

**Video/Audio Recordings**

The recording of IHMYO concerts (video or audio) is prohibited without prior written permission from the Director of Education.

**Parent Volunteers**

IHMYO relies on the generosity of parent volunteers to help us with important tasks for which the administrative staff does not have the resources. Volunteer tasks include: providing food for concert receptions, student chaperones, concert promotion, and distribution of publicity materials.

## **ABOUT INDIAN HILL MUSIC**

### **Making Music...Creating Community**

Now in its 32nd year, Indian Hill Music (IHM) is a thriving non-profit regional center for music education and performance located in picturesque Central Massachusetts and easily accessible from Boston, Northern Massachusetts, and Southern New Hampshire. One of only a small group of non-profit organizations nationwide that encompass a community music school, professional orchestra, and community outreach programs, IHM currently serves 79 communities ranging from Boston in the east, Metrowest, the Nashoba Valley, Merrimack Valley, and as far north as Nashua and Hollis, New Hampshire.

Founded in 1985 to fulfill a need for quality music education, high caliber performances, and collaborative community partnerships for all ages, the organization's activities are motivated by the belief that music inspires both our hearts and our minds, encourages the growth and development of the "whole person," and is integral to the lives of the individuals and communities we serve.

At the core of IHM's mission is a comprehensive and synergistic **music education program** serving a community of 1000+ students of all ages, abilities and backgrounds, where studying music, attending performances, participating in workshops, and performing with others are key components. Through the integration of the music school and our professional performance series, the transformative power of music is fully realized.

IHM's **professional performance season** is anchored by concerts of the 70-member Orchestra of Indian Hill, the region's premiere professional symphony orchestra, led by Artistic Director and Conductor, Bruce Hangen. Indian Hill Music also presents live performances by music school faculty, Orchestra of Indian Hill musicians, and other acclaimed guest artists in the Jazz and Contemporary Music series, Chamber Music at Indian Hill, and Chamber Music at Kalliroscope Gallery.

Dedicated to enriching the communities it serves by making music accessible to all, Indian Hill Music has developed strong and flourishing relationships through a full complement of **outreach programming**, serving some 7,000 people annually. IHM provides over \$120,000 in need-based scholarships and community outreach programs, including performances and educational programs for public schools and community events, and free concerts for seniors. It is also the first community music school in the country to offer bedside singing for healing through its Threshold Singers.

*Indian Hill Music gratefully acknowledges the generosity of individuals, families, businesses, foundations, and government agencies that support our numerous programs.*

### **IHMS Administrative Staff**

Pete Robbins – Director of Education  
Lisa Cleveland – Assistant Director of Education  
Michael Havay – Class & Ensemble Manager  
Kate Weiss-Gordon – Artistic Operations Manager  
Sue Greenleaf – Business & Facilities Manager  
Lucinda Bowen - Patron Services Specialist  
Meghann Foresman – Patron Services Specialist  
Dulcey Lacroix – Patron Services Specialist  
Natalie Pozetti – Patron Services Specialist  
Donna Hargreaves – Patron Services Associate

### **IHMYO Artistic Staff**

Bruce Hangen – Conductor of Sinfonia Concert Orchestra, IHM Artistic Director  
Deanna Leedy-Andreozzi – Conductor of Camerata Strings Orchestra  
Todd Hamelin - Conductor of Chamber Strings Orchestra