

---

# **The Long Bay YOUTH SYMPHONY**

Dr. Charles Jones Evans,  
Conductor



## **2016-2017 SEASON HANDBOOK**

---

**The Long Bay Symphony**  
1107 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Suite 310-E  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577  
Phone: (843) 448-8379  
Fax: (843) 946-9897  
E-mail: [longbayouthsymphony@gmail.com](mailto:longbayouthsymphony@gmail.com)  
[www.longbayouthsymphony.org](http://www.longbayouthsymphony.org)

---

**Dr. Charles Jones Evans**  
Music Director/Conductor, LBS  
- and -  
Conductor, Long Bay Youth Symphony  
843-448-8379 (office)

**Deanne Renshaw**  
Orchestra Manager, Long Bay Youth Symphony  
[longbayouthsymphony@gmail.com](mailto:longbayouthsymphony@gmail.com)  
910-783-8100 (cell)

**Membership** in the Long Bay Youth Symphony is open to players of all orchestral instruments, from seventh-graders through college undergraduates (some exceptions to this age range may be granted, at the discretion of the Conductor). There are only limited positions available for woodwinds, brass and percussion. All members must re-audition each year.

### **Benefits of Membership**

- Playing in a high-quality youth orchestra with excellent direction and instruction can be one of the most fulfilling experiences a young musician can have. Students who become members of the Long Bay Youth Symphony are exposed to an advanced level of orchestral literature and placed in an environment that expects and fosters dedication, concentration, and leadership. LBYS members will make new friends and develop closer relationships with current friends through the camaraderie developed by working toward performance goals and participating in social events planned by the orchestra.
- The LBYS performs several times per year, occasionally performs with the Long Bay Symphony, and does run-out concerts.
- In the fall, the LBYS holds a day-long retreat, combining rehearsals and social activities in an atmosphere for new members to get acquainted.
- Members have the opportunity to participate in the LBYS's annual Concerto Competition, offering the winner(s) a solo appearance with the orchestra.
- Each LBYS member receives **one free ticket** to all LBS "Classical Series" performances.
- All LBYS members receive professional guidance from Long Bay Symphony members in sectional rehearsals and in some instances, in chamber ensemble coaching sessions.

### **Rules and Regulations**

Upon acceptance of their application, members understand and agree that they may be dismissed or suspended from the orchestra for failure to comply with these rules and regulations, or for other conduct which may merit the taking of such action. Such action will be taken only with the full knowledge and approval of the LBYS Conductor and Manager.

### **Tuition**

Tuition for member participation in the LBYS is **\$125.00** per year. Full tuition is due by the third rehearsal of the fall semester. A **Tuition Waiver/Work Study Program** is available to those who need financial assistance and are qualified to assist with setup and strike at rehearsals and performances. Other duties such as ushering may be assigned as needed. Qualified students work in lieu of paying annual tuition. If interested and qualified, please ask the LBYS Manager for a Work Study Application. This form must be turned in by the tuition due date. In the event that students are prohibited from participating in the Work Study Program, the LBYS will consider tuition waiver requests on a case-by-case basis.

### **Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory at all rehearsals, sectional rehearsals, and concerts. Members absent from a dress rehearsal may be prohibited from performing in the concert (at the discretion of the Conductor) and may lose membership in the orchestra. Members absent from a concert without reasonable excuse may be dismissed from the orchestra. Any planned absences must be cleared with the LBYS Manager at least one week in advance in writing (email preferred) with the reference information (name, phone number, event) included. In the case of absence due to unexpected emergency (i.e., car accident, sudden illness), please notify the manager as soon as possible, so that the conductor may make any necessary rehearsal changes.

**Emergency absences must be followed up with a written explanation signed by a parent or guardian (written notices by students are not accepted) no later than one week after the absence. Phone calls are not accepted as substitute for the written explanation.** Two absences per semester from scheduled rehearsals will be allowed, for reasons listed below:

- Illness
- Death in family
- Trips with parent's direction and approval
- School interviews/auditions (for juniors and seniors)
- Other activities, judged on individual circumstances

Absences that fall outside of the above allowances and notification procedures are considered **unexcused**. A member's first unexcused absence will result in communication with a parent, and possibly his/her music or private teacher. With the second, the member may be prohibited from performing in the concert and may have to re-audition at the rehearsal following that concert to regain membership in the LBYS.

Any absences beyond two are considered excessive and will affect a member's music assignment (i.e., chair placement, specific part assignments in each piece) and, ultimately, membership in the LBYS, at the discretion of the conductor.

## **Tardiness**

Orchestra members are expected to be in the rehearsal room ten minutes prior to the scheduled start of rehearsal, **and in their seats ready to rehearse at 4:40 pm, five minutes before the rehearsal begins.** A tardy is given to a member who is not in their seat with their instrument(s) ready when tuning begins. Three tardies will be treated as being equal to one absence.

## **Preparation**

It is the goal of the LBYS to operate at a high level of musical proficiency, discipline and performance. Members must devote regular, daily practice time on LBYS music (and work on it in their private lessons) in order to be adequately prepared for the limited number of rehearsals (\*Please see Suggestions for Practicing below). If an LBYS member does not continue to function at a level which contributes to the ensemble, the conductor may ask for a meeting with the student and parent and, if appropriate, the private teacher or school music director. If the student does not exhibit improvement at subsequent rehearsals, they may be removed from their current music assignment, and may possibly lose their membership in the LBYS.

## **Behavior and Deportment**

Conduct and behavior during all LBYS activities, whether at rehearsals, performances or any other activity under the sponsorship of the LBYS, are governed by the rules of conduct as adopted by the Horry County School System. LBYS members should conduct themselves in an orderly and professional manner at all functions of the LBYS, including run-out concerts, trips and other recreational events.

## **Music and Materials**

LBYS members are fully responsible for the music and any other materials that are distributed to them. Music must be returned in good condition at the end of each semester.

## **Concert Dress**

Uniform concert dress sets the atmosphere for each performance. Required LBYS concert dress is as follows:

**\*Men:** black dress slacks, long-sleeved white dress shirt, long dark tie, black socks, black dress shoes (no jackets)

**\*Women:** black (below the knees!) long skirt or dress pants, white blouse with sleeves, black hose, black dress shoes (NO sandals or flip flops!)

## **Communications**

The LBYS Manager will often be giving out information via the internet and email. Please be sure to change the settings on your email to ensure that you receive these messages. Information and reminders will also be available on the LBYS website: [www.longbayyouthsymphony.org](http://www.longbayyouthsymphony.org) and on the Long Bay Youth Symphony Facebook Page. Stay plugged in!

## **Cell Phone Use**

Cell phone use during LBYS rehearsal is prohibited. This includes texting, looking on the internet and playing games. Students may have their cell phones as long as they are put away with the ringers turned off. If a student is caught using a cell phone during rehearsal, it will be confiscated until the end of rehearsal. Students may use their phones during the break.

## **Inclement Weather Policy**

In the case of inclement weather, the LBYS will follow the same decisions made by Horry County Schools. Whenever school and/or after-school activities are cancelled by the Horry County School System, we will also cancel our rehearsal. If you have any questions, please check your email and our Facebook page; the LBYS Manager will likely have already sent out information regarding the situation.

## **Parent Opportunities**

The LBYS encompasses many activities that are supported by volunteers, parents and interested community leaders. Parents of orchestra members may become more involved by attending concerts, volunteering for youth symphony projects or supporting our programs through financial donations. Whether it is serving food at dinners or receptions, chaperoning, or simply spreading the word about our organization, there is sure to be an area within the LBYS where we could use your help! Additionally, parents are strongly encouraged to attend Long Bay Symphony concerts with their children. The programs will heighten both parents' and students' appreciation for orchestral music as well as increase understanding of the LBYS's mission.

## **School Participation/Private Study**

It is highly recommended that LBYS members also participate in their school's band or orchestra, if one is available. It is not required that the student be taking private lessons in order to achieve and maintain membership. However, the LBYS strongly recommends that members study privately, if possible. Private study strengthens the student's overall

playing; many technical concerns can be dealt with in a focused, one-on-one environment. The LBYS staff can suggest local private instructors for those who wish to begin private study.

### **Suggestions for Practicing**

- Regularity is the key to successful practice results. Practice every day, for 20 to 30 minutes. Like physical training for sports, cramming won't work. 20 minutes a day is much more beneficial than two hours at once!
  - Target the specific difficult sections in the music that need attention, instead of practicing the entire piece. Plan for gradual, daily progress on these sections, beginning with a slow, very manageable metronome speed. After playing a passage completely accurately, in rhythm five times, gradually increase the speed. Mark your maximum working tempo when finishing work on a section for reference in the next day's practice session.
  - Practice scales in the keys encountered in the LBYS literature as warm-ups to working on the pieces themselves. (i.e., if a practice section that you're going to work on is in E-flat, then practice an E-flat scale) Also, practice the scales of any unfamiliar keys found in the literature (A-flat, E major).
  - It is helpful to isolate specific aspects of a difficult passage before all the elements can be successfully combined. For example, be sure that you understand and can speak the rhythm before combining it with other elements. Also work just on pitches, without rhythm, focusing on difficult leaps, or (for strings) shifts. In addition, string players can practice a section using a simple, note-for-note bowing, only later incorporating the bowing written in the part.
  - Good practicing is a difficult, sometimes tedious process requiring great concentration. Be patient, and don't get discouraged! Great results come over time, not in a day or two.
- 

