



YOUTH ORCHESTRAS OF CHARLOTTE

Austria Tour 2026

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To Whom it May Concern,

The Youth Orchestras of Charlotte (YOC) is dedicated to nurturing and inspiring the musical talents of youth in the greater Charlotte area. Under the baton of Ernest Pereira, the leadership of its board, and coaches from the Charlotte Symphony, the YOC provides exceptional instruction and performance experiences in symphonic orchestra and chamber ensemble settings. We are committed to excellence and rigor as well as diversity and inclusiveness in terms of the students in the orchestra and the audiences for whom we perform.

Our Music Director, Dr. Ernest Pereira, has nurtured the talents of Charlotte's finest young musicians for over 30 years, and the YOC has become an integral part of artistic life in Charlotte and the surrounding areas. We provide a pipeline of talent to the arts community in Charlotte through our four education programs which include Sinfonia Strings, Preparatory Orchestra, Flute Choir, and the Youth Orchestra of Charlotte (YOC). Each year we perform for audiences whose numbers reach an average of 5,000 people, not including our Festival in the Park performance each September. We serve two hundred student musicians who range from 8 to 18 years old. Our alumni go on to study further at many prestigious colleges which include the Julliard School of Music, the Eastman School of Music, the Manhattan School of Music, Yale, Harvard, Vanderbilt University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Duke University, Eastern Carolina University, Appalachian State, and many others.

We are very excited to share that this year our 90-plus member orchestra has been invited to perform in the 2026 American Celebration of Music in Austria. In the past the orchestra has been chosen to perform at both Carnegie Hall in New York and the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, but this will be the first opportunity for the orchestra to perform in Europe. While on tour, our group will perform in wonderful venues in both Salzburg and Vienna.

We would love for you to join us in representing the city of Charlotte in Austria this summer, and we ask that you please consider providing financial support for the 2025-2026 YOC season. In a world often marked by division and heartache, our orchestra provides a place for children to not only develop their musical skills, but also develop an appreciation for beauty, hard work, collaborative learning, and discipline. We want our orchestra to be a place where children from all cultures and socio-economic backgrounds come together to explore the rich beauty of classical music, which then brings richness to all other areas of life. With the help of individual donors and businesses, the YOC will be able to continue educating young musicians and investing in the future of classical music.

While any amount of financial support is greatly appreciated, we have developed five tiers of tax-deductible giving that will help the orchestra reach the 2025-2026 fundraising goals. These tiers are listed below, along with a description of benefits for each tier. Please consider giving to the Youth Orchestras of Charlotte and supporting the musical endeavors of young musicians across the Greater Charlotte area. Donations can be made by sending a check to the YOC address or using the QR code on this letter.

Thank you very much for your consideration,
The YOC Board of Directors



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Encore - \$10,000.00

- Maestro level benefits
- An additional YOC chamber ensemble performance at a company event
- Twelve reserved seats to a YOC concert of your choice

Maestro - \$8,000

- Symphony level benefits
- A chamber ensemble made up of YOC musicians will perform free of charge at a dinner or company event (not to exceed two hours).
- A banner outside our concert hall with your corporation's logo
- An invitation to an open rehearsal
- Eight reserved seats for a YOC concert of your choice

Symphony - \$5,000

- Overture level benefits
- Your corporation's name mentioned on stage at our eight concerts throughout the year
- Six reserved seats for a YOC concert of your choice

Overture - \$3,000

- Serenade level benefits
- Your company's name and logo on the back of our Austria tour shirts.
- Four reserved seats for a YOC concert of your choice

Serenade - \$1,000

- Your company's name will appear in the program along with an advertisement. This ad will reach over five thousand audience members at our concert venues throughout the year
- An invitation to an open rehearsal
- Two reserved seats for a YOC concert of your choice

Donations can be made by check (mailing address in header), [Venmo](#), or through [our online portal](#).