

Youth Music Illinois



Youth Music Illinois

Life Together Center
3601 N. Sheridan Road
Peoria, IL 61604
(309) 370-6424
youthmusicillinois.org
jeffmcsweeney@youthmusicillinois.org

Facebook: Youth Music Illinois formerly Central Illinois Youth Symphony

Jeff McSweeney, Executive Director
David Commanday, Music Director

Mission

Youth Music Illinois mentors area youth to develop a repertoire of skills for both music and life through the power of live performance.

Vision

Youth Music Illinois enriches and unites our community by fostering a lifelong appreciation of the arts.

How to Help

Supporters may donate through the "Support" tab at youthmusicillinois.org, by email at jeffmcsweeney@youthmusicillinois.org, or by phone at (309) 370-6424. Individuals and businesses are also encouraged to support the Musical Masquerade and Treble in River City Trivia Night fundraisers to benefit YMI programming for students.

Volunteers are welcome to join us in advancing education and performance opportunities for our student musicians. Please reach out to jeffmcsweeney@youthmusicillinois.org to learn more.



Youth Music Illinois is one of many organizations devoted to the long-term success of our community. Since 1965, we have served over 2,500 student musicians focusing on music education and performance experience for primary through high school students from all over the region.

Studying and performing music at a high level increases critical thinking, builds confidence and leadership abilities, teaches conflict management techniques, and reinforces the idea that the only real way to success is through their own focused, dedicated, hard work.

Students come to understand they have the power within themselves to become anything they want to be. Currently, we work with 165 students in numerous orchestras and ensembles, including Youth Symphony led by David Commanday, Big Jazz led by Andy Empey, Concert Orchestra led by David Getz, Prep Orchestra led by Rosemary Ardner, and Percussion Ensemble led by Peggy Bonner. Through these programs, young people become stronger, better musicians. More importantly, our student musicians develop skills to master any professional field they choose.

Youth Symphony alumni have succeeded in careers including music performance, education, engineering and business, among others, many commenting on the inspirational foundation provided by the organization. It is our hope these students will make central Illinois their home, becoming highly-qualified prospective employees to benefit our business environment.

Our student musicians perform instrumental music through numerous concerts and ensemble performances at theaters, churches and community events throughout the year.

Curriculum is guided by David Commanday, Music Director, striving for excellence in all its programs and challenging students to be their very best in every aspect. Conductor Commanday's career has brought him renown on three continents and spans the fields of concert hall, stage, university and youth orchestra. His leadership is praised for engaging and inspiring musicians, with depth in the classics and sparkle in pops; he is known for connecting with both musicians and audiences.

Our programming is an integral component for music education, performance experience and the future of young people. We are committed to engaging students from all socioeconomic backgrounds in our current and future opportunities to ensure central Illinois is an attractive place to live.

SIGNATURE EVENTS

Treble in River City – Trivia Night Fundraiser

Autumn 2018

Fall Concert Series

November 2018

Mid-Season Auditions

January 2019

Musical Masquerade Fundraiser

Spring 2019

Spring Concert Series

April 2019

Spring Auditions

May 2019

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Johnson, *President*
Cindy Silver, *Vice President*
Sarah Curtis, *Secretary*
Sheila Zadoks, *Treasurer*

Viki Burnett
Ann Campen
Brenda Conroy
Marisa Farrell

Elena Gabor
Taunya Jenkins
Tracy Kramer
Jeff Pulfer

Gary Rafool
Shari Reynolds
Lance Rogers
Jennifer Suau

Russel Boulton,
Church Liaison