

CIYS PRINCIPAL ENSEMBLES POLICY

1. **PURPOSE.** The Central Illinois Youth Symphony features its principal chair musicians in small ensembles for the purpose of:
 - a. Furthering the skills of the principal players and enhancing the overall ensemble of the Youth Symphony,
 - b. Promoting the CIYS organization to the public and schools, and
 - c. Raising funds for the CIYS organization through outside performances.

2. **MEMBERSHIP** in the string and woodwind ensembles will be granted as follows:
 - a. Principal strings in the Youth Symphony are given the privilege of membership in the Principal String Quartet; any musician who seeks a principal string seat (Violin I, Violin II, Viola or Cello) must be able to fulfill its duties. Inability to or choice not to do so means that musician will not be offered the principal seat in the section.
 - b. Principal woodwinds and principal French horn in the Youth Symphony will be offered membership in the Woodwind Quintet, based upon Spring Audition results. Declined membership in the Woodwind Quintet will be offered to the next-seated player in the section.
 - c. Assistant principal strings in the Youth Symphony will be offered the opportunity for membership in String Quartet II, which serves as a training ground for ensemble work and leadership skills; declined membership in String Quartet II will be offered to another qualified player.

3. **COACHING, REHEARSALS & PERFORMANCES:**
 - a. Coaching sessions will be scheduled on Thursday evenings, before regular orchestra rehearsals, whenever possible.
 - b. The string quartets will rehearse weekly when not being coached. These will be scheduled before orchestra rehearsals on Thursdays. If the ensembles wish to set up a different time and location for rehearsal, they may present their plan to the CIYS Manager for approval.
 - c. The Woodwind Quintet will rehearse approximately every other week, alternating with the rehearsal schedule of the clarinet and flute choirs, with possible additional rehearsals scheduled on an as-needed basis.
 - d. These ensembles will prepare a minimum of 1 work or movement each semester to perform at the Ensemble Concerts and CIYS fundraising events.
 - e. All outside performance requests for the Principal String Quartet, String Quartet II and Woodwind Quintet will be scheduled through the CIYS Manager. Requesting parties will be asked to make a donation to CIYS on behalf of the ensemble's performance.
 - f. If an ensemble member cannot make a scheduled performance, they must ask an approved sub to fill in with enough time to schedule a rehearsal. See the CIYS Manager for approved subs.