Member Handbook
2021-22
Greetings to All!

Welcome to the Twenty Second Season of the U-M Life Sciences Orchestra!

– Elaine Sims
Director, Gifts of Art program at Michigan Medicine
CONTENTS

Introducing the LSO.................................................................1
About the Gifts of Art program..................................................2
Yeo Ryeong Ahn, Gilbert S. Omenn, M.D. Music Director............3
Hill Auditorium..........................................................................4
Rehearsal and Concert Schedule...............................................5
Transportation and Parking.......................................................6
LSO Orchestra Policies.............................................................7
    Membership............................................................................7
    Music Fee.............................................................................7
    Attendance...........................................................................8
    Music and Equipment.........................................................8
    Concert Dress.....................................................................9
    Communication...................................................................9
LSO Executive Committee.......................................................10
Support for the Life Sciences Orchestra ....................................11
Endowment................................................................................11
Contact Information................................................................12
Introducing the LSO

The Life Sciences Orchestra (LSO) is the symphonic ensemble of the U-M health and life sciences communities, providing opportunities for its members to express their musical talents from rehearsal to public performance. It is one of the creative programs of Gifts of Art with a focus on caregivers, faculty, staff and students at Michigan Medicine. Members represent:

- Michigan Medicine
  - Hospitals and Health Centers
  - Medical School
  - Shared Services
- School of Dentistry
- School of Public Health
- College of Pharmacy
- School of Nursing
- School of Social Work
- School of Kinesiology
- School of Natural Resources & Environment
- Departments in the College of Literature, Science & the Arts
- Department of Biomedical Engineering
- Selected Rackham School of Graduate Studies programs
- Life science and health professions units of UM-Dearborn and UM-Flint

The LSO was formed in the fall of 2000 by a small group of musicians at the U-M Medical School and the U-M Hospitals and Health Centers under the umbrella of the Michigan Medicine Gifts of Art program. Now in its 22nd season, the LSO draws nearly 2,000 audience members for each of two free concerts a year.

The mission of the LSO is to offer musicians in the life sciences a creative outlet by providing an opportunity to play in a large ensemble, while building a sense of community across the different life sciences areas throughout campus.
About the Gifts of Art Program

One of the first and most comprehensive arts in medicine programs in the nation, Gifts of Art brings the world of art and music to Michigan Medicine. The LSO fulfills one of Gifts of Art’s objectives, that of providing arts opportunities for those who provide care, work or study in health related fields.

Some of Gifts of Art’s other programs:

- Nine art galleries – in-person & online exhibits
- Bedside Music – specially trained musicians on patient floors
- Bedside Art – artists in patient units
- Artist in Residence – hospital-wide art making projects
- Story Studio – recording patient stories at the bedside
- Performances – live steam concerts for health system community & patient-facing iPad concerts on units

Gifts of Art partners with Professor Kenneth Kiesler and the U-M School of Music, Theatre and Dance and is the official representative of the Life Sciences Orchestra. All Gifts of Art programs are free and open to the public.

For more information about Gifts of Art, please visit: www.med.umich.edu/goa.
Yeo Ryeong Ahn, the Gilbert S. Omenn, M.D. Music Director

Yeo Ryeong Ahn (South Korea), beginning her doctoral studies in conducting at the University of Michigan this fall, is thrilled to join the LSO family. She recently appeared as a finalist in the Gustav Mahler competition in Bamberg, and is named as the conducting fellow for the 2021 Dallas Opera Hart Institute.

She received her Master’s Degree in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Illinois under the guidance of Donald Schleicher, and her Bachelor’s Degree in Conducting from the Korea National University of Arts. As the recipient (in Arts) of a Fulbright Scholarship sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Ms. Ahn has appeared in music festivals and masterclasses across the globe.

These include engagements conducting the Bamberger Symphoniker, Croatian Radiotelevision Symphony Orchestra, Südwestdeutsche Philharmonie Konstanz, Stavanger Symphony Orchestra, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, Danubia Orchestra Óbuda, Pierre Monteux Summer Music Festival, Järvi Conducting Academy at Pärnu Music Festival, the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra, and Gyeonggi Philharmonic Orchestra.

Her mentors include Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Peter Eötvös, and Paavo Järvi, among others. Yeo Ryeong Ahn actively seeks to work with orchestras all around the world, in order to build connections that will enhance the development of the classical music industry.

Complete bio: https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/lsolso/about/music-director/
Hill Auditorium

Standing in the heart of the University of Michigan campus, Hill Auditorium is a premier venue for University of Michigan and metro Detroit events. With a seating capacity of just over 3,500, its Frieze Memorial Organ and excellent acoustics, Hill is an outstanding performance venue, and many world class performers hold the hall in high regard.

Former U-M regent Arthur Hill bequeathed $200,000 to the university for the construction of the auditorium for lectures, concerts and other university events, and former UMS President Charles Sink raised another $150,000 to help complete the concert hall in 1913.

The hall was designed by the Detroit firm of Albert Kahn and Assoc., which designed many notable structures, including the landmark Art Deco Fisher Building in Detroit, Michigan.

Hill Auditorium underwent a major renovation by the original architects with Quinn Evans Architects, and was closed for 18 months. It reopened in January 2004 with restorations to the brick, stone and terracotta exterior, as well as to the interior ceiling adornments, wall painting and organ piping. Patrons also appreciated the air conditioning, elevators and new lower level lobby.

Known internationally for its superb acoustics that highlight everything from the softest high notes to the most thunderous climaxes, Hill Auditorium is known and loved throughout the musical world.

The LSO performs two free concerts each season at Hill Auditorium.
Rehearsal and Concert Schedule

All regular rehearsals are Sundays from 7:00-9:30 pm at the School of Music, Theatre & Dance’s Kevreson Rehearsal Hall (accessible via the new entrance of the Earl V. Moore Building), unless otherwise noted. Please arrive at 6:45 pm to set up and warm up.

We are following U-M COVID-19 guidance for musical ensembles and expect all members to cooperate or face possible LSO dismissal:

- You must complete the ResponsiBlue symptom/contact screening before arrival each week.
- Do not come to rehearsal if you are feeling under the weather.
- String players may sit together as normal; woodwinds and brass players should each sit 3 feet apart from all others.
- You must wear a mask when inside the building except to drink water. (No snacks at rehearsals this semester.)
- Woodwind and brass players may remove their masks when playing but should put them on during extended rests and when not playing.
- All woodwinds/brass must use bell covers except flutes/piccolos.

The rehearsal schedule for the first concert is as follows (skipping Halloween, Thanksgiving & Easter weekends, & winter holidays):

Sept. 19, 26
Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24 (Halloween costume contest)
Nov. 7, 14, 21
Dec. 5, 12, 19
Tuesday, Jan. 4
Jan. 7 - Friday, time TBD – Dress Rehearsal, Hill Auditorium
Jan. 9 - Sunday, time TBD – Concert, Hill Auditorium

There will be a pre-concert lecture in Hill before the concert.

Send a message to lsoabsence@umich.edu regarding both planned and unplanned absences. Keep in mind that after three absences for any reason, your participation in the LSO concert will be at the discretion of the music director.
All rehearsals include a 15 minute mid rehearsal break.

Should the cancellation of a rehearsal be required (or a change in venue), we will endeavor to notify all members via email, the LSO website, and Facebook page ASAP.

Special rehearsals may be called by our music director as required. Musicians are provided reminders and updates of all rehearsals, including any changes of rehearsal times or locations. It is the responsibility of each member to stay informed by keeping a current email address on file with the Orchestra Committee. Please email them your updates at orchestra@umich.edu.

**Transportation and Parking**

We urge members to carpool, make use of the University of Michigan bus system or use other forms of transportation to get to and from rehearsals on North Campus.

Information on bus routes and times: [https://ltp.umich.edu/transit/routes.php](https://ltp.umich.edu/transit/routes.php)

Parking is available near the Earl V. Moore building. Enter through the new main entrance and turn left. The Rehearsal Hall will be on your right. On Sunday evenings, all parking in the Moore Bldg. lot is free and open to all. During business hours on weekdays, Blue, Gold and paid visitor spots are available. Bicycle, motorcycle and moped parking is available on the east and west sides of the building. Members are urged to exercise caution and walk in groups when arriving to or departing from rehearsals during evening hours.
LSO Orchestra Policies

Membership

Entry into the LSO is by audition only. The LSO gives first priority to members of the U-M life sciences community who are able to fulfill the particular position. We define life sciences community to include all the areas listed on page 1 of this handbook.

Anyone who has an affiliation with these units, whether as faculty, staff, graduate students, alumni or retirees, are welcome to audition.

Undergraduates in junior or senior standing with a declared life sciences major may also audition for the LSO. No course credit is offered for participating in the LSO.

If more players are needed for certain instrumental sections than are available from the life sciences community, those positions may be filled by non-life sciences musicians at the discretion of the LSO Music Director and the LSO Executive Committee.

Contact lsocommittee@umich.edu if you have any questions.

Membership Fee

The annual LSO membership fee is $75 for non-students, $50 for students, due at the beginning of the season. Please pay by credit card, https://ssc.umich.edu/payments/pay-by-credit-card/, for the exact amount due, following these instructions. Do not pay more than the required membership fee. Tax-deductible donations to support the LSO concerts can be made here: https://michmed.org/Jb140.
**Attendance**

We all have busy schedules, but please respect the group by planning your schedule to allow you to attend all rehearsals and/or sectionals and to stay for the entire length of each session. If you must miss a rehearsal, either planned or unplanned, email Isoabsence@umich.edu as soon as possible – no later than the Thursday before the rehearsal.

Unexcused or frequent absences are unfair to the other members of your section and are troublesome for the entire orchestra. If you miss several rehearsals with no excuse, or if you have missed three for any reason, your participation in the concert will be at the discretion of the music director.

Any member who misses a concert week rehearsal may be excused from playing in the concert at the discretion of the Music Director.

**Music and Equipment**

Members will sign out a music folder at the first rehearsal. Extra music requests should be directed to Angie Noble at angnoble761@gmail.com at least three days before the music is required.

All members are expected to arrive at each rehearsal with their full set of signed out music, along with any instrumental accessories (e.g., mutes) called for in the music to be rehearsed.

Members are required to turn in their music immediately after the end of each concert performance.
Concert Dress

Unless otherwise specified, concert dress consists of the following:

**Option 1**: black shoes and hose or socks, black pants or long skirt, and a black top, long-sleeved preferred.

**Option 2**: black shoes and socks, black tuxedo or suit, long sleeved white shirt, and a black bow tie.

No jeans, no running shoes or sandals, no T-shirts, no pants less than full length, no sleeveless or tank-style tops.

Communication

If you have general questions or ideas for the committee and the music director, send them to orchestra@umich.edu. The email list for the entire orchestra is moderated to prevent inappropriate use—that is, only committee members and the music director may email all members at once. If you have something that you would like to suggest be shared with all members, such as information about an upcoming concert of interest, please send it to orchestra@umich.edu. Appropriate items will be shared.

LSO website: https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/lso/
Facebook: www.facebook.com/umlso
LSO handbook online: https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/lso/members/
Gifts of Art website: www.med.umich.edu/goa
LSO Executive Committee

The LSO Committee (LSOC) is a volunteer committee made up of members of the LSO and the director of the Gifts of Art program. The committee handles much of the day to day business of running the orchestra, including:

- Schedules and oversees auditions
- Maintains the roster of LSO members and prospective members
- Schedules and publicizes all rehearsals and meetings
- Oversees member attendance and rehearsals
- Creates press releases and publicizes concerts
- Maintains website
- Selects and invites concert hosts
- Selects Spirit of the LSO award winner
- Drafts and updates orchestra policies
- Discusses member feedback and addresses any member issues or concerns

The LSOC meets mostly monthly during the academic year. Any member interested in serving on the committee or attending a meeting should email the committee at orchestra@umich.edu.

The Gifts of Art program handles the following:
- Fundraising and financing the orchestra
- Business and financial operations – budgeting; contracts; fees, sales and payments; hiring and managing staff and volunteers; and renting music, equipment and Hill Auditorium
- Moving instruments and equipment
- Hosting meetings and concerts
- Concert program
- Graphic design – concert posters, fliers, CDs, awards
- Publicity
- Handbook
Support for the Life Sciences Orchestra

Gifts of Art raises the funds for the LSO, which are used to cover the costs of presenting two free concerts a year at U-M’s acclaimed Hill Auditorium. Gifts of Art, and therefore the LSO, is not on the budget of Michigan Medicine. The LSO needs to raise a minimum of $12,000 for each LSO concert, or a total of $24,000 a year.

You can help support the Life Sciences Orchestra and keep the concerts happening each year. A gift to the LSO is tax-deductible.

To make a gift, please visit: https://michmed.org/Jb140 or www.med.umich.edu/goa/donations.htm, select Give to Areas of Highest Need, and designate U-M Life Sciences Orchestra as the recipient of your gift. Or you may send a check, made out to the U-M Life Sciences Orchestra, to the Gifts of Art address on the back of this handbook.

Long-Term Planning — Gifts of Art Endowment

Contributions to the Gifts of Art endowment will be matched dollar for dollar up to $5 million. In addition to ensuring that Gifts of Art, the internationally recognized arts in healthcare program, will continue to revitalize and enrich the lives of patients, visitors, faculty, staff and students at Michigan Medicine, this endowment fund will also ensure that the LSO will continue on into the future. You or your business may help support Gifts of Art and the LSO by visiting www.med.umich.edu/goa/donations.htm or by calling or emailing Elaine Sims at 734.936.ARTS (2787) or esims@med.umich.edu.
**Contact Information**

LSO website: [https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/lsoc/](https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/lsoc/)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/umlso](http://www.facebook.com/umlso)

Gifts of Art: [www.med.umich.edu/goa](http://www.med.umich.edu/goa)

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<thead>
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<th>Name</th>
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More information on LSO Committee members: [https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/lsoc/about/executive-committee/](https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/lsoc/about/executive-committee/)

Orchestra email: orchestra@umich.edu

LSO Executive Committee email: lsocommittee@umich.edu

Absences email: lsoabsence@umich.edu
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