

ESYO Project - 2026 REGULATIONS

The **EUROPEAN SPIRIT OF YOUTH ORCHESTRA (ESYO)** offers a high-level pre-professional training to selected young musicians (aged 13 – 23) from all European countries and other non-European countries.

The ESYO Project aims to give our musicians the opportunity to gain experience with symphonic repertoire as a member of a unique international symphony orchestra and contributes to better personal and artistic growth.

The annual course is made up of several training periods which include several intensive orchestra rehearsals, masterclasses, chamber music workshop and concert appearances around Europe led by our international acclaimed faculty, by ESYO Artistic Director and Principal Conductor **Igor Coretti Kuret** assisted by the conductor **Nenad Petković**.

Composition of the Full Orchestra (up to 59 members)

10 First violins	3 Flutes (1 piccolo)	3 Trumpets
8 Second violins	2 Oboes	3 Trombones
6 Violas	2 Clarinets	1 Tuba
6 Cellos	2 Bassoons	1 Timpani
4 Double basses	4 French horns	3 Percussion
		1 Harp

Selection Procedure

There are two possible selection procedures:

- **ONLINE Auditions** – The applicants upload a recording of a short performance on YouTube and submit us the URL link to the performance.
- **LIVE Auditions** – The applicants are offered to perform in person their audition repertoire at several partner institutions around Europe. The updated LIVE Audition Locations and Dates can be found under the Auditions section on our website.

Candidates are asked to perform a short program (two, in the character contrasting pieces) of their own choice and will be selected both based on their performances as well as of their team-working capabilities. **The final decision will be made by the Artistic Director in agreement with the ESYO faculty members.**

Selections are open each year, from the beginning of December until the end of March. If necessary, the Artistic Director may decide to extend the auditioning period. The selected musicians will be invited to form the European Spirit of Youth Orchestra. By accepting the invitation, they must consider their participation in the proposed ESYO activities as a **compulsory commitment**.

Training Periods

The training periods with intensive rehearsals take place in the residences of ESYO, mostly during the school holidays, one or two times a year.

In **2026**, from **19th July to 9th August 2026** (Summer tour) and, from **26th December 2026 to 6th January 2027** (Winter Tour). Attendance in the Winter tour, as well as in other ESYO extra activities (concerts of **ESYO Soloists**), is subject to the decision of the Artistic Director, who can confirm, or not, the participation of any member of the orchestra in the above-mentioned ESYO activity. Regarding the ESYO orchestra's accommodation, during the mentioned tours, all arrangements made with student dormitories, youth hostels, hotels, and other kind of accommodation places, as well as, with restaurants, are supervised by the Artistic Director and by the Advisory Board of **SGME Cultural association in Trieste**.

Fees, Fellowships & Attendance

The annual intensive orchestra course includes two terms (tours). The first, lasting 22 days, is organized during the summer (this year from 19th July to 9th August). The second, lasting 11 days, is organized between 26th December and 6th January. Both sessions, including 120 hours of intensive rehearsals (led by internationally acknowledged faculty) and public concerts are only partially granted by ESYO donors and by concert organizers. This is why participation in the ESYO project involves also a fee, which partially covers boarding and lodging costs of each participant.

For families with attested low incomes, fellowships are available upon request, for helping to reduce the amount of the fee.

The students admitted to the annual orchestra training programs are required to participate in all planned activities (rehearsals, concerts, special events and excursions). The absence shall only be justified due to illness, accompanied by a medical certificate. The not justified absences will have as consequence the reimbursement of the annual scholarship amounting to 3.000 EUR. At the end of each training course, the participants will receive a certificate of attendance and merit.

Organization of Rehearsals

Each training period includes intensive sectional rehearsals in the first week, followed by rehearsals of the full orchestra, which might be combined with chamber music practice.

Timetable of an Average Day

WAKE-UP TIME at 7:30 am, BREAKFAST at 8:00 am

Time for INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE - from 8:30 am to 9:30 am

SECTION or TUTTI REHEARSALS from 9:30 am to 12.30 am

LUNCH at 1:00 pm

Time for INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE - from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

SECTION or TUTTI REHEARSALS from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

DINNER at 7:30 pm

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES or *(if necessary)* additional REHEARSALS, from 8:30 pm to 10:30 pm

SILENCE from 11:00 pm to 7:30 am

Tutelage

During the training period (from the moment of ARRIVAL to the moment of DEPARTURE) the participants of the course are under the responsibility of the organizer of the mentioned training periods and under the tutelage of the orchestra tutors.

General Rules of Behavior

- **During the intensive rehearsals and the main meals, participants are not allowed to use mobile phones.**
- During the training period (meetings of the orchestra), participants are forbidden to leave the training location without the orchestra tutors' consent.
- At ESYO, smoking, the consumption of alcoholic beverages and any kind of drugs is strictly forbidden.
- Each participant is responsible for the personal musical instrument and for the assigned musical scores.
- The organizers shall not be responsible for the damage or loss of participants' musical instruments,
of their personal music stands and personal belongings (digital devices like *mobile phones*, etc.). Upon explicit request by the musicians' parents, the orchestra tutors may keep their money safe.

Participants infringing on the above-mentioned rules of behavior shall incur in disciplinary measures and may therefore be expelled from the course altogether with compulsory reimbursement of the Scholarship amounting 3.000,00 Euro.