



多倫多青少年中樂團

Toronto Youth Chinese Orchestra: Outline & Syllabus

Compiled 2018 | 2019

WHY JOIN A YOUTH ORCHESTRA?

“TYCO is meant to supplement school music programmes, not replace it.”

Joining an orchestra makes a more well-rounded musician and human being. It is unlike learning an instrument alone. By joining TYCO, members will:

Be coached by TCO musicians

TYCO members learn directly under some of the professional-tier musicians in the TCO. Coaches are highly trained musicians and are experienced in performing solo, in a small ensemble, or in an orchestra. TYCO coaches know what the differences are between working in those different settings.

Perform great orchestral repertoire

Some of the greatest music written involves the coming together of many different parts. By joining TYCO, members will explore pieces that they otherwise would not have the opportunity to learn.

Meet with other young musicians

Possibly the biggest benefit to joining an orchestra is the opportunity to work with peers. Harmony, both musical and personal, is created when different people playing different parts work together towards a single goal. TYCO members will have the opportunity to build lasting friendships with each other, beyond the boundaries of music.

Improve their musical techniques and practice

While students perfect their own instrument's techniques with their teachers, we work on **their ability to sight read, understand complicated rhythms, and enhance their ability to perform with other musicians in TYCO**. It is one of the few things that soloists would not encounter very often. We can provide a platform where members' improvement in musical skills can be seen and felt by teachers and parents alike.

Develop a lifelong hobby

In the Toronto Chinese Orchestra, we strive to preserve and influence Chinese culture and arts in Canada. Habits starting at a young age may develop into a lifelong hobby or profession of choice. It is a place to connect with like-minded individuals as well as to help us to preserve the unique traditions of the Chinese culture.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Fee Schedule:

Audition	\$10 (amount will be deducted from total tuition amount when received acceptance)
Tuition (year-round)	\$320
Early-bird tuition (year-round) *Must sign up before September 4 th , 2018	\$288 (10% discount)

**Payment method: Cash or cheque at the beginning of the first lesson. The audition fee must be paid at the time of the audition.

- If choosing cheque payment option, please make it to 'Toronto Chinese Orchestra'.

Eligibility:

It is expected that the applicant:

- Is below the age of 16,
- Has access to his/her Chinese instrument of choice, and
- Has a basic understanding of jian pu notation, staff notation, and basic techniques in his/her respective instrument.

Audition Expectations:

Prior to audition, all applicants are required to complete an application form and return it to the email address directed below (Please see last page of this document).

Auditions will take place on Friday, September 7th, 14th 2018 between 6:30-8pm at the Centre for Immigrant & Community Services (CICS) (2330 Midland Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada, M1S 5G5). Only upon receiving the application form, applicants will be notified the date and time of their audition. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the audition.

The audition will contain the following elements:

- An excerpt from a repertoire of the applicant's choice,
- Sight reading of a short excerpt on the applicant's instrument, and
- Sight clapping of a short excerpt.

Successful applicants will be notified of their results via email provided on the registration form within one week of completing the audition. In addition, one successful applicant will be chosen (based on audition results) to be featured in our annual performances.

The most successful applicant, as determined during auditions, may be recommended by the TYCO instructors to join the Toronto Chinese Orchestra in the upcoming concert season.

Performance Opportunities (2018-19):

- December 2018 – Toronto Chinese Orchestra mini concert
- February 2019 – Chinese New Year community performances
- May 2019 – Yips Music Festival
- June 1st, 2019 – Annual TYCO year-end recital

Class Schedule (2018-19):

** Listed dates may be subject to change.

Audition:

September 7th & September 14th, 2018

Classes:

***Friday nights between 6:45-7:45 pm at CICS (2330 Midland Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada, M1S 5G5)*

2018

September 21
September 28
October 5
October 12
October 19
October 26
November 2
November 9
November 16
November 23
November 30

2019

January 11
January 18
January 25
February 1
February 15
February 22
March 1
March 8
March 15
March 22
March 29
April 5
April 12
April 26
May 2
May 10
May 17
May 24
May 31

MEET THE INSTRUCTORS

Wendy Zhou



Wendy started learning the pipa at the age of five. She competed in the Youth Pipa Competition in Suzhou, China, and received great praise. After immigrating to Canada in 2001, she began her studies with renowned pipa soloist, Ms. Gui-Lian Liu. Shortly after, Wendy joined the B.C. Chinese Orchestra in 2002 and held the position of Section Leader. During this time, she won multiple awards in the Kiwanis Music Festival. In 2005, she was also awarded the S.K. Lee Scholarship for Ethnic Instruments and won third place in the Kiwanis Gala Concert. Wendy subsequently completed the performance level in the Chinese Conservatory of Music Exam for pipa in 2007 and was highly praised for her performing abilities and sense of music. In 2010, she co-established Spire and began to explore the boundaries of Eastern and Western music through rearranging and composing multiple pieces for the group.

Lina Cao

Lina Cao is a young guzheng musician and a member of the Guzheng Society of Chinese Musicians Association. Having learned guzheng since she was 5 years old, in 2008 Lina was accepted to the Nanjing University of the Arts as an “excellent student,” where she studied with Professor Aihua Yan and Associate Professor Jie Ren. From 2011, Lina pursued further studies with Professor Wang Wei from the Shanghai Conservatory of Music, earning a master’s degree there in 2016. Lina has received popular acclaim throughout China both as a soloist and a chamber musician. She has been invited to multiple artistic exchanges in Germany, France, Belgium, Austria, Japan and Singapore. Invited in 2011 to the Sino-Japanese Friendship Concert, Lina was awarded an international gratitude certificate for “The Cause of World Peace.”



As a chamber musician, Lina premiered new works such as Moyu, Yixiangjun, Shungan, and Arirang Partita. Particularly, Lina’s Moyu Guzheng Group was the first guzheng philharmonic society to win two authoritative awards: the highest music award “The Golden Bell Awards” and top prize of Chinese Ministry of Culture “Wenhua Award”.

FAQ

Do I have to attend every session?

- Yes, we encourage you to attend as many sessions as possible to get the most out of playing in an orchestra.

What are the lessons like?

- We usually start with a quick warm up of fingers with a strong emphasis on scales, modulating keys, and tuning. We then begin to learn and practice orchestral pieces.

What are we going to play?

- TYCO emphasizes on traditional Chinese music as well as modern rearrangements. We will learn 6-10 orchestral pieces per year. One of the pieces will feature a soloist, who will be chosen during auditions. During the first half of the school year, we will work on mostly traditional pieces. During the second half of the school year, we will focus more on modern rearrangements.

Are my parents going to know how well I did?

- Of course! The course instructors will be in constant communication with your parents to update them on how well you are doing. We also encourage your parents to come and attend all of TYCO's performances to see first-hand your achievements.

What if I feel lost in the class?

- We have two instructors for that very reason! One will lead the group while the other will attend to individual needs. Both instructors will be available at each rehearsal to help you. They will also provide specific instructions so you know exactly what and how to practice when you go home each week.

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Wendy Zhou at:

WendyZhou@TorontoChineseOrchestra.com.



TORONTO YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Details

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Chinese Name: _____ Date of Birth (DD/MM/YY): _____

Phone: _____ Teacher: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Primary Chinese Instrument:

Applicant Signature

Registration does not guarantee an audition spot. If invited, you will be notified of your audition time. Auditioning does not guarantee a seat in the orchestra. Acceptance and placement are determined upon the outcome of auditions and openings. Once accepted, audition fee will be deducted from your tuition.

If accepted, I agree to abide by the rules of the TYCO. I accept that involvement in the TYCO requires commitment for the year and that attendance at weekly rehearsals, sectionals, and other activities is necessary for the overall success of the TYCO.

I understand that an audition fee of \$10 will be made available at audition times:

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Date: _____

The audition will contain the following elements:

- 1) An excerpt from a repertoire of the applicant's choice,
- 2) Sight reading of a short excerpt on the applicant's instrument, and
- 3) Sight clapping of a short excerpt.

Please scan and e-mail your application form to: WendyZhou@torontochineseorchestra.com.