

Welcome to WSL 2024-2025

The Women's Symphony League is the largest single source of funding for the East Texas Symphony Orchestra. Our symphony, under the direction of Richard Lee, continues to push new boundaries in live performance music and appeal to all ages with a diverse array of music. Tyler stands out from other cities its size by having a jewel such as the ETSO!

Our organization also provides funding to the East Texas Youth Orchestra and provides scholarships for budding musicians throughout East Texas. It is exciting to encourage them as they begin careers in music or further develop their talent.

Finally, we are proud of our Junior Symphony League members. These young leaders are learning about the arts while fulfilling a needed role during the ETSO concerts and events.

Please join us as we support the East Texas Symphony Orchestra and promote music education in our community. As you look through your placement options, we hope you can find an area in which you grow in your love and appreciation for Tyler, its music, and its people!

Sincerely,
Holly Burke
2024-2025 WSL President

Returning the enclosed forms with your dues payment by June 1, 2024 will signify your acceptance of this membership invitation. During your initial three years of active membership, automatic placements on specific committees may take precedence over other placement choices you select.

2024-2025 Members and Reinstating Members:

June 1, 2024 is the deadline for dues payment. A \$20 late fee will be assessed for reinstatement when dues are received after June 1st. All dues paid are non-refundable.

Please direct membership or committee questions to Stacey Hiles 903-312-0213

2024-2025 COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Please select a placement for 2024-2025 from the following opportunities, indicate your choices on the enclosed form, and return it by June 1, 2024.

PRESIDENT-ELECT – Stacey Hiles

VP COMMUNICATION – Molly Little

NEWSLETTER

Collect, compile, and proofread articles for the newsletters, coordinate the publishing of the newsletter, and emailed newsletters to membership.

WEBSITE

Update and maintain information on the WSL website.

WSL MAILINGS

Label, sort and prepare for bulk mailings. Deliver mail to post office as needed.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Assist with taking pictures at meetings, events and other functions of the WSL and JSL. This position also has a photography assistant.

VP EDUCATION – Gillian Sheridan

SCHOOL CONCERTS

Help plan and execute concerts. Chair coordinates volunteers for the concerts and helps with publicity of information to schools & community. Volunteers usher at concerts, and may assist with providing meals to musicians, help with publicity, and help in various ways on the concert dates.

NOTE: School concert is a two-day event performed for 4th & 5th grades on weekdays during school hours (usually a W/Th in early March).

SCHOLARSHIP

Prepare and revise scholarship brochure and forms. Help promote scholarships and evaluate candidates. May also assist with identifying prospective competitors and circulate information for the TASSO Youth Competition.

VP SOCIAL ACTIVITIES – Laura Roberts

ARRANGEMENTS

Serve as a committee member to help serve or prepare food or help welcome members at WSL board or general meetings. These meetings are either 11-1:30pm time commitments or 4-6:30pm time commitments for the meeting dates.

ARRANGEMENTS – JOINT BOARD MEETING

Serve as a committee member to host the May meeting & luncheon for outgoing and incoming WSL boards. Date TBD.

ETSO CONCERT RECEPTION

Serve as a committee member to host an annual evening reception for ETSO. This is normally held after the final concert in April.

SYMPHONY CONCERT HOST

Help provide or serve meals, or help with meal cleanup for the orchestra on Friday evenings or during a concert Saturday lunch hour. ETSO practices/volunteer shifts would be on Friday night or Saturday afternoons of the ETSO concerts.

HARMONY INNS & INVITATIONS

Provide overnight accommodations for musicians to stay in your home on a Friday evening of an ETSO concert weekend after rehearsal through Sat morning prior to their practice.

FALL FRESH FUNDRAISER

Assist the Chairmen with the planning and presentation of the event.

SPRING EVENT

Assist the Chairmen with the planning and presentation of the event.

SYMPHONY BALL VOLUNTEERS -April 5, 2025

Support the ball committee and perform various duties as assigned by the chairmen in preparation for the Spring Ball.

VP MEMBERSHIP – Stacey Hiles

NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT

Identify potential WSL members and help with their formal invitation to consider joining the League.

NEW MEMBER LIAISON

Facilitate new members' orientation; manage new members' involvement/maintain their requirement standings; serve as a mentor throughout their first year.

PLACEMENT AND RETENTION

Be a "Point Person" for membership to contact with questions. Assist Membership VP by inputting placements and entering satisfied requirements to keep the website updated. Ideally, this is a step-up position to Membership VP. Assist with placement marathon and communicate with members to help with reinstatement and retention.

ONE AND DONE

Receive emails for volunteer opportunities for WSL throughout the year. You may complete any request received equivalent to a 4-hour placement. This may be to fill in as concert volunteers, musician host, ball setup/cleanup, fundraiser setup/cleanup, or concert host setup/cleanup.

PLEASE NOTE: Some committees may have a maximum number of participants. Please return your form early for best selection.

2024-2025 MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES AND OBLIGATIONS

ACTIVE MEMBERS

1. Must purchase at least one (1) fundraiser ticket each year from the Fall Fundraiser, Spring Fundraiser, or Symphony Ball.
2. Must attend a minimum of two (2) meetings each year. The purchase of an ETSO season ticket may count as a meeting.
3. Must serve on at least one (1) placement committee.
4. Must pay annual dues of **\$65.00** by **June 1, 2024**, to avoid a late fee.
5. Reinstatement will require a \$20 late fee and must occur before January 1, 2025.

NEW MEMBERS

1. New Actives will be placed on the Symphony Concert Host Committee unless pre-placed.
2. New Actives may choose to serve on more than one (1) committee if desired.
3. New Actives must purchase one ETSO concert ticket and attend one (1) East Texas Symphony Orchestra subscription concert during the 2024-2025 symphony season.
4. New Actives must meet all Active membership requirements, including payment of dues.
5. May join as a Sustaining Member without initially being accepted as an Active Member. Must pay Sustainer dues.
6. New Actives must attend New Member Orientation. Date TBD (usually August).

PLACEMENT SELECTION FORM

1. Active members should indicate 1st, 2nd & 3rd placement choices. The Membership VP will make every effort to fulfill requests. Committee chairmen will contact members assigned to their committees. Fulfillment of placement commitment is REQUIRED.
2. If you are pre-placed, please mark the selection and note the name of the person who designated you to serve on the committee.

SUSTAINER & EMERITUS MEMBERS

Sustainers are non-voting members who may participate in any WSL activity, including committee

placement. Sustainer yearly dues are \$75. *Emeritus sustainers, age 80 years or older, have optional dues.*

JUNIOR SYMPHONY LEAGUE

CO-VP – Jill Campbell and Julie Lindsey

The following policies apply when proposing your candidate for the Junior Symphony League:

1. An **Active** WSL member may propose a candidate for JSL membership during the student's sophomore year in high school, provided that the proposing WSL member satisfies requirements for length of Active membership. The **deadline** for JSL proposals is **March 1, 2024**.
2. When a member proposes her candidate for JSL, she must have been an Active member of the Women's Symphony League of Tyler or of a reciprocal league for at least three years consecutively or five years non-consecutively. If a JSL member is to be proposed, please fill in the proposal form and submit it with your WSL renewal and dues.
3. A WSL member must remain an active member in good standing during the years her candidate is a member of the JSL.
4. Sponsors of JSL members are required to fulfill JSL sponsor requirements in addition to WSL active membership requirements, including a JSL AND WSL placement.
5. The Executive Board may give special consideration to candidates whose families have extenuating circumstances making it impossible to meet the membership requirements for admission to the JSL. Such considerations must be presented in writing to the Executive Board for determination of candidacy.
6. In the event of death: If the WSL member is in good standing at the time of her death, her candidate will be considered eligible for membership subject to the qualification in Article III Section 1 of the JSL Constitution. An active WSL member must agree to then assume the responsibilities of the JSL sponsor for the JSL candidate.
7. In the event of a single Father having sole custody of an eligible JSL candidate, an active WSL member who agrees to assume all responsibilities of the JSL candidate may request "special circumstances" and, if approved, may sponsor the JSL candidate.

2024-2025

*Membership Information
and
Committee Selection*