

Peninsula Community
Youth Orchestra



2026-2027 Family Handbook

Sprouts

Family Portal

<http://jovial.org/pcyo/family>

PCYO Website

Pcyo.kids

PCYO Committee

Case Schmidt - SCO President

Randal Wilson - Sequim Classroom Coordinator

Sarah Dunford - PA Classroom Coordinator

Nicolena Hutchins - Fundraising Coordinator

Teacher

Christine Faught

Visit the Jovial Family Portal for contact information.

Communication

All communication will be sent through the Jovial Family portal or email.

Class Schedule

Sound and Suzuki Sprouts meet in both Port Angeles and Sequim. Please refer to Jovial for your class schedule and class location.

Please arrive early so that you can be seated and attentive at your class start time. **Food and drinks are not allowed in the building**, except for water in a covered container.

Class Levels

Sound Sprouts: Ages 0–6. For children with no prior music experience who simply want to explore and enjoy music. This class nurtures curiosity, listening, and rhythmic awareness through playful movement and song, laying a joyful foundation for a lifetime of musical engagement. Early literacy in music strengthens neural pathways that support organized thinking, language development, and long-term academic success.

Suzuki Sprouts: Ages 3–7. For children with no prior music experience or at the pre-Twinkle stage of Suzuki violin study. This class builds the listening, coordination, and group-readiness skills that prepare students to transition smoothly into private lessons and eventually the Peninsula Community Youth Orchestra program.

Instruments

Sound Sprouts

Instruments are not needed for Sound Sprouts classes. Optional purchase of a Sprouts Starter Pack (movement scarves, rhythm sticks, shaker eggs, and song story book) is available.

Suzuki Sprouts

Students may borrow a violin that is correctly sized for them sometime after the first four classes. Box violins will be provided for beginners until they

learn the skills needed to advance to a real instrument.

When that time comes, the teacher will help you identify your size. Many instruments are available to borrow from the SCO.

Please read through the page online on our website about [instruments](#).

Please *do not buy online* without talking to your teacher as many instruments online are of very low quality.

Students who wish to borrow an instrument must fill out the loan form in the portal and be paid up on tuition.

Supplies

Sound Sprouts

- Your consistent attendance and willingness to participate both in class and at home along with your child.
- Rhythm instruments and scarves will be provided for in-class use. Optional purchase of a Sprouts Starter Pack is available.

Suzuki Sprouts

- Your consistent attendance and willingness to participate both in class and at home along with your child.
- Rhythm instruments and scarves will be provided for in-class use. Optional purchase of a Sprouts Starter Pack is available.
- Box violins will be provided for class participants.

Tuition

Tuition is \$150/term per child, with \$50 of that due at registration. We recognize parents with multiple students can find tuition difficult, so family

discounts are available on request. For Suzuki Sprouts, parents with younger children under 3 may attend free of charge with their older sibling. Scholarships are also available and no student will be denied participation for inability to pay. Please email the registrar@sequimcommunityorchestra.org to request a family discount or scholarship. Payment will always and only be done in the [Jovial family portal](#). You may pay via credit card or ACH with your bank account.

Youth Orchestra students will be issued sheet music and should keep it in good condition and return it when through. Students should only use a #2 pencil while using sheet music issued to them.

We appreciate your assistance in keeping payment matters only in Jovial or with the registrar via email as it helps keep program costs low. Our registrar is an unpaid volunteer and keeping payment matters to email or Jovial will help ensure volunteer hours are sufficient to handle these tasks.

Fundraising

Tuition payments only offset a part of the program expenses, so we hold bake sale fundraisers at the SCO (adult orchestra) concerts. Dates will be provided in the [Family Portal](#). Please drop off homemade, individually-wrapped baked goods before the concert. There will also be other fundraisers throughout the year – including restaurant takeovers and a fundraiser chosen by your class.

About the Sequim Community Orchestra

The Peninsula Community Youth Orchestra (PCYO) is funded by the Sequim Community Orchestra, which is an educational non-competitive ensemble that performs orchestral music for the community. All program management for the PCYO is done by a volunteer board elected by the SCO at their annual general meeting which occurs in June each year.

Parents paying dues are welcome to attend these meetings and contribute. The date will be announced in May.

The PCYO is steered by a committee of parents and interested parties. To keep tuition low and ensure the program does not exclude any students for not being able to pay, the PCYO operates at a deficit every year and is heavily subsidized. Additional funds come from dues paid by the adult program and fundraisers and donations from community members. (The SCO operates budget neutral as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.) The instrument library was originally funded by donations and grants, including from ArtsWA, Beta Nu, and Phi Beta Kappa and we seek grants and donations as needed to expand the instrument library.

The [SCO's mission](#) includes string students in Sequim as a core requirement (because of the lack of a school program) and our board endeavors to support this however we are able. We believe a thriving music education program for children lifts up the entire community.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you would like to help out, please talk to Christine, or message the registrar or speak with the Classroom Coordinator. We also welcome those who would like to be involved more formally with the program by attending the SCO's general meeting each Spring.

How to Practice

Play your instrument every day. Have fun! Play everything that you did in class. Check your notebook for specific skills or pieces to practice. Always be careful of your posture, bow hold, pressure, speed, and bow location.

If you feel distracted or unhappy, play through the things you enjoy, and then work on the difficult parts when you feel better.

PCYO Fall Calendar

Please see <https://pcyo.kids/calendar> for the most up to date schedule for the class or ensemble you have registered for.