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# Central Illinois Youth Symphony



## CENTRAL ILLINOIS YOUTH SYMPHONY



### Central Illinois Youth Symphony

3601 N. Sheridan Road  
 Life Together Center  
 Peoria IL 61604  
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**Facebook:** Central Illinois Youth Symphony

Jeff McSweeney, Executive Director  
 David Commanday, Music Director

Central Illinois Youth Symphony is one of many organizations devoted to the long-term success of our community. For over 50 years, and 3,000 student musicians, we have focused on music education and performance experience for primary through high school students from all over the region.

Studying and performing music at a high level increases critical thinking, builds confidence and leadership abilities, teaches conflict management techniques, and reinforces the idea that the only real way to success is through their own focused, dedicated, hard work. Students come to understand they have the power within themselves to become anything they want to be.

Currently, we work with 165 students in numerous orchestras and ensembles, including *Youth Symphony* led by David Commanday, *Concert Orchestra* led by David Getz, *Prep Orchestra* led by Rosemary Ardner, *Woodwind Choir* led by Sherill Diepenbrock, *String Quartet* led by Jane Hoffmire, *Percussion Ensemble* led by Peggy Bonner and *Brass Ensemble* led by Dr. David Snyder. Through these programs, young people become stronger, better musicians. More importantly, our student musicians develop skills to master any professional field they choose.

Youth Symphony alumni have succeeded in careers including music performance, education, engineering, business, amongst

others, many commenting on the inspirational foundation provided by the organization.

Our student musicians perform symphonic music through numerous concerts and ensemble performances at theaters, churches and community events throughout the year. Orchestras and ensembles are available for your business, social or special events.

The Youth Symphony's curriculum is guided by David Commanday, Music Director, striving for excellence in all its programs and challenging students to be their very best in every aspect. Conductor Commanday's career has brought him renown on three continents, and spans the fields of concert hall, stage, university and youth orchestra. His leadership is praised for engaging and inspiring musicians, with depth in the classics and sparkle in pops; he is known for connecting with both musicians and audiences.

Central Illinois Youth Symphony is an integral component for music education, performance experience and the future of young people. We are committed to engaging students from all socio-economic backgrounds in our current and future opportunities to ensure Central Illinois is an attractive place to live.

The Youth Symphony is one of many high-quality, performance, artistic and community organizations that make Central Illinois a very special place to build a business, attract quality professionals and raise a family.

### Mission

Central Illinois Youth Symphony mentors area youth to develop a repertoire of skills for both music and life through the power of live performance.

### Vision

Central Illinois Youth Symphony enriches and unites our community by fostering a lifelong appreciation of the arts.

## Upcoming Events

**Youth Symphony Concert**  
 May 7, 2017  
 Metamora High School

**Spring Auditions**  
 May 13, 2017  
 Life Together Center  
 3601 N. Sheridan Road, Peoria

**Fall Concerts**  
 November 2017

**Spring Concerts**  
 April 2018

## How to Help

Volunteers are welcome to help with Thursday evening rehearsals, concerts and fundraising events, as well as select individuals who are interested in serving on our board, focusing on music education and experience for young musicians throughout central Illinois.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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