

**For Immediate Release**

July 21, 2020

**Contact:** Colin Holter  
Executive Director  
Director, NOYO Lab Group  
(301) 788-2901  
cholter@noyo.org

## Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra Moves 2020-21 Programs Online

*All NOYO ensembles to rehearse virtually through March 2021*

LORAIN COUNTY, OH—You won't see the Oberlin-based Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra in a concert hall during its upcoming 52nd season: its six performing ensembles will be rehearsing online and putting their talent and hard work on display in video performances. As families confront the risks and uncertainties of the coming months, this decision ensures that students will have access to NOYO's high-quality extracurricular music programs.

"Our conductors are bringing all of their expertise and passion to this new challenge," said Colin Holter, NOYO's Executive Director. "They've developed a method of long-distance music teaching that reproduces the live experience of rehearsing with an orchestra or band as closely as possible."

Learning their parts with their conductors' guidance each week, musicians in NOYO's Amati Strings, Sinfonietta Strings, Philharmonia Orchestra, Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, and Lab Group will play and record their contributions for inclusion in composite video performances of repertoire from a broad range of eras and styles. Among these performances will be a world premiere from NOYO's 2020-21 Arlene and Larry Dunn Composer In Residence composed expressly to take advantage of the online format.

"Just as in years past, NOYO musicians will learn, grow, and enjoy making music with their friends," said Holter. "We can't hold rehearsals and concerts in person like we ordinarily would, but we're determined to make the most of these circumstances and keep on creating music with as much energy and dedication as ever."

Auditions for NOYO's 2020-21 season are currently open. Online rehearsals will take place Sunday afternoons from September 2020 through March 2021. Financial aid is available. For more information or to schedule an audition, please visit [www.noyo.org](http://www.noyo.org).

The Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra (NOYO) is a regional orchestral training program for young musicians ages 8-18 based at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. NOYO's ensembles include the Amati Strings, Wind Symphony, Sinfonietta Strings, Symphonic Band, Lab Group, and Philharmonia Orchestra, all of which perform several major concerts in Oberlin and around the region each season.

NOYO provides unique opportunities that go beyond performing the standard orchestral literature. Our students routinely premiere newly commissioned works and collaborate with organizations such as the NEOS Center for Dance, MAD\* Factory, and Oberlin Choristers.