Artistic and Administrative Staff
Dr. Alan Kaschub, director, School of Music
and USM Youth Ensembles
Binney Brackett, administrative liaison
Lori Arsenault, performing arts operations and concert manager
Eileen Oberholtzer, music development officer
Dr. Robert Lehmann, director, PYSO, and artistic coordinator
Dr. Trae Blanco, director, PYWE
Ferdinand Liva, director, PYJO
Deborah Dabczynski, director, PYPSC
Rebecca DeWan, director, SMYC
Dr. Nicolás Alberto Dosman, director, SMCC

Membership dues per year, September through April
Individual $300 per year.
Family rates: $425 for 2 members,
$530 for 3 members,
$600 for 4 or more members
Dues must be paid in full prior to the second rehearsal. All membership fees are nonrefundable.

Contacting us:
When sending e-mail, please put your group name, PYWE, PYSO, PYJO, PYPSC, SMYC or SMCC in the subject line. Send a test email to this address and include your name and address so we can be sure we have your email address attributed to the right member or parent.

E-mail: brackett@maine.edu
Phone: 780-5003 or 1-800-800-4876, ext. 5003
Mail: 37 College Ave., Gorham, ME 04038
Storm line: 1-800-800-4876 or 780-4800
Web Page: usm.maine.edu/music/usm-youth-ensembles-0

Emergency During Rehearsals: Call the University Police, (207) 780-5211. There is an emergency call box on the second floor outside of Room 211, the center hallway of the building. The University Police Department is a fully functioning police department, and is the official safety office for the University.

RULES AND REGULATIONS
All members of the USM Youth Ensembles are required to abide by the following conditions of membership:

1. Attendance will be taken at each rehearsal and concert. Up to two rehearsal absences may be allowed per semester at the discretion of the director (September-November, January-April). Dress rehearsals and concerts are mandatory; no absences are allowed. Saturday immersion days are mandatory.

2. In case of illness, send an e-mail to brackett@maine.edu or call (207) 780-5003 no later than 4:00 p.m. on the rehearsal day. Please use the subject line “Absent” and your group assignment, e.g. “PYWE”. Missed rehearsals due to other conflicts must be reported to the director in writing or via e-mail (brackett@maine.edu) at least one week prior to the missed rehearsal. Religious holidays are excused absences, but we request a courtesy notice about such absences. Our attendance rules are strict because we can only guarantee the quality of our program if our members are committed to the Ensembles. If you accumulate more than the allowed two absences during a semester, your membership will be reviewed by the directors. Two cases of tardiness will be considered one unexcused absence. Please allow extra time for rush hour traffic in Gorham.

3. Each Youth Ensemble member must bring his/her music and a pencil to all rehearsals and concerts. Markings made on original music parts must be erased before music is turned in after concerts. Music that is torn, tattered or stained must be replaced and you will receive a bill if we must replace your part.

4. Members are required to remain in attendance for the entire length of the concerts. The directors make every attempt to end weeknight concerts by 9:30 p.m. It is important that members support each other by listening attentively to each group’s performance. Please advise family and friends that the USM School of Music provides a professional performance atmosphere for student performers, and appropriate audience etiquette is most appreciated. Please ask them to make every attempt to arrive well before the start of the performance, remain seated through the entire performance as much as possible, but if moving is unavoidable, please enter and exit the performance space only during applause, intermissions or stage resets. Mutual support and respect is a hallmark of our program.
Concert Dress

PYWE & PYSO
Men: Tuxedo or black suit, white shirt, black bow-tie, black socks, and black dress shoes.
Ladies: All black. 3/4 length or longer skirt, dress, or formal slacks (no black jeans), black long-sleeved blouse, dark hose, black dress shoes (no sneakers or flip-flops).

PYJO, PYPSC, and SMYC
Men: Black pants (no jeans), black long-sleeved shirt with long black tie, or black turtleneck, black socks, black shoes (no sneakers).
Ladies: Black long skirt or slacks (no jeans), black blouse or sweater, black socks, nylon stockings or black tights, black shoes (no sneakers or flip-flops).

SMCC
Ladies: White on top, black on bottom (no jeans), black shoes.
Men: White on top, black on bottom (no jeans), black shoes, black bow tie

Winter Storm Policy
The youth ensembles do not rehearse when the University is closed. Closure information is available by calling the USM Storm Line 780-4800 or 1-800-800-4876. Announcements for cancellation of evening classes and events are posted at 4 PM. Occasionally we decide to close without waiting for USM to act. If you have a question, first check your email, then call. However, the final decision rests with parents. If you are not comfortable driving or allowing your child to drive, please stay home.

Rehearsal Facilities
Please treat the facilities and all instruments with respect. It is important for members to remain within the designated rehearsal spaces. USM School of Music activities are going on concurrently with Youth Ensemble rehearsals. Rehearsal space must be straightened and re-set following rehearsal. Members are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriately mature and professional manner. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from rehearsal and/or possible expulsion from the ensembles.

Parking
Parking is available on College Ave. and in lots across from Corthell Hall. When you park on the campus, please park in a legal space in one of the lots across the street. The University Police are aware of our Wednesday evening rehearsals and are very lenient with us, but there are infractions that will not be overlooked. Do not park along the street or on a lawn, this is a safety issue for emergency vehicles. Parking tickets received for infractions at meters, handicap spaces, and out of lot parking cannot be appealed.

Suggested Activities for Drivers
Parents and guardians are automatically members of the parents' committee and are welcome to volunteer for activities sponsored by the committee or take advantage of university resources to help make the time pass more pleasantly. Contact Binney Brackett for information about the parents' group: brackett@maine.edu. The USM library, across the street in Bailey Hall, has a comfortable periodicals reading area. There are snack bars in Bailey Hall and the Brooks Student Center. Off campus options include Amato's, Gorham House of Pizza, Aroma Joe's Coffee, Subway, and Thatcher's. All are located on Route 25, or 114 and are just a block or two away. You are welcome to make yourself comfortable in and around Corthell Hall public areas.