

MAYS expands to Lake County, concert on Saturday

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Posted by Matthew J. Palm, Orlando Sentinel Arts Writer

The Metropolitan Area Youth Symphony, or MAYS, has expanded into [Lake County](#) this season, and will present a [concert](#) in [Leesburg](#) this weekend.

The former Central Florida Youth Orchestra of Leesburg, which was founded by Jonathan May in 2001, is now the MAYS of [Lake County](#). That orchestra brings to the MAYS program four new groups: the Chamber Symphony, Lyric Consort, Concert Strings, and String Explorers.

Those groups join the four orchestras that comprise MAYS of Orlando (Symphony, Repertory Orchestra, Intermezzo, and Concertino). Each of the MAYS orchestras features young musicians ages 5-22 years old, and there will be several separate MAYS [concerts](#) and events in Orlando and Lake County throughout the season.

Another development for this season is that Dr. Aaron Hilbun and Dr. Gordon Mason have joined the MAYS artistic staff as associate conductors. Mason brings to the MAYS decades of experience and leadership as a [music](#) educator, accomplished conductor and trumpet performer, while Hilbun is a decorated oboe performer and conductor who once studied conducting with Jonathan May.

This weekend's performance will be the MAYS of Lake County Fall Festival Concert. It takes place at 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3, at Paul P. Williams Auditorium, Lake-Sumter [Community College](#), 9501 U.S. Highway 441, Leesburg.

Here are the major concerts for the rest of the MAYS season:

November 11

- MAYS of Orlando "A [Musical](#) Harvest: Concert in Thanks" 4:00pm at [Seminole State College](#) (100 Weldon Blvd. Sanford, Florida Fine Arts Building)

December 4

- MAYS of Lake County Holiday Concert at Highland Lakes, 7:00pm (5500 Clubhouse Drive Leesburg, Florida 34748)

February 9

- MAYS of Lake County Spring Concert 7:00pm, at Paul P. Williams Auditorium, Lake-Sumter [Community College](#) (9501 US Highway 441 Leesburg, FL 34788)

March 3

- MAYS of [Orlando](#) Orchestral Masterworks Concert, 4:00pm at St. Luke's Lutheran Church (2021 State Road 426 [Oviedo](#), Florida)

March 21

- MAYS of Lake County Chamber Symphony Concert in Collaboration with the Florida Lake Symphony Orchestra at St. Patrick Catholic Church (6803 Old Highway 441 South [Mount Dora](#), Florida 32757)

April 28

- MAYS of Lake County & Orlando Season Finale "MAYSFEST" at [Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre](#) (401 West Livingston Street Orlando, Florida 32801)