

Elmhurst Honor Orchestra – October 3, 2026

A one-day, nomination-based string orchestra for outstanding high school musicians

We are thrilled to announce the Second Annual **Elmhurst Honor Orchestra**, which will take place on **Saturday, October 3, 2026**, at Elmhurst University.

Following the success of last year's inaugural festival, we are excited to once again bring together 40–50 of the area's most outstanding high school string musicians for a day of inspiring music making. Students will rehearse and perform alongside other exceptional young musicians in a challenging and rewarding musical environment. I am honored to conduct this ensemble and look forward to making music with your students.

We would be delighted if you would nominate your strong string players to participate. Thank you in advance for your partnership and support. We look forward to welcoming your students to campus for a truly memorable day of music!

Festival Schedule - Saturday, October 3, 2026

At Hammerschmidt Chapel at Elmhurst University

8:30 AM | Check-in (Arrive already wearing a concert black)

9:00 – 9:50 AM | Full Rehearsal

10:00 – 11:00 AM | Sectionals (Led by EU string faculty members.)

11:10 AM – 12:00 PM | Full Rehearsal

12:00 PM | Lunch Break (Lunch will be provided at cafeteria.)

1:00 – 4:00 PM | Full Rehearsal

4:30 PM | Performance (Free admission)

Selection Process:

This event follows the first few chairs nomination concept, designed to bring together the finest players from each school without the competitive pressure of chair auditions. Only the strong players from each section should be nominated.

- Each school may nominate 2–3 students per instrument (violin, viola, cello, and bass).
- If no suitable player is available for an instrument, no nomination should be made.
- Directors will rate nominees and provide relevant details (ILMEA selection and chair placement, strong solo/section player, etc.).
- Selection and seating will be based on these ratings and comments.

Participation Fee:

\$30 per selected student (includes lunch). Payment is **not required** at the time of nomination. An online invoice will be sent to directors after students have been selected.

Important Dates:

September 4 - Nomination Form Due

September 8 - Notification of Selected Students

September 11 - Music Emailed to Directors

September 28 - Payment Due

Nomination Form:

<https://form.jotform.com/252184392061050>

Please contact Taka Matsunaga for questions:

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