



FALL 2017

Dear Incoming Freshman and all Returning Students,

On behalf of my colleagues, Dr. Shellie L. Gregorich, Chair of the Music Department, and the music faculty, I would like to welcome you to Eastern University for an exciting year of music as we celebrate our 10th Anniversary in our Doudna Fine Arts Center:

<http://www.eiu.edu/doudna/>

According to our records you expressed an interest in one of our instrumental ensembles and as the Director of Orchestral Activities at EIU I wanted to personally send you some information about the Eastern Symphony Orchestra in case you were interested in participating. For more information regarding the ESO click the following link:

http://www.eiu.edu/~music/ensembles_eastern_symphony_orchestra.php

CONCERTS: As the summer moves closer to the end and the beginning of the school is just around the corner I wanted to send you a letter about the upcoming concerts, events, and opportunities in store for the year. A full concert schedule can be found on both the Choral and ESO (Orchestra) main page (link at bottom of page). This link will be updated soon. In the meantime I am attaching a document to print for your parents. Please make sure you let your family know about these dates so that they can plan to attend these concerts.

The Eastern Symphony Orchestra is open to all undergraduate and graduate students, alumni, faculty and staff. The string section is comprised of music majors, non-music majors, and community members. **Scholarships are available for non-majors!** The wind and percussion sections are comprised of the finest music majors in the Department of Music. The Eastern Symphony Orchestra has quickly become one of the premiere regional orchestras in the state of Illinois.

Enrollment: Students may receive academic credit for orchestra participation. All musicians should enroll in MUS 0211. Students receive one hour of academic credit for each semester of participation. Most degree programs will accept orchestra credit as a "free elective." We strongly encourage you to check with your department's academic advisors for details.

Eastern Symphony Orchestra Auditions: All students must audition for participation in the orchestra. ESO and Band auditions will be held during the first two days of school: **Wind/Brass & Percussion auditions** for ESO and EIU Bands will be done simultaneously on Monday, August 21 and Tuesday August 22, 2017. **String Auditions:** Wednesday evening August 23, from 6:00 – 9:00 PM. Strings should prepare two contrasting works from solo repertoire and etudes unless your studio teacher provides you with excerpts.

Wind, Brass Percussion and Strings: consult the studio teacher about audition excerpts and audition times.

All auditions will be held in Doudna 2425 except percussion (percussion studio) and saxophone (TBA)

*Please stop by my office (Doudna Fine Arts center #2425) to sign-up for an audition time and **MAKE SURE** you sign up for the time blocked out for your teacher's studio.*

Students auditioning should prepare: (**Freshman** might have less to prepare below: consult your studio teacher)

- 1.) audition excerpts provided by your **studio teacher**.
- 2.) all major scales
- 3.) a chromatic scale, demonstrating the range of the instrument
- 4.) sight-reading will be provided.

Performance Schedule: The ESO performs at least twice each semester in formal concerts both on and off-campus. The ESO does participate in local, regional and national tours and competitions. Additional performances each semester for those selected to play in the Eastern Symphony Chamber Orchestra & Collegium Musicum which rehearse during the regularly scheduled times.

Applied Studies (Private Lessons): Students may also study privately for academic credit. Applied study is available for all instruments through the EIU Department of Music. Students must have teacher approval to enroll in private lessons. For more information please visit our website (see below).

Visit our website at: <http://www.eiu.edu/~music/index.php>

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES are available for those who are interested. We will have a strong Student Advisory Board made up of representatives from the Eastern Symphony Orchestra, University Mixed Chorus, and Concert Choir. We will be looking for officers to cover: treasurer, fund raising, costume/concert dress, travel, technical director, publicity, tickets, social, cassette/CD and historian. See our website for further details. Visit the Advisory Council Website:

<https://www.eiu.edu/music/documents/Advisory%20Council%20REVISED%20JOB%20DESCRIPTION%206.2012.pdf>

Again we would like to welcome you to Eastern Illinois University and we look forward to helping you in any way we can. See you soon.

Until then, continue to have a great summer,

Dr. Richard Robert Rossi

Director of Orchestral & Choral Activities: rrossi@eiu.edu

<http://eiu.edu/music/personnel.php?id=rrossi>

department of **music**
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

