

GRADUATE CONDUCTING ORCHESTRA (GCO)

2026-2027

The Conducting Orchestra exists as a service ensemble for the graduate students in the conducting program at Eastman. All students in the ensemble are assigned as part of their graduate award and, in compliance with their signed award contract, must observe the guidelines stated below. All students must register for ENS 470 for 0 credits in order to be paid through the Graduate Award. **In addition to the weekly Tuesday rehearsal, the ensemble (named Graduate Conducting Orchestra [GCO]) may be called upon to perform concerts or recording sessions each semester. Rehearsals in preparation for possible concerts will take place during the regular Conducting Orchestra meeting time with one or two added rehearsals.** Recording sessions (as part of the Beal Institute) do not require rehearsal and typically involve a 3-hour session (most often scheduled on Saturdays). All students in Conducting Orchestra are required to participate in these concerts or recording sessions as the repertoire dictates, and should consider these concerts a required component of their signed graduate award contract.

MEETING TIME:

Tuesdays, 4:00-5:40, Kodak Hall/OSL 101

FACULTY:

Neil Varon, Brad Lubman

GUIDELINES:

- Players must arrive no later than 5 minutes prior to rehearsal time.
- Players are expected to be available to attend every class. When more players are available than the instrumentation requires, ensemble members should attend as scheduled in the rotation provided each semester.
- Players must check in upon entering the rehearsal hall – Attendance sheets will be on clipboard at the entrance.
- All players must provide a sub when absent. Non-GCO subs must be paid **\$30** per service by GCO member.
- If a student is absent without engaging a sub, a proportional deduction from the GCO component of the graduate award may be applied (at the discretion of the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies)
- GCO is a pass/fail course. More than 2 unexcused absences will result in a failing grade.

SEATING:

- **Weekly rotations:** A general rotation for the semester will be posted online, indicating which players should plan to attend each week should the repertoire call for their instrument. Specific seating can be chosen by the sections.
- **Strings:** Strings are encouraged to rotate seating.
- **Winds, Brass, Percussion:** Woodwind, brass, and percussion requirements will be posted on the Conducting Orchestra portion of the Ensemble Guide website:
<https://www.esm.rochester.edu/ensembles/guide>

MUSIC:

- Repertoire and instrumentation for the week will be posted by the Friday before each Tuesday class.
- Parts will be available at each class. Parts may also be requested in advance from the Ensemble Library.

QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS:

- Contact Head Ensemble Librarian and Manager: Meredith Gangler
OSL 201, 274-1447, mgangler@esm.rochester.edu
Departmental website: <https://www.esm.rochester.edu/ensembles/guide>

2026-2027 Details
(room locations, added rehearsals/concerts)

Fall 2026

1-Sep	Kodak
8-Sep	Kodak
15-Sep	Kodak
22-Sep	Kodak
29-Sep	OSL 101

6-Oct	Kodak
20-Oct	Kodak
27-Oct	OSL 101

3-Nov	OSL 101
10-Nov	Kodak
17-Nov	Kodak
24-Nov	OSL 101

1-Dec	Kodak
8-Dec	Kodak
10-Dec	Kodak
11-Dec	Kodak

7:30-10:00pm, dress rehearsal, Mozart Requiem
7:30-10:00pm, dress rehearsal, Mozart Requiem
7:30pm, concert w/ ERC, Mozart Requiem

Spring 2027

19-Jan	Kodak
26-Jan	OSL 101

2-Feb	Kodak
9-Feb	Kodak
16-Feb	OSL 101
23-Feb	Kodak

2-Mar	OSL 101
16-Mar	Kodak
23-Mar	Kodak
30-Mar	OSL 101

6-Apr	OSL 101
13-Apr	Kodak
20-Apr	Kodak
27-Apr	Kodak

room locations subject to change, will be confirmed each week when repertoire is posted

Beal Institute Recording Session Dates, Fall 2026:

September 26
October 17
November 7