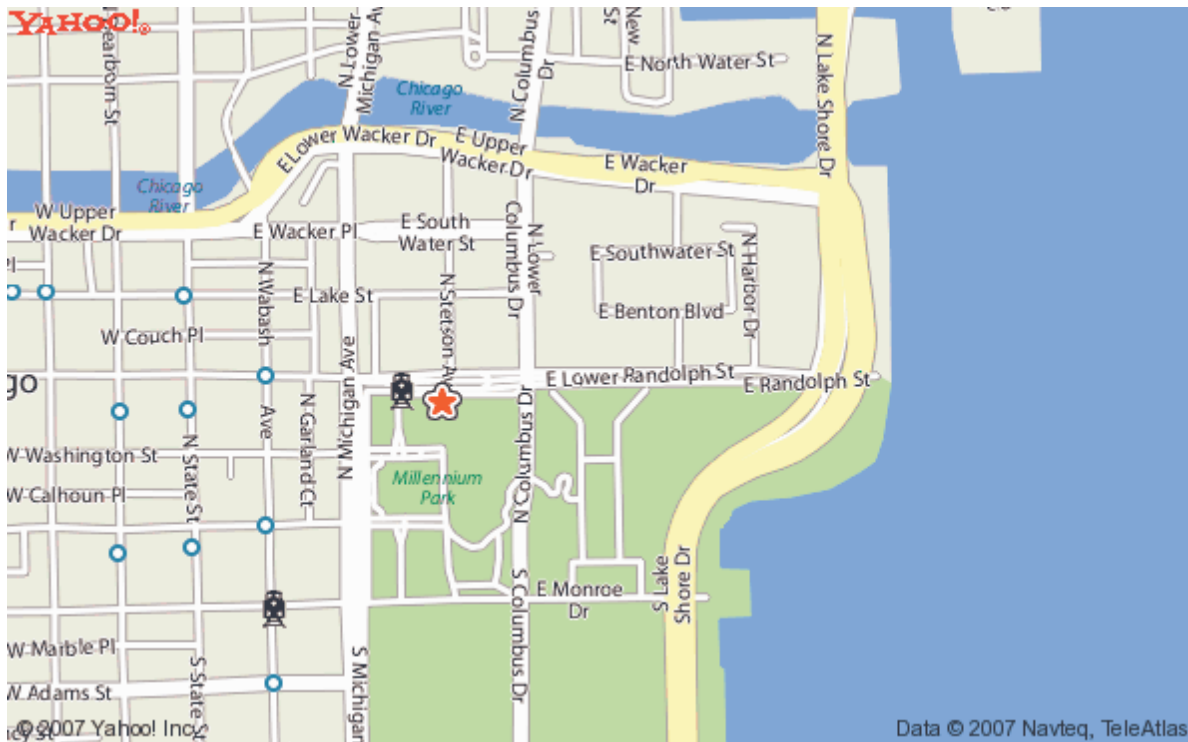


SCHEDULE AND NOTES FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

MYA Concert, October 28, 2007, Harris Theater, 205 E Randolph Dr, Chicago.

For those new to the Harris Theater, it is an interesting venue, essentially a tall theater on a small footprint adjacent to Millennium Park, with most of the theater being underground. While its layout may be unique, it is one of the most visually and acoustically beautiful theaters in the Chicagoland area. Be sure to allow plenty of time for commuting because the Bears are at home and, if applicable, the Edens construction has met all prophecies of doom. You may wish to review a map on your favorite search engine. Entry to the Harris Theater is obtained through either the small box office entrance on the upper street level on Randolph (east of Michigan Avenue), or on lower Randolph at stage level. Incidentally, you can walk underground in a passage that runs from the antique stairwell down from the southwest corner of Michigan and Randolph, east through the Millennium - South Shore train station, past the trains, and exit out the glass doors a few yards from the lower entry to the Harris. There will be plenty of activity in the area as the Harris is in walking distance to the Art Institute, Symphony Center, and Magnificent Mile.

Each venue presents different challenges. MYA has only begun performing at Harris Theater in the past couple years, so it is still working to improve coordination of over a hundred young artists and their families and guests. This year, we are striving to organize the chaos that inevitably flows, especially for the afternoon performance, from hundreds of people converging for seven separate performance groups appearing in the same show. Additionally, this year we have a large number of students and families new to our program.



Parking. The Harris Theater does not own or operate the adjacent underground parking facilities at Millennium Park, which the City has sold or leased to Lars, although kiosks for paying for such parking are located in the theater. Last year, half the kiosks were broke and problems were abundant. Harris informed us that Lars is attempting to improve service. No one can tell us how much parking will cost because Lars sets the pricing differently than their published rates when the Bears are playing. Looking at rates in the Loop area, it is reasonable to expect to pay \$25-30 for parking for the day. There will be a validation coupon at the theater box office, for parkers of 6 hours or less, for a significant reduction. The box office will be open on upper Randolph Street from about noon until intermission at the evening performance. When paying, you need to insert your

entry ticket in the kiosk first, followed by the validation coupon, to get the discount. Detailed instructions about entering the parking garage are available on the Harris's website at www.harristheaterchicago.org.

The website www.parkwhiz.com helps locate surrounding parking garages. Restricting the search to garages open on Sunday within 10 minutes walking distance from the Harris, costing \$30 or less for 12 hours identifies 17 sites in the area, so there should be numerous locations if you choose not to park at the Millennium/Grant Park underground garages. For example, one site west of Michigan is at 166 N Wabash, open 24/7 and posts its 12 hour rate as about \$26.

Restaurants. Everyone has their favorite restaurants and with the development of Michigan Avenue and Millennium Park, numerous restaurants are open throughout the area seven days a week. The Harris Theater website refers you to some more very nice restaurants. If you looking for some quicker, but not fast food meals, snacks or refreshments within walking distance, you may consider: *Ada's Famous Deli and Restaurant* (probably the last Jewish deli in downtown Chicago), 14 S Wabash, open Sunday 6AM to 11PM; *Elephant & Castle* (an English pub franchise with two locations downtown), 185 N Wabash, open Sunday 11AM to Midnight, www.elephantcastle.com; or for a more relax lunch or dinner, *Russian Tea Time*, 77 E Adams, open Sunday 11AM to 9PM, www.russianteatime.com. For families with young children and some time to spend walking, the City has a Halloween exhibit with some outdoor food vendors at the Richard J Daley Plaza (where the Picasso is at), between Washington and Randolph, on Dearborn.

Rehearsals and Performance Schedule.

While our older artists have been through the program more than a few times, some of our younger or new members should review the schedule below and be sure to arrive in time for rehearsal. No artist can perform if he or she misses rehearsal. Dress rehearsals do not mean that the artist needs to be in his or her performance outfit. Students may change prior to performance. Parents or guardians should drop-off students outside the security station near the inside of the lower Randolph level entrance. **Please double check to ensure that the student has his or her instrument and sheet music before leaving home, and again upon arrival at the theater.** The parent will receive a slip for picking up the student at the same location after rehearsal, and the student will check-in and proceed to the assigned backstage preparation area (which will be color-coded to the student's performance group). After rehearsal, the student should be picked-up by his or her parent or guardian. We are trying to make arrangements for the students to leave instruments in a central location(s), but do not accept any responsibility for the same.

Unfortunately, Harris Theater, like many others now, will not allow parents or guardians entry to the concert hall to listen to rehearsals, citing lack of adequate staffing to provide security or protection. So parents or guardians will be on their own for about an hour during rehearsal preparation and rehearsal.

Students should reconvene by the security area no later than a half hour before performance to change into their performance attire, tune instruments, etc. Some older students are volunteering to assist in tuning instruments.

For the afternoon show, volunteer parents will lead small groups of the younger artists to seating set aside for them during the half of the performance where the students do not appear. Seating has already been published in the latest issue of the *MYA Tuning Fork*.

Performance Group	Backstage Check-In	Backstage Prep Area	Rehearsal	Backstage prior to Performance
Prep	10:45 AM	Orchestra Lounge (3 rd Floor)	11:15 AM	2:30 PM
Cadet	11:15 AM	Rehearsal Lounge (1 st Floor)	11:45 AM	2:30 PM
Reading	11:45 AM	Rehearsal Lounge (1 st Floor)	12:15 PM	2:30 PM
Voices Rising	12:15 PM	Orchestra Lounge (3 rd Floor)	12:45 PM	2:30 PM
Jazz Ensemble	1:15 PM	Dressing Room 10 (2 nd Floor)	1:45 PM	2:30 PM
Jazz Orchestra	1:45 PM	Dressing Room 11-14 (2 nd Floor)	2:15 PM	2:30 PM
Concert	10:15 AM	Rehearsal Lounge (1 st Floor)	10:45 AM	2:30 PM
Symphony	9:15 AM	Performers Lounge (1 st Floor)	9:45 AM	5:30 PM