

MARYLAND YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
P.O. Box 27, Glenwood, MD 21738
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GUIDELINES

Applications

1. All members must fill out an application form with a parent or guardian's signature.
2. Participation in the orchestra will not be allowed without a fully completed form.

Payment of Dues

1. Dues are payable on the first day of rehearsal, either:
 - a) Full payment of \$400.00.
 - or* b) Two monthly payments, (Sept. \$210.00, October \$210.00) due last week in October. A \$10.00 late fee will be added if payment is made in November.
- For information on scholarships based on financial need, please contact the executive director.
2. No refunds will be given.

Auditions

1. Musicians applying to the Maryland Youth Symphony Orchestra must audition for acceptance and seating.
2. Seating may be changed after acceptance through the challenge system. Challenge for reseating will take place in January by appointment.

Rehearsal and Performance

1. Rehearsals are held on Saturdays at CCBC Catonsville Campus (Building Q, Room 121) from 1:00 - 4:30 PM. The fifteen minutes preceding downbeat should be used for tuning and warm-up.
2. A schedule of rehearsal and concert dates will be made available at the beginning of the season. Concert dates should be noted and given priority.
3. A dress rehearsal is of utmost importance and can only be missed if approved by the manager. A musician who misses a dress rehearsal without permission may not participate in that concert.
4. A missed performance without permission can result in dismissal.

Attendance and Practice

1. The MYSO meets only once weekly. Joining the orchestra involves a commitment to attend rehearsals and to practice repertoire. Although absences from rehearsal are occasionally unavoidable, the MYSO regards absences as neither "excused" or "unexcused".
2. The rehearsal schedule is carefully planned. Sectional coaches begin rehearsal promptly at 1:00 P.M. Absence and tardiness slows the rehearsal and jeopardizes the quality of the performances. The MYSO is committed to producing concerts at the highest professional level, and this can only be accomplished by total cooperation and commitment from all MYSO members and their families. Please reserve absences for the unexpected and the unavoidable.
3. **Absence** It is the MYSO policy to allow **three absences per semester**. A semester is Sept. through Dec., or Jan. through May. Additional absences will involve either a change in

seating or replacement.

4. **Tardiness** If a musician enters rehearsal after it has begun, he or she will be regarded as late. Being late **three** times will count as one absence.
5. **Practice** The practice of individual parts between rehearsals is crucial to the effectiveness of rehearsal time and the overall quality of performances. The audition required to join the orchestra means that each musician is capable of playing the repertoire. A warning will be given to any member who has failed to learn the music satisfactorily due to inadequate practice. A reasonable period of time will be given for the music to be learned, and if the results are still inadequate, we must assume that participation in the MYSO is too great a commitment, and ask the member to withdraw.

Transportation

Transportation to rehearsals and concerts is each member's responsibility. Carpools may be formed at the beginning of the orchestra season.

Instruments

Each orchestra member is responsible for his/her own instrument and music stand. A portable music stand must be purchased and brought each week to rehearsal.

Music

1. A folder of music will be issued for the season with a refundable deposit of \$25.00 (No music will be given out without a deposit.)
2. At the end of the season, \$25.00 will be refunded or credited to the next season after accounting for all of the music.

An adjustment of the refund will be made for any missing or damaged parts.

Concert Attire

1. Female: A long sleeved black dress, or an ankle-length black skirt and black top with 3/4 or full length sleeves. Hose and black dress shoes.
2. Male: Black dress pants and black jacket with long sleeved white dress shirt. A long black tie is the code before 6:00 PM and a black bow tie after 6:00PM.
3. In the case that an orchestra member is inappropriately dressed for a concert, he or she may not be allowed to participate.
4. Jewelry must be kept to a minimum.

Conduct

1. No eating, drinking, or reading during rehearsals.
2. No talking or disturbing others, especially at times when not playing.
3. It is expected that all members conduct themselves in a mature manner at rehearsals and at performances. This is especially important at concerts if we are to command the highest respect from our audience.
4. If the rules of conduct are repeatedly broken, after one call to parents, dismissal will result.