

Orchestra Structure

The OYS-Symphony Orchestra (OYS-SO) and OYS-Philharmonia Orchestra (OYS-PHIL) are structured similarly to professional adult symphonies. They each have 20 to 100 members. In OYS-SO all instrument groups are represented. OYS-PHIL is made up of only stringed instruments.

Being named principal player of a section is a privilege and a responsibility. The example set by the principal player can greatly influence the performance and attitude of a section. A principal player should encourage his/her section to give the very best possible performance at all times. A principal player is expected to be well prepared for all rehearsals, to be ready to play any solos, and to have excellent attendance. Also, the concertmaster and all principals will be expected to meet when necessary.

For a particular composition or performance, the conductor may request a temporary seating change. The conductor has the right to re-audition any musician. The conductors have the right to re-seat any musician.

Sectional Rehearsals

Sectional rehearsals will be scheduled for professional coaching sessions during rehearsal times. In these sessions, special attention is given to technical matters for each instrument group. Please have your music prepared and bring a pencil.

After sectional rehearsals, all members should put all chairs and tables back to their original positions in the room and remove all stands. Leave the room better than you found it.



Expectations

- Arrive at least 15 minutes before the rehearsal.
- Sign in to the attendance log.
- Be ready to tune 5 minutes before rehearsal.
- Each musician is expected to listen and watch the conductor carefully.
- All students must have a pencil and eraser.
- There is no talking during tuning and rehearsal.
- There is no cell phone or mobile device use during tuning and rehearsal.

All families are expected to make the necessary arrangements for their children to be picked up on time. The volunteer and conductor staff does not provide childcare before or after rehearsals.

Parents, families, and friends of the orchestras are welcome and encouraged to visit any and all rehearsals and concerts. Visitors need to be quiet while rehearsals and concerts are in progress.

What to Bring

- Instrument & accessories (mutes, bow, rosin)
- Music
- Pencil
- Supplies for emergency instrument repair (strings, reeds, etc)

Instruments

Rehearsals and concerts are all held in buildings that are open to the public. Please keep your instrument and other valuables with you at all times. The organization will not take responsibility for damage or theft. Your instruments and belongings are your responsibility. Instruments can be added to homeowners' or renters' insurance at a reasonable expense.

Music

Musicians will be given a password to enable them to download their music through the OYS, Inc. website. Musicians will be notified through email when the downloads are available prior to the beginning of the concert season. They will be expected to download, print and practice their music in order to prepare for the retreat, sectionals, rehearsals and concerts. Musicians are responsible to bring their music with them to the retreat, rehearsals, sectionals and concerts.

Disciplinary Action/Dismissal

Disciplinary action and dismissal may be taken for any of the following:

- Disruptive behavior
- Excessive absences
- Tardiness
- Willful violation of rules or policies
- Uncooperative attitude

Concert Dress Requirements

Gentlemen:

Black tux or black suit

Black bow tie

White dress shirt

Black socks

Black shoes (NO tennis shoes)

Ladies:

Black skirt (knee-length) or black dress pants

Black blouse or sweater (elbow-length or long-sleeve: classic style with no rhinestones, flouncy sleeves, ruffles, pattern print or pattern knit)

Black panty hose (or black socks with dress pants)

Black dress shoes (closed toe with a modest heel, no flip-flops or sandals)