

BYOV Expectations

It is an honor and a privilege to be in BYOV. To maintain the highest standards possible, we hold you up to the highest standards of rehearsal preparation and conduct.

Demonstrate self-discipline while rehearsing and performing:

- Listen and concentrate throughout rehearsals and performances.
- Refrain from talking, texting, and disruptive noise.
- No cell phone use during rehearsals.
- Leave hats, sunglasses and headphones at home.
- Observe performance etiquette, as instructed by the conductor.
- Show respect for staff and fellow students, and their property.

Respect the rehearsal and performance facilities at all times:

- Smoking, alcoholic beverages, and drugs are not allowed.
- Percussion instruments, pianos, and other equipment belonging to the venue may be used or moved only with permission from staff. Property belonging to the venue should be treated with care.
- Students should not enter any part of the building or grounds not in use by BYOV.
- Rehearsal rooms are available for warming up 15 minutes before rehearsal begins. Students arriving earlier should remain in the Commons area, unless under the supervision of a staff member.
- Snacks and drinks (except water bottles) may not be brought into the rehearsal rooms or performance venues.
- Gum is not permitted in rehearsals or performances.

Be well prepared for rehearsals and concerts:

- Regular practice at home is essential to ensure high musical standards. Individuals may be asked to perform alone or in small sections during rehearsals.
- Students should bring, to each rehearsal and concert, their instrument, and any supplies such as rosin, extra strings, rock stops, mutes, mallets, valve/key oil and bass stools.
- Students should provide a folding music stand when required.
- Rehearsals begin promptly at the stated times. Students should plan to arrive 15 minutes early, to allow time to set up and warm up.

Follow BYOV music policy:

- Students are responsible for bringing their own copy of the music to each rehearsal and performance.
- Parts should be marked only in #2 pencil (no colored pencils, pens, or markers.) Students should bring a pencil to each rehearsal.
- Music should be kept in a folder, and not folded, cut, or torn.
- Respect for copyright law is essential. Students should not duplicate their music, and should return all parts to BYOV. (Please see the librarian if you need a copy of a page to facilitate page turning.)
- Students who must miss a performance for any reason must ensure that their parts are returned as soon as possible, and before the dress rehearsal.
- Music and folder must be returned by the end of the year.

Maintain eligibility for Bay Youth:

- Follow attendance policies, as outlined in this handbook.
- Plan carefully to avoid scheduling conflicts.
- **Achieve satisfactory marks on seating auditions and evaluations. Students with unsatisfactory marks will be asked to play again for their conductor, to demonstrate their readiness to perform on the next concert. Students with unsatisfactory marks on the final seating audition of the year may be asked to re-audition in June, in order to continue their participation in Bay Youth.**
- Participate actively in a school music program, where available. Please note: the reason for this policy is to maintain our good relationship with school music teachers. We are meant to supplement, not supplant, their programs. If students were to choose to participate in BYOV instead of their school program, school teachers risk losing many of their finest players. Since they support BYOV and send us good players to fill our orchestras, we must support them as well. Participation in KEYS, YMV, etc. for homeschoolers is encouraged, but not required. For students in elementary school, participation in regular music class, if available, is all that is required. We thank you for your understanding.
- Fulfill financial obligations.

Probationary Status and Dismissal

Students experiencing difficulty in maintaining the standards of music performance, behavior or eligibility outlined above will first be approached by the conductors, staff or coaches to make them aware of the issues that need to be improved. If no improvement is made, or the problem recurs, students will receive a Probation Notice, warning that a change is necessary. This notice must be returned to the Executive Director with student and parent/guardian signatures, to acknowledge receipt of the notice, understanding of the issue, and desire to correct the problem and continue membership for the season. Failure to return a signed copy may result in dismissal.

Probationary status may be lifted by the Executive Director based on improvement. If corrections are not made, or the problem recurs, the student may be dismissed. Students on probationary status at the end of the season may be asked to re-audition for the following year.

ATTENDANCE

Each member makes a valuable contribution to the overall sound of the orchestra. By their commitment to make rehearsals a high priority, our members and their families help us achieve musical excellence.

Please report absences as far in advance as possible, using our online form at bayyouth.org/members. In cases of last minute absences, please call us: Norview HS (757) 618-1800, Norview MS (757) 713-4035, or Greenbrier MS (757)408-1210.

Students who have instrument problems (such as repairs being done, or instruments left at school) are asked to attend in any case, to listen and mark their music. Please be aware that it is your responsibility to check your schedule, and to notify us of any absences in a timely manner. Absences must be promptly communicated to the BYOV staff using the online form.

Symphony and Concert Orchestra:

- Up to two absences are allowed for any one concert.
- It is the responsibility of the student to check in. Check-in procedures will be discussed at the first rehearsal.

String Orchestra, Junior Strings and Wind Ensemble:

- Up to three absences are allowed for any one concert.
- Attendance will be taken by staff.

Students who exceed the allowable number of absences will need permission from their conductor to perform on the concert. The conductor may ask the member to demonstrate that the concert music has been adequately prepared, and they reserve the right to alter seating or part assignments.

Tardiness:

- Two tardy arrivals count as one absence.
- Early departures count the same as late arrivals, unless the student is dismissed by the conductor.
- In case of last-minute delays, please call voicemail us at 757- 713-4035 (Strings & Jr. Strings), 757-618-1800 (Concert & Symphony) or 757-408-1210 (Wind Ensemble).
- Students who may have a recurring problem because of marching band or other school activities should discuss their situation in advance.

Rehearsals will begin on time! Members should be in their seats, warmed up, with music, 5 minutes before start time. Please plan to arrive 10 to 15 minutes early.

Questions about BYOV?

Check our website. We keep it up to date with rehearsal and performance schedules

For musical questions and concerns, talk to your conductor.

For tuition, membership issues or venue issues, talk to our office staff.

Have a great year in BYOV!