

# Huntsville Youth Orchestra

## Student Handbook

### Orchestra Procedures

1. Please arrive 20 minutes before your rehearsal begins
  - **Strings Unlimited at 5:30-6:30pm in room 218**
  - **Philharmonic Orchestra from 5:30-6:30pm in room 205**
  - **Chamber Orchestra from 5:30-7:00pm in room 202**
2. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class.
3. Be prepared for every rehearsal with all necessary materials.
  - Pencil with eraser
  - All assigned music
  - Rosin
  - Shoulder rest / Rock stop
4. Raise your hand quietly until a teacher calls on you.
5. No gum, candy, food or drink in the rehearsal rooms. (This is a university policy.)
6. No running or horseplay at any time while inside the building.
7. Do not handle anyone's orchestra equipment except your own.
8. Do not, at any time, loiter around the grounds of SHSU without a parent or teacher of HYO present.
  - ❖ The SHSU School of Music has granted us permission to use the building for our rehearsals. Be respectful to all SHSU faculty members, staff, students and property.
  - ❖ SHSU classes and other university activities are going on and should not be disturbed.
9. Parents are welcome to sit in on rehearsals. If you have pre-orchestra aged children, please keep them quiet so that they do not disrupt rehearsal.

### Restroom Policy

It is understandable that sometimes students may need to use the restroom during rehearsal. In order to reduce the impact on the rehearsal and to also keep the safety of students in mind, the HYO Parent Board is implementing the following policy:

-Parents must have their child/children use the restroom prior to the start of rehearsal.

-For HYO students under the age of eight, a parent/guardian must be present in or right outside of the classroom to take their child to the restroom if necessary.

-For students ages eight and older, the HYO staff will be using a bathroom buddy system. This means that students will go to the bathroom paired with another HYO

student. We understand that perhaps not all parents will be comfortable with a buddy system. In that case, we ask that you are available to take your child to the restroom, even if your child falls into the age eight and over category.

## Rehearsal Commitment

Our goal is to teach students the value and rewards that come with individual practice and teamwork.

HYO only meets once a week during the semester. Therefore, each student's attendance is *vital* to the success of the entire orchestra. Each student is allowed **TWO** absences per semester. If absences become an issue, the student will be asked to not participate in the concert.

\*If you are expecting to be absent, please contact the **teacher/conductor** of your child's class as soon as possible.

## Music Binders

- Each orchestra student must provide his/her own black 3-ring binder to keep HYO music in. *Your binder is similar to your textbook for orchestra.* Please keep track of it.
- Also, have a separate spiral notebook so that you can make any additional notes for music and assignments.
- All markings in your music must be made in PENCIL.
- These binders are property of HYO and are the student's responsibility to keep up with during the year. At the conclusion of the concert, the binders must be returned to HYO.

## Practice

**Philharmonic Orchestra** students are required to practice a minimum of *6 days* a week for *30 minutes each day*.

**Chamber Orchestra** students are required to practice a minimum of *6 days* a week for *45 minutes each day*.

Each student will be keeping a practice log during the semester. This helps the teachers and benefits you, as the student, to see your progress. At the end of each week, the parent initials will be needed before the practice log is checked on due dates. Please keep up with these throughout the year. At the end of the semester, points will be given out based on minutes practiced.

The teachers can tell when you haven't practiced efficiently so **please, be honest on your record.**

## Private Lessons

Private lessons will prove to be invaluable to your growth as a musician and they are **required** for all members of HYO. It is the one-on-one instruction that you will not get in the classroom. If you do not have a private teacher or have any questions, please contact the **Lesson Coordinator**. A list of private lesson teachers who are approved to teach through HYO is included at the end of this Handbook.

NOTE: It is important that students take private lessons from a teacher who is receiving professional training as an educator at SHSU. The Huntsville Youth Orchestra was also created as a teacher-training program for SHSU music education students. Our policy is as follows: Students enrolled in HYO **must** study with one of the qualified SHSU students teaching through HYO, or a qualified SHSU student who has been given permission by Dr. Gjevre to teach lessons. **Exceptions** to this rule are those students who are studying with a **professional** string teacher. If you have any questions, please see Dr. Gjevre.

## Concerts

Concert day is when we finally get to show how our hard work has paid off during the semester. While this is an extremely exciting day, it is important that we still remain focused. More information will be given closer to the concert.

**LOCATION:** Concert Hall in the Gaertner Performing Arts Center (SHSU campus)

## Concert Attire

Ladies -

- White blouse (not sleeveless)
- Black pants or skirt (must be below the knees)
- Black dress shoes (must wear nylons or tights)

Gentlemen -

- White button-down shirt (Ties are preferred but are optional)
- Black slacks
- Black dress shoes/Black socks

NOT ALLOWED

T-shirts, Jeans, Sandals

## Instrument Suppliers

Instrument maintenance is essential to be a successful player.

Replacing old strings and rehairing the bow are common needs of repair. Strings should be replaced at least once a year and bows should be rehaired at least once every two years.

Recommended list for purchasing strings and accessories:

String and Horn Shop     [www.stringandhornshop.com](http://www.stringandhornshop.com)  
119 North Main Street  
Bryan, TX 77803  
Phone: (979) 779-8548 / 1-800-619-9954

Lisle Violin Shop	<a href="http://www.lisleviolinshop.com">www.lisleviolinshop.com</a>	
	4510 Burke Rd.	2450 Bissonnet
	Pasadena, TX 77504	Houston, TX 77005
	Phone: (281) 487-7303	Phone: (713) 526-4005

Toll-Free: (800) 545-4753

Fishburn Violin Shop (Supplies Only)     [www.fishburnviolin.com](http://www.fishburnviolin.com)  
11435 Spring Cypress Rd., Suite C  
Tomball, Texas 77377  
Phone: (281) 290-4580

Shar Music Company     1-800-248-7427     [www.sharmusic.com](http://www.sharmusic.com)

Johnson Strings     1-800-359-9351     [www.johnsonstrings.com](http://www.johnsonstrings.com)

Southwest Strings     1-800-528-3430     [www.swstrings.com](http://www.swstrings.com)

Robertson's Violin Shop     1-800-A-VIOLIN     [www.robertsonviolins.com](http://www.robertsonviolins.com)

Young Musicians     1-800-826-8648     [www.young-musicians.com](http://www.young-musicians.com)

**NOTE: PLEASE do not purchase an instrument or bow without advice from Conductor/Assistant Conductor or your private teacher.**