



GOLDEN STATE
Youth Orchestra

GSYO SUPPORTS SCHOOL MUSIC

All Golden State Youth Orchestra members are encouraged to take an active part in their school music programs.

Golden State Youth Orchestra strongly encourages its members to participate in their school music programs, as it strengthens and enhances student musical development within the school community and in their progress through the GSYO ensembles.

GSYO is intended to supplement the individual school music programs and it is not intended to supersede or replace the music education currently being provided in the schools.

GSYO desires open lines of communication between our members, school music teachers, and the GSYO Artistic and Administrative Staff.

BENEFITS OF SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAMS

There are several reasons to join and/or stay in your school music program! These programs are an excellent place to learn and gain practical experience along with qualifying you for access to:

- All-State Band/Orchestra
- CMEA, State Solo and Ensemble Festivals
- School scholarships and music director recommendations

School program may also offer opportunities to:

- Travel, compete, and meet new people
- Leadership roles and musical training (play principal or solo parts)
- Experience a wide breadth of repertoire

There are many other benefits of participating in your school music program. Playing daily is invaluable to a musician and if you plan on pursuing music professionally, the experience is vital.

GSYO members are ambassadors for the organization in their community. You can make a tremendous contribution to these programs by serving as a role model and sharing your talents with others. All GSYO Conductors expect that you will be a member of your school music program.

Participation in scheduled school orchestra or band performances always takes precedence over GSYO. ***Members must look at their school concert calendar and alert GSYO to any expected rehearsal, dress rehearsal (when applicable), or concert absences within two weeks (maximum) of the new concert cycle.***

ABSENCE POLICY AND WHAT IS AN EXCUSED ABSENCE?

Within a concert sequence, any musician who misses more than two rehearsals, or misses a dress rehearsal (when applicable), progress check (when applicable) or concert, will be evaluated on an individual basis by the staff and in some cases the conductor.

Absences due to illness, a family emergency, or a mandatory school music activity are considered “excused,” but will still count toward your two absence allowance for a concert cycle. An excused absence will not affect seating or program participation.

Mandatory school music events that conflict with a GSYO concert are given priority and, given adequate notification, will be excused. Careful planning often permits the fulfillment of both school and GSYO commitments.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Unexcused absences beyond the two allowed, or an unexcused absence from a dress rehearsal, progress check, or concert may result in a demotion in seating, dismissal from a concert, or dismissal from the program. Students who will miss a concert without giving sufficient notice may be required to reimburse GSYO for a replacement musician.

SCHOOL MUSIC DIRECTOR NOTIFICATION

At the start of the season, GSYO members are asked to obtain the signature of their school music teacher to notify them of their participation in GSYO. Musicians that are homeschooled or attend a school that does not have a music program should indicate this on the attached form.

If you have any questions regarding the school music policy or this form, please contact the office at loribingham@gsyomusic.org.

DUE DATE

Please have this form (attached here) signed by you and your school music teacher and return to GSYO by September 15.