



REDNOTEMUSIC.ORG  (916) 741-0171

MUSICIANS HANDBOOK

I would like to welcome you to the Red Note Youth Orchestra (RNYO)!

Designed to challenge, nurture, and inspire, the RNYO is a musical laboratory where aspiring 'artists' not only learn how to play their instruments correctly, but also develop a deep understanding of the musical score. A non-profit public charity listed as a 501(c)(3), the organization is built around the idea of **INCLUSION**; that being, no child who wishes an instrumental education will be denied access to the resources provided by the **YOUNG ARTIST ORCHESTRAS**. The role of **AUDITIONS**, therefore, is to ensure children are placed in the appropriate level of youth orchestra, rather than a tool to determine eligibility for participation. A **FREE SUMMER** and **AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM** is also made available to any child, regardless of residency, so that all children may gain access to the resources of our educational model.

The **MISSION** of the Red Note Youth Orchestra is:

- . . . to cultivate musical excellence and a spirit of cooperation in young musicians;
- . . . to be committed to the principles of comprehensive inclusiveness; that being, that no child is denied access to a musical education that includes performance;
- . . . to provide an education model that ensures every child we serve has the opportunity to perform music with enjoyment; and,
- . . . to create an opportunity for the audience to experience the joy, beauty, and exuberance of remarkable orchestral performances.

The Red Note Youth Orchestra is a member of the *Association of California Symphony Orchestras (ACSO)* and the *League of American Orchestras (LAO)*.

To ensure the highest possible artistic standards for our orchestra, we have provided details you will need to be successful. Please read all of this material carefully, so that you feel confident with the commitment that comes with making music with the Red Note Youth Orchestra.

We look forward to meeting each of you in the coming days and weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

The Staff and Faculty of . . .
Red Note Youth Orchestra

AUDITIONS

MAKING THE DECISION TO AUDITION

Becoming a member of the Red Note Youth Orchestra (RNYO) means YOU are (1) making a commitment to the rehearsal and performance schedule; as well as, (2) dedicating time to practice on your own.

REGISTRATION and AUDITION DATES

Auditions are held every season for all instruments. The purpose of auditions is for conductors and coaches to determine the best ensemble and seating for your child's musical education and growth. No child will, however, be denied participation in an ensemble due to limitations in the musical ability. We only ask that, prior to your audition, your child complete the first level of the instrument method text.

Application for 2016/17 Auditions:

Available online at:

<http://www.rednotemusic.org>

Audition Process:

1. Complete the APPLICATION and mail it, along with a non-refundable \$100 Tuition Deposit, to the Business Office:
Red Note Youth Orchestra
Attn: Business Office
10481 Grant Line Rd #100
Elk Grove, CA 95624
2. We encourage all students to submit an electronic VIDEO AUDITION via YouTube. To protect the children, a 'private' channel should be created, and all videos should be forwarded to office@rednotemusic.org. We will confirm receipt of your submission via email once we have received your APPLICATION and the non-refundable deposit in our business office.

Audition Results:

The Artistic Director will determine seating and ensemble placement. You can expect to have the results of your audition emailed to you within 14 days of your audition. The FINAL orchestra roster will be posted on our website shortly thereafter.

ATTENDANCE and CONDUCT

Attendance

Participation in RNYO requires a significant commitment to rehearsals. Regular and punctual attendance is essential and required at every rehearsal throughout the entire season. You must complete and submit the ABSENCE FORM via email and verbally notify the ORCHESTRA MANAGER of any expected and unexpected absences.

Absences

If you have conflicts with two or more of the rehearsals prior to a concert, then you cannot perform in the concert.

If you miss two or more rehearsals for a particular concert after you have committed to performing in the ensemble, you may be placed on probation, excused from that concert, and/or subject to future discipline or dismissal from the orchestra.

If you miss two or more concerts in one season, for any reason, your position will be automatically opened to audition for the following season.

Rehearsal absences do not constitute a refund of tuition fees.

Late Arrival and Tardiness

Musicians are expected to attend a partial rehearsal rather than be absent from a full rehearsal when they have a scheduling conflict. Musicians are expected to attend a rehearsal even if their instrument is being repaired, or if they have a minor personal injury, so that they can continue to add to their musical understanding of the repertoire.

In order to be excused from any part of a rehearsal, you must notify the ORCHESTRA MANAGER at least 48 hours in advance in writing via email. Partial attendance and late arrival is at the discretion of the ORCHESTRA MANAGER and ARTISTIC DIRECTOR. Tardiness of more than 10 minutes is the equivalent of a late arrival. Frequent tardiness will cause the musician to lose his/her earned position in any instrument section.

Dress Rehearsals and Concerts

Call times for dress rehearsals will be announced at least three weeks before all concerts and will be posted on the website. All musicians are required to stay for the duration of each concert in which they participate.

Conduct and Behavior

A musician who exhibits inappropriate behavior at rehearsals, concerts, or other RNYO activities jeopardizes their good standing with RNYO. The following guidelines are intended to ensure orderly operations, and to provide the best possible environment for those associated with RNYO. They will provide you with examples of types of conduct that are considered unacceptable. Any instances of these, or any other behaviors that are illegal or harmful to persons or property, are subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the orchestra. Tuitions refunds are not available for disciplinary dismissal.

- Theft or inappropriate removal or possession of property.
- Fighting or threatening violence, or engaging in disruptive activity.
- Violation of general safety or health codes.
- Smoking.
- Sexual or unlawful or unwelcome harassment.
- Possession of dangerous materials, such as explosives or firearms.
- Excessive absenteeism or tardiness.
- Unsatisfactory conduct.
- Actions posing a security risk or liability for the organization.

RNYO maintains a drug-free workplace. Drug use by musicians will not be tolerated and will result in immediate dismissal from the program. Musicians who smoke are not allowed to smoke while on RNYO property or participating in RNYO events.

Harassment on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, physical or mental disability, medical condition, or sexual orientation, is against State and Federal law. Anyone that believes he or she has been subjected to any sort of harassment is urged to contact the ORCHESTRA MANGER, the ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, or the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR immediately.

REHEARSALS and CONCERTS

Rehearsal Etiquette

Musicians are expected to take personal responsibility for:

- Preparing their music prior to each rehearsal. Practice parts will be made available on the website whenever possible, before the date of the preceding concert.
- Being seated five (5) minutes before the start of rehearsal, warmed up, tuned, and ready to rehearse by the start time and the first downbeat of the conductor.

Principal players are the representatives of their sections. Principals communicate directly with the conductor in rehearsal regarding musical issues, and facilitate communication within

their sections. Principals should strive for exceedingly professional standards of conduct and performance. Principals should notify the ORCHESTRA MANAGER of any library issues (including page turns, misprints, textual clarification, etc.). It is the responsibility of the principal to ensure all bowings have been transmitted throughout the section.

Lost Music

Since the publisher sets these fees, the cost of replacement for lost or damaged music will be charged to your tuition.

Seating

Strings: The ORCHESTRA MANAGER, in consultation with the Artistic Director and Assistant Conductor, determines the seating assignments. With the exception of principals, seating may change on a per-concert basis. According to the instrumentation of the concert repertoire, the number of string strands is also subject to change.

Winds: Seating may change throughout the season, depending upon the instrumentation and repertoire for each concert. Seating is, however, ultimately at the discretion of the Artistic Director.

Concert Attire for Musicians

In general, your onstage presentation is expected to avoid audience distraction and to be modest:

- Women – an all black, full-length or 7/8-length dress with sleeves, or black slacks or full-length skirt and a black blouse with sleeves. The neck and hemlines of any concert attire must be modest, with jewelry kept to a minimum. Avoid patterned material. Flat with closed toes are encouraged. No backless, sleeveless, tube tops, or spaghetti strap dresses, sandals, or flip-flops.
- Men – full tuxedo dress (no tails) with white tux shirt, black bow tie, black socks, and black shoes. A black cummerbund or vest is optional. A black suit with white shirt and black bow tie is acceptable alternative, if you do not have a tuxedo.

Parking Expenses

RNYO is not responsible for any parking violations or related expenses. RNYO also does not reimburse the cost of parking during dress rehearsals or performances at venues requiring a parking fee.

Communication

Communication with the musicians is essential. To enable good communication, we ask that you keep the RNYO administration up-to-date on email changes. Musicians will receive a weekly message using the “Remind” service. These emails will sometimes require your response or confirmation. Please reply as quickly as possible to such emails. It is important for the ORCHESTRA MANAGER and ARTISTIC DIRECTOR to be aware of whether or not you are performing each concert, and to confirm you are aware of the schedule each week.

Please ensure emails from “@rednotemusic.org” are not blocked as SPAM. Rehearsal

schedules, season information, roster, guidelines, practice parts, and updates can be found on our website www.rednotemusic.org. Any questions can be directed to the ORCHESTRA MANAGER.

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

You may be asked to participate in additional performances outside of the regular concert schedule for development and fundraising purposes. It is expected that you will contribute your services for at least one performance, or an equivalent activity lasting three (3) hours or less. Your efforts to promote the orchestras, and your commitment of time to these performances, are vital and greatly appreciated.

TENURE & RE-AUDITIONS

The first year of membership in RNYO is considered probationary. Following this first year, you may be asked to re-audition for seating. For disciplinary reasons, or because of substandard performance, any member may also be placed on probation or asked to re-audition at the discretion of the ARTISTIC DIRECTOR.

Members may choose to re-audition for a better seating assignment without risk of losing their current seating. However, members who do not re-audition may have their seating changed for the following season or performance. Therefore, all members are encouraged to audition at the start of each concert season. Members should also submit a regular application and resume at the start of each application period. Members who are not returning for the following season MUST notify the ORCHESTRA MANGER and ARTISTIC DIRECTOR at the earliest possible opportunity in writing.

LIABILITY RELEASES

Pursuant to the future of the purposes, goals, and objectives of RNYO, its employees are hereby granted permission to use photographs, video, and/or audio recordings of RNYO students. I hereby irrevocably grant to RNYO, their licensees, agents, successors, and assigns, the right (but not the obligation), in perpetuity throughout the world, in all media, now or hereafter known, to use in and in connection with Yao promotional materials by whatever means exhibited, advertised, and exploited: my appearance in video, still photographs of me, recordings or my voice taken or made by me, and music sung or played by me, and my actual or fictitious name. On my behalf and on behalf of my heirs, next of kind, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, I hereby release RNYO, their agents, licensees, successors and assigns, from any and all claims, liabilities, and damages arising out of the rights granted hereunder, or the exercise thereof.

CONTACTING MANAGEMENT

Please bring any issues you may have to the **ORCHESTRA MANAGER** first, and do not contact the **ARTISTIC DIRECTOR** unless instructed to do so. The Orchestra Manager is your liaison with the management of RNYO, including the Musical Director. The preferred method of contact for all general correspondence is email.

ORCHESTRA MANAGER

office@rednotemusic.org

office: (916) 741-0171

For special concerns, you are welcome to contact the **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

michael@rednotemusic.org

office: (916) 741-0171