

## **NYSO Student Commitment**

**Please read the following carefully and sign the enclosed commitment form.**

1. Students joining NYSO are expected to participate for the full year.
2. All students wishing to be members of NYSO must attend ALL DRESS REHEARSALS and CONCERTS unless excused by the conductor. A written note must be given to and signed by the conductor in order for a student to be excused. **At the discretion of the conductor, students who miss a dress rehearsal may be asked not to play in the following concert.**
3. All students in Symphony, Intermezzo, Prelude and Overture are expected to attend both Enrichment Days (one per semester). Excused absences will be given only by your conductor. See calendars for dates and plan ahead.
4. All instrumental students wishing to belong to NYSO must be taking private instrumental lessons.
5. It is the policy of NYSO that **all students who play in any of the NYSO orchestras or choirs are required to participate in their school orchestra or choir (for Chorale members) if that is available as part of the school curricular day.** Strings will participate in the string program, and winds, brass and percussion in the band program. We want to support all school programs, which in turn support us.
6. A respectful and attentive attitude is expected in all rehearsals. Students not adhering to this basic standard of behavior will be given a warning, and then at the discretion of the conductor, may be put on probation and risk expulsion.
7. It is expected that talking during rehearsals will take place ONLY if a stand member is helping another stand member with the music, a section leader is explaining something to her/his section, or questions are being asked of the conductor. All other conversation is to be left outside the rehearsal hall.
8. Music is to be WELL prepared by each student at home. **Daily practice of orchestra music is expected, as well as taking music to your private teacher.** Rehearsals are a time for working on music that is already well learned by each member of the ensemble.
9. Students are to bring their OWN music to each rehearsal. Folders will be provided and must be present at rehearsals. Music, when not being used, should be placed in the folder during rehearsal.
10. Students are to have with them at all times (1) a sharpened pencil with eraser (2) either an extra set of strings & rosin, or (3) cork grease, extra reeds and slide grease/oil. **Students are expected to take careful notes when a conductor talks about the music and gives instructions.**
11. **NYSO students who are involved in sports:** At the beginning of each sports season, students are to inform NYSO's office and their own conductor in writing of the game conflicts for that season. Sports practices are not excused absences, but games are excused. Dress rehearsals will not be excused.
12. **All Prelude and Overture students:** All Prelude and Overture students are to be picked up in their rehearsal rooms. Should parents be late for pick-up, please tell your children to **wait by the orchestra office desk. We are concerned for their safety and do not want children wandering in the building unattended!!**