

MYS Weekly Update, September 7, 2011



MYS 40th Anniversary Season

This is the September 7 issue of your Weekly Update. The MYS Weekly Update is a weekly communication that goes out to all MYS families. It includes important information pertaining to MYS rehearsals, concerts and other upcoming events. It is important that you review the Weekly Update information each week, as it is our primary means of communication. Do not hesitate to contact the MYS office if you have any questions.

First Rehearsal: This Saturday, September 10!

Orchestra Rehearsal times are as follows:

String Orchestra	8:45am -11:00am
Philharmonic Orchestra	10:30am - 1:00pm
Repertory Orchestra	10:00am -1:00pm
Symphony Orchestra	8:45am - 11:45am

For the first rehearsal, students are asked to check-in 30 minutes prior to their rehearsal start time. After that, students should check-in 15 minutes before their start time.

The check-in table will be located right near the entrance of the Highland Jr. High. Parent volunteers will be there to check you in. You must check-in every week, or you could be counted absent.

All orchestras rehearse at Highland Park Jr. High School. 975 Snelling Ave S, St. Paul, MN 55116.

Symphony Retreat

They're off to a running start! Members of the Symphony Orchestra will be packing their bags and heading to YMCA Camp Pepin on September 17-18 for a weekend-long retreat. Information about retreat was included in your acceptance packet and can also be found online at www.mnyouthsymphonies.org/retreats.

Students should arrive at Highland Jr. High no later than 8am– buses leave at 8am! Students return Sunday afternoon at 5pm. Please arrange to **pick up your child on time** when they return from retreat.

Retreat Date Reminder

Repertory Retreat: October 1, 2
Philharmonic Retreat: October 15, 16
String Day Retreat: October 29

Retreat Attendance Policy

It is expected that all MYS students participate in the retreat. If you have a conflict with the retreat, you must contact the MYS office immediately. Please note that missing any portion of a retreat day is counted as one full absence for the trimester. **Missing both days of the retreat counts as two full absences.**

Music Folders Distributed At The First Rehearsal

Each student will receive his or her assigned music folder at this Saturday's rehearsal. Students are responsible for their music folders and the items that are included in them. **Students will be charged for lost or damaged folders and music.**

What to look for in your music folder:

- **Sheet music** (of course!)
- **An MYS pencil**
- **The MYS Student Handbook.** It is very important that each **MYS student and parent** carefully read through the handbook. It contains MYS policies and procedures, information on concerts and concert dress, a student roster, season calendar, and more! Every student and family is responsible for knowing the information that is contained in the Student Handbook
- **Fundraising Materials:** With TWO fundraising options this year (wreath sale and Premier Fundraising coupon-card sale), please read over the information closely and carefully. Students may participate in one or both of the fundraising options! For more information on our annual student fundraiser, please go to www.mnyouthsymphonies.org/members/wreath
- **Symphony Solo Competition application** form (Symphony music folders only)
- **Minnesota Orchestra Side-by-Side** information (Symphony music folders only)

Attention Parents: Remember to look through your child's music folder each week for important handouts and information.

Highland Park Jr. High School Parking Info

MYS students and families may park at either the Highland Park Jr. High or Senior High parking lots. Do not leave valuables in your car and remember to lock your car.

Rehearsal Etiquette

A few important things to keep in mind each week at rehearsal:

- No electronics in rehearsal! If a student is found using an electronic device during rehearsal, the device will be confiscated for the remainder of rehearsal. The student may pick up the device at the end of rehearsal at the admin desk.
- No gum-chewing or hat-wearing is permitted during rehearsals (or concerts)
- Being "on time" means being tuned in your seat at your rehearsals start time.
- Parents and other family members may listen to rehearsals, but please remember to be respectful and quiet when an orchestra is rehearsing. Feel free to chat and enjoy coffee with other parents and families in the lobby.
- Students must be picked up from rehearsal at their designated rehearsal end-time

What to bring every week to rehearsal

- Your music folder
- A pencil
- Your music stand

Parent Meeting September 24, 9:45-10:30am

MYS will be holding a meeting for all new and returning parents to introduce you to our artistic and administrative staff as well as provide an overview of the season. This meeting also gives you a chance to ask any questions you may have! Signs for the meeting's location will be posted that day.

MYS Seeks New Board Members

If you are interested in serving on the MYS board of directors, please contact Vicki Krueger, vlkrueger@mnyouthsymphonies.org.