



# Pops Youth Orchestra

## Code of Conduct

### For All Musicians and Parents/Guardians

#### **Purpose**

This Code of Conduct promotes self-control and respect for others, ensuring that all musicians in Pops Youth Orchestras have a positive experience and are therefore more likely to achieve their full potential.

#### **Attendance**

Musicians are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances. Although occasional unforeseen absences due to illness or family emergencies are unavoidable, musicians must make every effort to inform their conductor of anticipated absences as far in advance as possible. Musicians should arrive 10-15 minutes before rehearsals and performances to set up and tune. Conductors may set an earlier arrival time for performances. Students who miss more than three (3) rehearsals in a term may be asked to withdraw from the orchestra or asked to not perform at the concert.

#### **For Rehearsals and Performances - Musicians are expected to:**

- Bring a music stand and all music in their folders issued to them by PYO to every rehearsal and performance.
- Have a sharpened pencil with them during every rehearsal and mark their own copies of the music with conductor notes, even when sharing a stand.
- Pay attention at all times, even when their section is not rehearsing.
- Never talk when the conductor or guests are speaking to the group.
- Refrain from chewing gum, eating, or drinking during rehearsal.
- Keep all electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, computers) switched off and stored in a bag during rehearsal. If any devices are brought out, we will ask the musician to pass these over to the conductor for safekeeping, and these will be returned to the musician at the end of the rehearsal.
- Practice their parts to be prepared for rehearsals and performances.

#### **Learning the Music**

Musicians must learn their music at home so that rehearsal time may be spent on musical concepts and developing the ensemble performance. Parents are asked to help students design an effective, regular practice schedule. Students should ask private teachers for help with orchestra music.

#### **Behaviour**

PYO is committed to providing an environment free of discrimination and harassment, where all Persons are treated with respect and dignity, can contribute fully, and have equal opportunities. PYO does not tolerate teasing, fighting, provocative, or aggressive behavior.

#### **Musicians will:**

- Be considerate and respectful of others.
- Speak and listen respectfully to peers and adults.
- Use appropriate language during rehearsals, performances, breaks, and at all other times when representing PYO.

- Respect the property of rehearsal and performance venues. Vandalism is grounds for **immediate expulsion** from PYO.
- Clean up after themselves.

### **Controlled Substances**

The consumption of alcohol, marijuana, or other drugs while participating in PYO activities is strictly forbidden and will be grounds for immediate expulsion from PYO.

### **Smoking**

Smoking and vaping is prohibited in and around rehearsal and performance venues.

### **Safety**

- Musicians must remain within the specified rehearsal and break areas at all times. Musicians must always be visible to conductors or chaperones.
- No playing in or on elevators, stairs, or bathrooms, and no running, wrestling, fighting, or other similarly disruptive behavior is tolerated during rehearsals and breaks.
- Parents must provide transportation for musicians to and from rehearsals and performances.
- Parents must pick up musicians immediately after rehearsals and performances. There is no supervision after the session has ended.

### **Organizing and Managing Music**

At the start of every season, each musician will receive the majority of his/her parts for that season. Throughout the season, musicians may receive additional parts for concert preparation or to practice sight reading. Musicians are expected to sort and organize the music and tape pages together if needed.

### **Instrument Upkeep**

Each Musician is expected to maintain their own instrument. String players should carry a full set of strings at all times in case any string breaks.

### **Resolution of Code of Conduct Issues**

1. Any breach of the Code of Conduct will be brought to the attention of the musician.
2. If appropriate, resolution is encouraged between musicians and facilitated by an adult in charge – conductor, tutor, chaperone, or volunteer.
3. If negative behavior does not stop, it will be brought to the attention of the musician's parents.
4. If there is continued problematic behavior, the musician may be placed on membership probation and/or dismissed from PYO at the discretion of the conductor.