



FROM THE STAND

NEWS, EVENTS AND SPOTLIGHTS



WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM SILVIA

We experienced truly breathtaking performances this past Sunday at the Sierra Youth Orchestra Festival. **THANK YOU** to our musicians and families who participated—your preparation, commitment, and artistry were on full display. We are deeply grateful to the many NVYS families who came out to support, making the afternoon feel both celebratory and inspiring. Experiencing our students perform alongside other outstanding youth orchestras is a powerful reminder of the value of shared musical community.

We invite you to relive the magic by viewing photos from the festival, available [HERE](#) – videos will be coming in the next couple of weeks! These moments capture not only the performances, but also the joy, pride, and connection that make events like this so meaningful.

Speaking of videos, we continue to add new performance highlights to our [YouTube Channel](#). If you haven't already, please take a moment to **watch, like, and subscribe** so you can stay connected to upcoming releases and celebrate our musicians' accomplishments.

Lastly, we encourage you to share your student's involvement in Napa Valley Youth Symphony with friends and family while supporting access to music education through our BottleRock Raffle. Raffle ticket sales directly support student scholarships and help ensure that our programs remain accessible to young musicians across our community. You can begin sharing the online ticket sales link [HERE](#).

Thank you for being such an engaged and supportive part of the NVYS family—we look forward to more inspiring moments ahead. 

UPCOMING DATES

002/01/26 - NOTE DATE CHANGE

- STRINGS Seating Auditions for Youth Symphony & Bridge

02/08/26 - NOTE TIME CHANGE

- 12 PM to 2 PM Rehearsals

Parent Volunteer Sign-up: [LINK HERE](#)

Snack Sign-up: [LINK HERE](#)

(Need sign-ups from 2/22/26 onward!)

Bridge Seating Audition Sign-Up: [LINK HERE](#)

Youth Symphony Seating Audition Sign-Up: [LINK HERE](#)



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Napa Valley Youth Symphony

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www.nvys.org



YOUTH SYMPHONY

Message from Dr. Alexander Kahn, Music Director and Conductor

I was so proud of you all after our performances at the Sierra Music Festival last week! You played the Dvorak and the Marquez **VERY well**. I hope you enjoyed the experience, and I'll be looking forward to hearing your impressions when I see you on Sunday!

Here is the schedule for this Sunday's rehearsal:

- 3:45 PM- **Arrival time**
- 4:00 PM - **Woodwind and Brass Sectional** with me
- **Strings Seating Auditions** with our judges Michael and Daria Adams
- 5:15 PM - Break
- 5:30 - 6:45 PM -**Full Rehearsal**: Dvorak movements 3 and 4

Please make sure to spend some time listening to this music!

Youth Symphony Seating Audition Sign-Up: [LINK HERE](#)

For seating audition excerpts please refer to last week's newsletter.

BRIDGE

Message from Debbie Walden, Director and Conductor

I enjoyed our rehearsal and I feel like we accomplished some good things! Next rehearsal will look like this:

- o 4:00 - 5:00 PM- **String Sectional with Dr. Loheyde**
(come with questions, especially bowing and articulation questions)
Woodwind, Brass, and Percussion Sectional with Debbie
(working on those tricky parts of Millennium)
- o 5:15 - 6:00 PM- **String Seating Auditions**
Rehearsal (Dance of the Hours, Warrior Legacy)

Bridge Strings Seating Audition Sign-Up: [**LINK HERE**](#)

For seating audition excerpts please refer to last week's newsletter.



NYCE - YOUTH STRINGS CHAMBER

Message from Yasushi Ogura, Director and Head Strings Coach

PLEASE KEEP PRACTICING! You have original music - please make sure to keep it neat and do not lose it! We will have rehearsal this Sunday from 2:45-3:45 PM. We will be playing all movements.

SINFONIA

Message from Dr. Richard Loheyde, Director and Conductor

Hope you are having a great week! Three things this to work on this week to prepare for our upcoming 2/1 rehearsal:

I. **New piece:** **Bagpipes and Kilts.** For the audio play-along and violin music:

[LINK HERE](#)

II. **Rock-On Strings** Please do the following practice steps along with the "Rock-On Strings" MP3 audio. [LINK HERE](#)

- Clap quarter notes while you sing the notated rhythm on the syllable "ta"
- Air bow and say "Down" or "Up"
- Pizzicato
- Play Along with recording now right hand and left hand together

III. **Essential Elements** Note Reading #110-#120 with play-along on Essential Elements Interactive website. Go on if you wish.

Login and link to Essential Elements Interactive for play-along being resent to you in a separate email if you need it again.



NOTES YEAR 2 - STRINGS

Message from Beth, Teaching Artist

Great job on the new music! Please continue to work on it this coming week.

The **NOTES Program** emphasizes reading music notes because strong music literacy builds a solid string foundation—so as students ascend to Sinfonia and beyond, they can learn faster, play with confidence, and thrive as independent musicians; parents will be invited to join us for a quick crash course in scales in February – stay tuned!

NOTES YEAR 1 - STRINGS

Message from Mr. Alves, Hanna & Andy, Teaching Artists

Great job on the new music! Please continue to work on it this week.

The **NOTES Program** emphasizes reading music notes because strong music literacy builds a solid string foundation—so as students ascend to Sinfonia and beyond, they can learn faster, play with confidence, and thrive as independent musicians; parents will be invited to join us for a quick crash course in scales in February — stay tuned!



NOTES YEAR 1 - BAND

Message from Madison & Theo, Teaching Artists

Great job on the new music! Please continue to work on it this week.

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COMMUNITY POSTS

Messages to/from Community and Educational Partners



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