

WEEK OF: 02/24/2026



NAPA VALLEY YOUTH SYMPHONY

FROM THE STAND

NEWS, EVENTS AND SPOTLIGHTS



WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM SILVIA

Youth orchestras and music education play a vital role in a young person's growth—musically, academically, and personally. Through ensemble participation, students learn discipline, teamwork, leadership, and the art of listening. They build confidence by setting goals, preparing independently, and contributing to something larger than themselves. In rehearsal and performance, musicians experience the power of collaboration—discovering how individual preparation strengthens the collective sound. These skills extend far beyond the stage, shaping resilient, creative, and compassionate young leaders.

At NVYS, we are proud to provide meaningful performance opportunities that showcase the dedication and growth of our students throughout the season. We invite you to support our musicians by attending our upcoming concerts—view our full [calendar of performances](#).

Looking ahead to summer, chamber music instruction offers students a unique opportunity to deepen their artistry in small ensembles, where each member plays a critical part. Registration is now open for our [Summer Strings Chamber Camp](#).

We are also happy to share that we are launching our **NOTES for Band** strand and are seeking budding young instrumentalists to join our flute, trumpet, clarinet, and trombone sessions. Stay tuned for a separate email with details you can share with friends!

We invite you to spread the word and help grow our musical community.

UPCOMING DATES

03/14/26 -

- Chamber Concert Series ft, Sinfonia, Bridge, and NYCE

Purchase Tickets: [LINK HERE](#)

03/28/26 -

- Spring Concert ft NOTES, Youth Symphony

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

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

(Need sign-ups from 3/15/26 onward!)

FOLLOW US



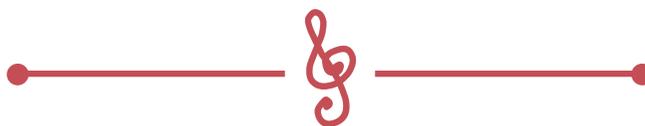
Stay Connected to all NVYS on:



MAILING ADDRESS

Napa Valley Youth Symphony
P.O. Box 6594 | Napa, CA 94581

www.nvyso.org



YOUTH SYMPHONY

Message from Dr. Alexander Kahn, Music Director and Conductor

First of all **a big thank you** to all the strings who had to endure seating auditions this past Sunday :) I know from my own past experience that seating auditions can be stressful! Nevertheless, I feel strongly that seating auditions by unbiased judges are essential to ensure that the students who are most prepared with the repertoire on the program are seated at the front of the sections, so that they can lead the rest of the strings. Please let me know if you have any questions about seating auditions, past, present, or future!

Next Sunday (March 1) we will continue working on the **Dvorak** and the **Khachaturian**, beginning with the full orchestra at 4pm and then moving into sectionals after the break. Please make sure you practice this music, as the concert is now only one month away (on March 28)! We will also sight-read **Rossini's Overture to The Barber of Seville**. I will add this piece to the sheet music library now if you would like to practice it in advance. If we all enjoy playing it and feel like we have the bandwidth to add this piece into the program we will do so; otherwise we will just stick with Dvorak and Khachaturian. I'd much rather do a shorter amount of music at a high level than to have everyone stressed out by having to prepare too much music!

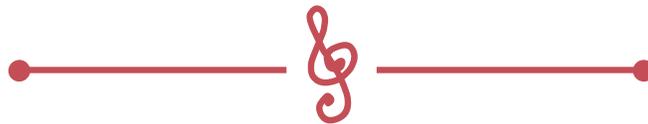
Finally, a request - if there are specific songs you want to play at **BottleRock** this year please let me know! I'm starting to work on this setlist....

BRIDGE

Message from Debbie Walden, Director and Conductor

We made a **lot of progress** this week, but there are some spots that continue to trouble us. We have decided to wait to perform Millennium until our May concert to give us adequate time to prepare the other 3 pieces for our 3/14 performance. We only have **2 more rehearsals** to accomplish this. By next week you should have all of the trouble spots worked out. At our next rehearsal, expect to play straight through all 3 pieces. We will especially work on the **tempo changes** and the **transition sections**. On your music, highlight the repeat signs, the D.S., and the CODA.

Regarding String seating audition results: When you arrive next week, your new chair will have a sticky note with your name on it. I was told you all did a **great job!**



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**.

SINFONIA

Message from Dr. Richard Loheyde, Director and Conductor

Only **2 more rehearsals** before our **Saturday, March 14 concert** where we perform Bagpipes and Kilts and Rock on Strings. Please work on the following:

1. **Bagpipes and Kilts.** You can listen to the audio and practice with your smart practice steps (clap rhythm, air bow, pizz): [LINK HERE](#)
2. **Rock-On Strings** with your smart practice steps “Rock-On Strings” MP3 audio ([LINK HERE](#))
3. **Essential Elements Note Reading:** #162 -#180. Play along with the Essential Elements Interactive accompaniments ([LINK HERE](#)) at your own pace.



NOTES YEAR 2 - STRINGS

Message from Beth, Teaching Artist

Homework:

Continue practicing **Dragonhunter**.

Mandatory Sunday Full-Group Rehearsals

As we prepare for our upcoming concert, all NOTES students are **required** to attend the following **Sunday rehearsals:**

- **Sunday, March 15 | 2:00 – 3:00 PM**
- **Sunday, March 22 | 2:00 – 3:00 PM**

Note: Students will meet with Mrs. Beth immediately after the full-group rehearsal from **3:00 – 3:45 PM**.

These are the **only full-group rehearsals before the concert**, and attendance is essential. Thank you for your support!

NOTES YEAR 1 - STRINGS

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

Homework:

Continue practicing **Dragonhunter**.

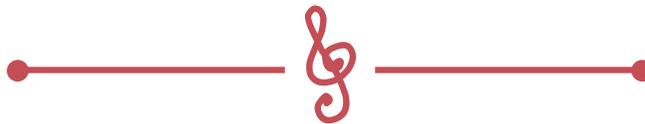
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- **Sunday, March 15 | 2:00 – 3:00 PM**
- **Sunday, March 22 | 2:00 – 3:00 PM**

Location: Napa Christian Campus of Education (2201 Pine St., Napa, CA 94559)

These are the **only full-group rehearsals before the concert**, and attendance is essential. Thank you for your support!



NOTES YEAR 1 - BAND

Message from Madison & Theo, Teaching Artists

Homework:

Continue practicing **Dragonhunter**.

Mandatory Sunday Full-Group Rehearsals

As we prepare for our upcoming concert, all NOTES students are **required** to attend the following **Sunday rehearsals**:

- **Sunday, March 15 | 2:00 – 3:00 PM**
- **Sunday, March 22 | 2:00 – 3:00 PM**

Note: Students will meet with Madison or Theo immediately after the full-group rehearsal from **3:00 – 3:30 PM**.

These are the **only full-group rehearsals before the concert**, and attendance is essential. Thank you for your support!

COMMUNITY POSTS

Messages to/from Community and Educational Partners



Biggest Music Festival & Student Scholarships!



IMPORTANT RAFFLE REMINDERS & PRIZES

PRIZES - TOP 3 SALES (GIFTCARDS)

1st: \$75, 2nd: \$50, 3rd: \$25

ONLINE SALES:

Please make sure buyers include your name when completing the transaction so you receive credit for the sale.

LEADERBOARD UPDATES:

Raffle Sales Leader Board - 2/24/26

20 Tickets Sold

Alex Bui, Caroline LaMonte, Lena Scott, Alessandra Zachlod

17 Tickets Sold

Olivia Pope

10 Tickets or Less

Evalenah Clark, Jaciel Kalyuzhnaya, Secondo Montcelli

Keep up the great work, everyone! Every ticket sold makes a difference and brings us closer to our goal!

Reminder: Next ticket collection is March 1st between **3:30 PM - 4:30 PM.**