

WEEK OF: 12/08/2025



NAPA VALLEY YOUTH SYMPHONY

# FROM THE STAND

NEWS, EVENTS AND SPOTLIGHTS



## WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM SILVIA

Hi NVYS Musicians and Families!

This weekly email keeps you connected and prepared for the week ahead. Be sure to read the update for your ensemble—and take a moment to see what our other groups are working on as you continue progressing on your musical journey with us.

Don't forget to check the links (below) to our online calendar and social media channels to stay up to date with everything happening at NVYS!

Questions? Email us anytime at [orchestra@nvysso.org](mailto:orchestra@nvysso.org).

## UPCOMING DATES

Mark your Calendars!

### 12/08/25 to 01/10/26

- Winter Break: No Rehearsals

### 01/11/26

- Open Auditions
- 1st Ensemble Rehearsals

### 01/24/26

- Sierra Youth Orchestra Festival - Youth Symphony Only

### 02/08/26

- Spring Concert STRINGS Seating Auditions for Youth Symphony & Bridge

## FOLLOW US

Stay Connected to all NVYS on:



### MAILING ADDRESS

**Napa Valley Youth Symphony**

P.O. Box 6594 | Napa, CA 94581

[www.nvyso.org](http://www.nvyso.org)



## YOUTH SYMPHONY

*Message from Dr. Alexander Kahn, Music Director and Conductor*

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season and thank you for attending rehearsal yesterday. As mentioned in announcements, we have only three rehearsals left to prepare for the January 24th Sierra Youth Orchestra Festival, where we will perform a combined orchestra piece, **Finlandia**, with youth orchestras from Modesto, Reno, Sacramento, and Santa Rosa.

**PLEASE KEEP PRACTICING** and use the provided [YouTube playlist](#) to play along! Also continue working on the Márquez and Dvořák pieces for our individual performance set.

Lost Music and Questions? If you need music, please use [this link](#) to make a copy. If you have any questions, [email me](#) before December 18th.

## BRIDGE

### *Message from Debbie Walden, Director and Conductor*

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season and thank you for attending rehearsal yesterday!

Our next concert is March 14th, 2026. Please make sure that is it on your calendars. PLEASE KEEP PRACTICING! Our music for this Spring Concert is:

- **Jupiter, Bringer of Jollity** - Holst/Leidig
- **Millennium** - Richard Meyer
- **Dance of the Hours** - Ponchielli/Meyer
- **Warrior Legacy** - Soon Hee Newbold

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## NYCE - YOUTH STRINGS CHAMBER

### *Message from Yasushi Ogura, Director and Head Strings Coach*

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season and thank you for attending rehearsal yesterday!

Thank you to NYCE for helping to strengthen our community partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Napa Valley - they are performing during the club's Santa Train Event.

Our next concert is March 14th, 2026. Please make sure that is it on your calendars. **PLEASE KEEP PRACTICING!** You have original music - please make sure to keep it neat and do not lose it!

Questions? If you have any questions, [email us](#) before December 18th.

# SINFONIA

## *Message from Dr. Richard Loheyde, Director and Conductor*

Please include the following elements in your brief weekly message to your ensemble. The goal is to help students stay prepared, build strong practice habits, and deepen their musicianship. Your message should be no more than 250 words.

1. **Practice Tips** - Share 1-2 practical, actionable tips students can apply during their practice sessions. Examples: metronome strategies, focused warm-ups, tone/bow development exercises, or breathing techniques.
2. **Weekly Practice Assignments** - Provide clear and specific guidance on what students should work on before the next rehearsal. Include: measure numbers, particular sections to polish, suggested tempos, and any technique reminders that will help them prepare effectively.
3. **Preparation for Upcoming Rehearsal** - Let students know what to expect so they arrive ready to play. Note: the repertoire to be rehearsed, any part or seating updates, special instructions, and reminders to bring pencils, music, or other materials.

Aim for a message that is encouraging, clear, and concise—no more than 250 words—to ensure students and families stay informed, focused, and inspired each week.



# NOTES YEAR 2 - STRINGS

## *Message from Beth, Teaching Artist*

### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

Each musician received a special NVYS Winter 2025 Workbook filled with simple and fun exercises that will keep building each musician's skills during our break.

1. Practice Tips - Make sure you review the tips in your Essential Elements booklets. Watch the **weekly YouTube video** and recording yourself while you play a scale.

2. Weekly Practice Assignments - You can begin working on your break assignment packet. We will include a weekly message to help keep you on track!

Lost Workbook and Questions? If you need the workbook, please use [this link](#) to make a copy. If you have any questions, [email us](#) before December 18th.

# NOTES YEAR 1 - STRINGS

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

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2. **Weekly Practice Assignments** - You can begin working on your break assignment packet. We will include a weekly message to help keep you on track!

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# NOTES YEAR 1 - BAND

*Message from Madison & Theo, Teaching Artists*

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

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1. Practice Tips - Make sure you review the tips in your Essential Elements booklets. Watch the [weekly YouTube video](#) and recording yourself while you play a scale.
2. Weekly Practice Assignments - You can begin working on your break assignment packet. We will include a weekly message to help keep you on track!

**Lost Workbook and Questions?** If you need the workbook, please use [this link](#) to make a copy. If you have any questions, [email us](#) before December 18th.



## COMMUNITY POSTS

Messages to/from Community and Educational Partners



*We Collected*  
**75 GIFTS!**



### *OPEN* **AUDITIONS**

**REFER A FRIEND TO AUDITION ON JANUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>  
AND YOU WILL RECEIVE 1 ENTRY TO WIN A \$50  
VISA GIFT CARD. 1 REFERRAL = 1 ENTRY!  
MAKE SURE YOUR FRIEND INCLUDES YOUR NAME.**

*Instruments Most Needed*

- BASS
- VIOLA
- FLUTE
- CLARINET
- BASSOON

- OBOE
- TRUMPET
- TROMBONE
- HORNS
- PERCUSSION

