

WEEK OF: 12/15/2025



NAPA VALLEY YOUTH SYMPHONY

# FROM THE STAND

NEWS, EVENTS AND SPOTLIGHTS



## WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM SILVIA

Hi NVYS Musicians and Families!

**THANK YOU** for contributing to our Toy Drive and joining us for cookies and hot chocolate—it was a joyful way to come together as a community.

As I reflect on the past 12 months, **I am incredibly grateful for our team, Board, musicians, and families.** Each of you plays an important role in building a strong organization and creating a place where young musicians can truly thrive. I wish you a restful and joyful break filled with meaningful moments with family and friends. **We have an exciting second half of the season ahead, and encourage you to share the opportunity to make music with other young musicians in your life** - we have open auditions on January 11<sup>th</sup>!

Thank you for making 2025 a great chapter for NVYS, and we wish each of you continued growth, joy, and success in 2026!

## 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  
(ft. NVYS Youth Symphony) -  
Tickets Now Available **HERE**

**02/01/26 - NOTE DATE CHANGE**

- 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*

Hi everyone! Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season!

Friendly reminder – we only have TWO REHEARSALS (Jan 11 & Jan 18) to prepare for the January 24th Sierra Youth Orchestra Festival, where we will perform a Finlandia with youth orchestras from Modesto, Reno, Sacramento, and Santa Rosa, *in addition to the first movement of Dvorak 8 and the Conga del Fuego Nuevo.*

**PLEASE PRACTICE THIS MUSIC BETWEEN NOW AND JANUARY 11** so we can make the best use of those two rehearsals. Need to listen to recordings of these pieces? Here is the [NVYSO Youtube playlist](#). Lost your music? Here is the [Sheet music library](#).

Confused about upcoming rehearsal/concert dates? Subscribe to the [Youth Symphony Google Calendar](#) and the [NVYS Events and Performances Calendar](#).

Need to miss a rehearsal? Don't! :) *But* if you *absolutely* need to fill out the [Absence Form](#). Finally - tell your friends about NVYSO! We are holding [open auditions](#) for new members on January 11 - do you remember which sections we need to build up?

Recommended video of the week: "[How playing an instrument benefits your brain](#)."

# BRIDGE

*Message from Debbie Walden, Director and Conductor*

Hi Bridge Students!

Now that you've had a week to look over the music, I'm attaching the recording of Millennium that we listened to last week. **Spend some time listening as well as practicing.** *Make careful note of the meter changes and the tempo changes. Put your best effort into the section from the beginning through measure 72.*

- Millennium (scroll down to the audio file)

In addition, I've attached a couple videos to help you understand 12/8 time. Remember we found 12/8 toward the end of Warrior Legacy. If you are familiar with 6/8 time, the note values are the same in 12/8 time.

- **Time Signatures:** 3/8, 6/8, 9/8, 12/8
- **Note Values** in 6/8 and 12/8

**Enjoy your new music!**



# 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 during the club's Santa Train Event last week!

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*

Hello Sinfonia Musicians!

Thank you for all of your hard work throughout the semester. We will be doing more advanced music this next semester. I wanted to give you one of the main pieces I would like to have us perform so that you can begin to work on it over the holiday break. It is called **Rock-On Strings by Soon-Hee Newbold**. [LINK HERE](#) to the audio track and scanned violin and viola parts. *Please look at the clef to make sure you are reading the correct part. :)*

For improving your reading - I suggest you also **play along with the Essential Elements website tracks** a few pages per week from #116 - #180 in your Essential Elements book. Especially the pieces using low 2<sup>nd</sup> fingers if that is new for you.

Have a great holiday break!



## 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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# NOTES YEAR 1 - BAND

*Message from Madison & Theo, Teaching Artists*

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## COMMUNITY POSTS

Messages to/from Community and Educational Partners



**LIKE, FOLLOW, TAG & SHARE: @NVYOUTHSYMPHONY**

Like, Follow, Tag & Share for a chance to score 2 FREE tickets to our March 28 Spring Concert.

Tag friends, share the love, and invite others to discover how NVYS makes music fun!

**RULES:** Like, Follow, Tag & Share for 1 entry—plus extra entries when your tagged friends or family like & follow NVYS too!

More tags = more chances to win!

Drawing: Sunday, December 20th | Winner will be announced on our socials!



### NVYS PHOTO GALLERY



**Submit a Photo(s) to Include  
HERE**

COMMUNITY POSTS

### *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



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