

# Amherst Symphony Orchestra Handbook

The Amherst Symphony Orchestra has been in operation for over 70 years due in large part to the dedicated and responsible membership we have been fortunate to have over the years. To ensure the continued success of the Amherst Symphony, please keep the following guidelines in mind for the upcoming concert season.

## A. ROLE OF THE MUSICIANS' BOARD

We are a group of musicians representing ALL sections of the orchestra, which accepts suggestions and constructive criticism from orchestra members. These suggestions and criticisms will be addressed by the Musicians' Board with the support and guidance from our Conductors.

President: Anne Marie Will  
Violin I: Sandra Paddock  
Violin II: Judy Nill-Bacon  
Violas: Mary Sosnowski

Celli/Basses: Anne Marie Will  
Woodwinds: Linda Mucyn  
Brass/Percussion: Lee Brusino

## B. REHEARSALS

Rehearsals are scheduled consecutively on Monday nights. Please consult your schedule.

All rehearsals begin at 6:55 PM and end at 9:30 PM. Tuning will begin promptly at 7:00 PM. Please be respectful of the tuning process.

During rehearsals, please keep noise and other disruptions to a minimum, out of respect for your fellow musicians. On the middle school stage, it can be very hard to hear what is going on, depending on which part of the stage you sit.

**PLEASE AVOID FRAGRANCES DURING ALL REHEARSALS AND CONCERTS.**

## C. DRESS REHEARSALS and CONCERTS

Dress rehearsals begin 2 hours before the scheduled concert time and are approximately 1 hour. Please arrive early enough that tuning may begin right on time. A light meal will be provided in between the end of rehearsal and the concert by the Friends of the Amherst Symphony Orchestra.

Dress Rehearsal Start Time

Scheduled Concert Time

1:00 PM

3:00 PM

5:00 PM

7:00 PM

HAVE FUN and ENJOY PLAYING during our concerts! We have wonderful audiences and they come to hear the special talents of each and every one of our members.

#### D. CONCERT DRESS

Women: Long black dresses, pants, skirts, black stockings and shoes.

Men: Dark suits, dark socks, LONG ties

#### E. ATTENDANCE

The continued success of our orchestra depends upon each and every player. Since we only have five to six rehearsals for each concert, full-time rehearsal and concert attendance is requested and strongly encouraged to enable us to play our best at every concert. Please notify your section coordinator of any expected absence so your part can be covered.

We will be taking attendance within sections to:

- Ensure accurate program information
- Encourage regular participation at all rehearsals and concerts
- Ensure that sufficient players will be in attendance at all rehearsals and concerts to cover all parts

#### F. MUSIC

Take your folder home for practice, but please ensure the music is back for the next rehearsal. Folders ***must*** be at all rehearsals. Please contact our Librarian, Charlie Johnson, with any other necessary arrangements.

Charles Johnson, ASO Librarian

[charlesaj@verizon.net](mailto:charlesaj@verizon.net)

716.631.2117

#### G. USE AND CARE OF MUSIC

Please do not remove any music from the folders. If you wish to take music home, please take the complete folder from your stand only.

The ASO provides one folder per stand. It is up to the stand partners to arrange for copies.

Please make any markings in PENCIL ONLY.

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR FOLDER ON YOUR STAND AFTER EACH CONCERT! If the music is not back in a timely manner, we may incur late or missing fees on any borrowed music.

#### H. JOINING THE AMHERST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

We are always looking for talented players! Please contact our General Manager, Joan Fishburn, if you are interested in joining us.

Joan Fishburn, ASO General Manager

[asorch46@gmail.com](mailto:asorch46@gmail.com)

716.633.4606