



The Missouri Symphony
PO Box 841
Columbia, MO 65201-0841
(573) 875-0600

Conservatory Behavior Expectations and Agreement

As a student or parent/guardian of the MOSY Conservatory, I understand and will abide by the following Conservatory expectations:

- Students strive to display a positive attitude at all times with enthusiasm and dedication, regardless of their position in the group.
- Students treat their conductors, directors, coaches, fellow musicians, and volunteers with respect and will be thoughtful and considerate in all interactions.
- Performing in an ensemble is a team effort. Inappropriate behavior such as badmouthing other students, complaining about seating placement, crude behavior, profanity, and negativity towards any member of the Conservatory will not be tolerated.
- Student placement in ensembles is dependent upon more than just the ability to sing or play an instrument. Work ethic, attitude, and professionalism play an equally important role.
- All ensemble/chair placement decisions are final. No participant/parent/director negotiations will be made once placement in a group/seat has been determined.
- Parents and participants understand that while donations of time, money, and supplies are always greatly appreciated by the Missouri Symphony, these factors do not play a role in the placement of students in their respective ensembles.
- **Students are expected to arrive at least 10 minutes early to all rehearsals** in order to unpack, tune, and warm-up before rehearsal begins. Students will be ready to go in their seats when rehearsal begins with their respective instrument, music folder, and pencil.
- Students are expected to prepare the music to the best of my ability both at home and with my private teacher.
- Students must remain in the building during designated rehearsal breaks. Sitting in or traveling in a vehicle is prohibited during rehearsal breaks.
- Public displays of affection such as handholding, etc. are prohibited.
- Students should rack their own chairs and stands at the completion of each rehearsal unless otherwise directed (or according to designated COVID-19 guidelines).
- Students must maintain a good attendance record. Absences must be reported via online submission form or paper form **AT LEAST ONE WEEK** prior to the anticipated absence.

- Family vacations, homework, tests, etc. are not acceptable reasons for last-minute absences. Exceptions will be made for illness, emergencies, or religious holidays. **More than three (3) unexcused absences from rehearsals may result in suspension from the program.**
- **Students who do not attend the dress rehearsal will not be allowed to perform at the concert.** There are very few exceptions to this rule. Requests for exceptions should be made at least two (2) weeks in advance and are subject to the approval of both the Music Director and Director of Education & Outreach.
- Student attendance for the entirety of all concerts is mandatory. Students are expected to be seated in the audience at all times their group is not performing on stage.
- **Cell phones, headphones, and other electronic devices must be kept out of sight and remain unused during rehearsals and performances** except during designated breaks. Cell phone use is a distraction to the student using it as well as the other students around them. **It is rude and inconsiderate to others, including the conductors, and violations will not be tolerated.** Students using electronic devices during rehearsals or performances will have their electronics confiscated until the end of rehearsal and parents/caregivers will be notified.
- Proper concert attire and etiquette are expected at all performances. Full details are included on the **“Dress Code and Concert Etiquette Agreement”** form, which should be completed and submitted along with this Behavior Agreement.
- **Students enrolled in the Conservatory are expected to participate in their school’s applicable music program, if one exists.** For instance: a violist enrolled in the Conservatory is expected to participate in their school’s orchestra program, and a clarinetist enrolled in the Conservatory is expected to participate in their school’s band program. Students enrolled in the Missouri Symphony Conservatory must submit a **“School Orchestra/Band Director Student Verification”** form signed by their orchestra or band director as documentation of their participation. Full rationale and details are included along with the verification form.
- Parents/guardians of Conservatory students are expected to volunteer for the Conservatory in some way each semester. Emails asking for volunteers will be sent throughout the semester. Suggestions for volunteer work are outlined in the Conservatory Handbook.

I understand that consequences for the above are at the discretion of the Music Director and the Director of Education & Outreach and may include scholarship ineligibility, removal from an ensemble, or removal from the program.

Student Signature

Date

Parent / Guardian Signature

Date