



Louisville Youth Orchestra

Attendance Policy

2010 - 2011 Season

In keeping with the purpose of the LYO to provide a quality musical experience, it is the belief of the LYO staff that ALL students are responsible to their colleagues, their conductor, themselves, and ultimately to the music itself. Therefore, as a member of LYO, it is the responsibility of each and every member to:

- A. attend all rehearsals and performances
- B. be in their seats **at least** 15 minutes before the start of any rehearsal
- C. have practiced and prepared the music between each rehearsal
- D. turn in absence forms in a timely manner (at least one week in advance)

As a member of LYO, you are making a real commitment to your orchestra. The ensemble's success is heavily dependent on regular attendance from EVERYONE. When you miss a rehearsal, not only are you missing out on important musical details that you can't obtain by practicing on your own, but you are also creating a hole in the group that cannot be filled or fixed in any way. It's like a baseball team trying to play a scrimmage without a 1st baseman. It doesn't matter how good that 1st baseman is or how much he practices on his own, the team can't POSSIBLY be their best that day without him.

It doesn't matter if you're absent from LYO because you're sick, you have an academic competition, you're on a school trip, or your family is on vacation. If you're not there, you're not there. With this kind of dedication and mindset needed in place, we also understand that other important events/commitments on Sunday afternoons are going to happen occasionally. Therefore, we expect that each member will use their judgment wisely and honor their commitment to the LYO on Sundays when making important decisions about other commitments.

With that in mind, the following guidelines will be strictly enforced under a **REVISED** attendance policy:

1. There are no more excused or unexcused absences. An absence is an absence.
2. Every LYO member is allowed a maximum of **FOUR (4) ABSENCES** per season. Once a member obtains their **fifth** absence of the season, no matter what the reason for that fifth absence may be, they will lose their membership for the remainder of the season without a refund. No exceptions.
3. Every LYO member is allowed a maximum of **TWO (2) ABSENCES** per November concert cycle and March concert cycle. Every member is allowed **ONE (1) ABSENCE** for the December Holiday Concert and April Pops Concert. If you exceed those limits, you will not be permitted to play in that particular concert. You will still be able to participate in the remainder of the season.
4. **THE DRESS REHEARSAL FOR ANY CONCERT IS 100% MANDATORY FOR ALL MEMBERS.** There will be no exceptions to this rule, so please don't ask for one.
5. Absence forms should be filled out at least one week in advance so that we know you will be missing. If you are sick or have an emergency, please call your Production Manager as soon as possible **BEFORE REHEARSAL** and then fill out an absence form the following week at rehearsal.

It is obviously our hope that each of our members can participate in all of the concerts. If for some reason, however, you know that you will not be able to adhere to Policy #3 or #4 for a particular concert, please let us know as early as possible, so that we can make other arrangements to cover your part if necessary.