



Member Handbook

Welcome to The Golden Isles Youth Orchestra (GIYO), formally the Coastal Youth Symphony of Georgia. GIYO is governed by a board in corporation with the Glynn County Schools. GIYO is fortunate to have Maestro Jorge Peña as the musical director and conductor. GIYO rehearsals and lesson locations are provided by the Glynn County Schools and local churches and organizations. The organization is funded by participation fees, concert ticket sales, and donations from members and organizations of the communities it serves.

ATTENDANCE: Musicians are expected to attend and arrive on time for all scheduled rehearsals, subsidized lessons, and concerts and to remain for their entire duration. Musicians are expected to be in their seats, warmed up and ready to play at the stated time. The venue will be open at least 20 minutes prior to any event. Regular attendance is essential for the quality of our programs and concerts; therefore, attendance is taken each week at rehearsal. Attendance at dress rehearsals and concerts is mandatory. Two excused absences are allowed per semester. An excused absence is qualified by 1) a 24-hour advanced notice or 2) notification by a parent or guardian of the student's illness or emergency. Please notify the General Manager at suzanne@goldenislesyouthorchestra.org or 912-996-5462 before the scheduled rehearsal or the instructor before the scheduled lesson if the student cannot attend.

A student who has two (2) or more unexcused rehearsals will not play in that semester's concert. A student who receives a GIYO scholarship and misses two unexcused lessons will forfeit his/her scholarship for that semester.

ATTENDANCE IN SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND ENSEMBLES: The GIYO strongly encourages all students to be enrolled and to be participating in their school music programs if there is one available to them on their instrument. GIYO is meant to complement and enhance the school music programs. School music programs provide daily instruction, opportunities for leadership, and teach group and community cooperation. Daily practice is the key to improving musical skills. Student musicians in the Chamber Ensemble must also play with the orchestra.

AUDITIONS: GIYO musicians audition each summer for the following academic year. Every member must audition every year. Strings auditions are held the Saturday following Summer Camp. Winds and make-up auditions may be held in August prior to the start of rehearsals. Auditions for specific instrument needs are held in January prior to the start of the spring rehearsals.

CHAIR ASSIGNMENTS: All chair assignments are assigned after auditions and are subject to change by the Music Director as he deems necessary. Students may challenge chair assignments at the mid-year auditions with the consent of the Music Director.

COMMUNICATIONS: We use Remind.com as our immediate communications tool. Either email giyo@mail.remind.com (no subject needed) or text 81010 with the message @giyo. Our website contains the calendar, audition excerpts, handbook, forms, and other useful information: www.GoldenIslesYouthOrchestra.org

CONCERTS: Concerts are held in late Fall and late Spring at Glynn Academy Auditorium. Musicians arrive at 1:00. Concerts are at 4:00. Lunch is provided. Musicians will be issued and asked to sell tickets to the concerts.

CONCERT DRESS for GIRLS – all black dresses or skirts below the knee, stockings or tights, no high heels, no strapless tops. Loose-fitting black pants and black tops (sleeved) with black shoes may also be worn.

CONCERT DRESS for BOYS – tux shirt (clean and ironed), plain white undershirt, bow tie, tux pants, dress shoes, dark long socks– no jackets, no cummerbunds

LEADERSHIP TEAM: Each spring students have the opportunity to apply to be part of the Leadership Team. This team helps plan the summer intensive camp program as well as activities during the year. The team may be called to meet with donors and the media. Summer intensive camp fees are waived for the team members.

MEMBERSHIP FEES: The annual (August–May) the membership fee for the orchestra is \$65.00, due by the first rehearsal and payable to the **Golden Isles Youth Orchestra**. Dues are prorated for musicians who join the orchestra at mid-season auditions. All membership fees are non-refundable. Financial aid applications are available for students who need assistance in paying their membership fee.

Every student is asked to contribute a case of water for use during the rehearsals.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES: Upon acceptance to GIYO, the musician and his/her parents/guardians are expected to make a serious commitment to the orchestra and to the organization. Parents make a valuable contribution by encouraging their musician to practice outside of rehearsals and by seeking private instruction. Parents must ensure that musicians arrive at rehearsals in time for musicians to open their instruments, warm-up, and be in place for the stated rehearsal time. No supervision is provided after rehearsal so parents must pick up musicians promptly.

Parents/guardians will be asked to volunteer their time and talents. This is essential to the daily operations of the youth orchestra. Volunteer opportunities include transportation of students and instruments to rehearsal (must have a current background check with Glynn County Schools), photography, concert ticket sales, summer camp, envelope stuffing/mailings, food pick-up and delivery.

PRIVATE INSTRUCTION: All musicians are encouraged to take private lessons. Private lessons provide the one-on-one attention that can keep bad playing habits from forming and can help move the musician to the next level. Our scholarship program has limited funds to help with private strings and orchestral wind instrument lessons. For our scholarship program, we maintain an instructor list. These instructors are also available for other private lessons.

REHEARSALS: The GIYO rehearses at Glynn Academy, 1001 Mansfield Street, Brunswick, every Monday during the season from 6-8:30pm. Rehearsals may be extended to 9:00 pm with advanced notice. See the rehearsal schedule for all sectional and full orchestra times. Musicians must respect the school instruments and facilities to prevent damage to equipment or disruptions during rehearsal. Please bring a pencil and the music to rehearsal. Musicians should be in their seats, warmed up, and ready to play at their designated time. There is no supervision after rehearsal, so musicians must be picked up promptly.

SUMMER INTENSIVE CAMP: GIYO musicians are encouraged to attend our Summer Intensive. We arrange for high caliber music teachers to come to Glynn County each summer to maximize our opportunity for improvement. Our supporters heavily contribute to GIYO to make summer camp possible. Students also have the opportunity to start work on our performance music in this intensive environment.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Because of the generosity of local residents who donate funds to GIYO, limited full and partial scholarships are available for the following orchestra-related programs:

- Private lessons from GIYO approved strings instructors
- Rental of orchestra instruments from GIYO approved vendors
- Summer programs approved by GIYO

Funding for these scholarships will be granted by a GIYO committee, which will review formal applications twice a year. The deadline for scholarship applications will be on the application form.

Completed applications must be received through the mail to the GIYO post office box by the deadline. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. All decisions will be final. Students who receive a scholarship the first semester are not guaranteed second semester or summer scholarships. Students must reapply each semester. Each application/parent commitment/teacher recommendation will stand on its own. The teacher recommendation is pertinent to a decision on who receives and maintains scholarships. The amount of full and partial scholarship will depend on the amount of money available to GIYO during the funding period.

A scholarship may be revoked at any time for a student's failure to honor their commitment to practice and to adhere to the attendance policy for concerts, rehearsals, and lessons.

Golden Isles Youth Orchestra Calendar

Our calendar is posted on our website, www.GoldenIslesYouthOrchestra.org . You can subscribe to the calendar by adding the giyocalendar@gmail.com to your calendar.

Rehearsals:

Rehearsals are in the Glynn Academy Band Room

Rehearsals are 6:00 – 8:30 pm unless otherwise noted.

Arrive by 15- 30 minutes early to allow time to warm up.

Concert Day Schedule

1:00 Students arrive

1:15 Dress rehearsal

4:00 Concert at Glynn Academy Auditorium

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DRESS for BOYS – tux shirt (clean and ironed), plain white undershirt, bow tie, tux pants, dress shoes, dark long socks– no jackets, no cummerbunds

CONTACT INFORMATION

Golden Isles Youth Orchestra
PO Box 603
Brunswick, GA 31521

WEBSITE: www.GoldenIslesYouthOrchestra.org

FACEBOOK: The Golden Isles Youth Orchestra

FACEBOOK GROUP: Golden Isles Youth Orchestra Members (closed group)

Suzanne Morrison, General Manager

Email: Suzanne@GoldenIslesYouthOrchestra.org

Cell: 912-996-5462

Missy Chappell, Chamber Ensemble and Symphonette Assistant

Email: ensemble@GoldenIslesYouthOrchestra.org

JoAnn Davis, Lessons Coordinator

Email: JAD@GoldenIslesYouthOrchestra.org