

**Rehearsal Etiquette** – Rehearsal is hard work; intensely focused on preparing for the best possible performance for upcoming concerts. Members can expect the Music Director to be well-prepared for rehearsals, both in terms of his own study of the music and his plan for the efficient conduct of the rehearsal.

- **Be punctual:** Rehearsals are held Tuesday evenings at Joppa Hall on the Harford Community College campus from 7 – 9:30 pm from the last week in August through the first week in June, with a break after the December concert. Allow time to unpack instruments, warm-up, and get your music in order.
- **Attendance:** Notify the Personnel Manager (or Student Personnel Manager) in advance if you cannot attend a rehearsal. Missing two or more rehearsals impairs your ability to catch directions, bowing changes, etc. and you may be unprepared for the concert. The Music Director may deny an individual the privilege of playing if, in his opinion, that individual has missed too many rehearsals to be adequately prepared for the concert.
- **Sectionals:** Upon occasion, sectionals will be held by principals. These will be announced well in advance.
- **Music:** All music is expected to be at each rehearsal; if a member cannot attend a specific rehearsal, he or she must make arrangements to get that music to the rehearsal.
- **Practice:** Practice the music at home so that rehearsal time can be spent on ensemble considerations rather than on “note-pounding”. Do not “practice” during rehearsal.
- **Please Do Not:** Chew gum; Text or take phone calls – phones should be on SILENT (If there is an emergency, you may leave the room to take action in the hall).
- **Tuning:** We most efficiently tune in SILENCE.
- **Refrain from talking while the Music Director is talking** or other members are asking questions. When the Music Director is rehearsing one section of the orchestra, the other members should be listening, focusing on what is transpiring, and give support to the group being rehearsed. While there are obvious and desirable social benefits to belonging to the orchestra, the actual rehearsal time should be focused on musical preparation and not on socializing.
- **Dress Rehearsal:** Each subscription concert is preceded by a dress rehearsal from 7 – 10 pm, usually the day before the concert, at the concert location. With very few exceptions, if you do not attend dress rehearsal, you cannot play in the concert. ***Our contract with Bel Air High School requires us to vacate the premises promptly by 10 pm. Percussion and others often need assistance, please offer to lend a hand.***

#### **Concert Etiquette:**

- **Call time:** Call time for the concert is 6:45 pm, allowing ample time for pre-concert preparation; other call times may be announced.

- Each member is expected to play in all five concerts. Attendance at Dress Rehearsal is required.
- Do not wear perfume, cologne, after-shave, etc.
- Do not chew gum.
- Please offer to lend a hand to set up the stage, hand out programs, and greet the audience as they arrive. They love the attention and it makes for better relations with those who support the orchestra.
- ***Please assist with cleaning up the stage after the concert. Our contract with Bel Air High School requires us to vacate the premises promptly by 10 pm. Percussion and others often need assistance, please offer to lend a hand.***

#### **Concert Dress:**

- Ladies
  - Floor-length black skirt or dress slacks;
  - Black dress shoes and black hose;
  - Long sleeve black top – In warm weather, short sleeves (not sleeveless) may be worn, if announced at rehearsal
- Men
  - Black tuxedo/suit;
  - White dress shirt
  - Black dress shoes and socks;
  - Black bow tie and cummerbund or vest – For December concert, solid red or green vest/cummerbund and matching bow tie may be worn, if announced at rehearsal