

School Participation Policy 2022-23

This is an important statement of support for school music programs. We expect our Youth Orchestra musicians to participate in and be leaders of their school programs. In past seasons we have required COYO members to participate in their school music programs however because of current public health issues and the wide variety of circumstances under which our members are returning to school, we feel we must have some flexibility around this policy for the 2022-23 season. That being said, we do not want this flexibility to be used as an excuse to not participate in a school music program when that can be safely done.

Why students need to participate in school programs:

- The purpose of COYO is to serve as a supplement to, not a replacement for, music in the schools.
- If we want the schools to support COYO, we need to support the schools.
 - Schools can prevent students from auditioning. Not only do we ask directors to encourage students to audition, we frequently ask help of the school directors if we are trying to find students for specific instruments to fill out the orchestra.
 - Schools can prevent giving us places to perform in the community.
- There is no substitute for the daily or almost daily rehearsal that comes with school music programs.
- School fine arts programs are being cut or reduced all across the country. When
 top students leave the programs, performance levels suffer, adding fuel to the fire
 that music programs should be cut.
- Without school music instruction, most of the professional musicians in this area (and around the country) would not be where they are today.



School Ensemble Participation Form

COYO Member's Name:	
I intend to participate in the following school ensemble(s) during the 2022-23 school year:	
O Orchestra	Director's Signature:
O Marching Band	Director's Signature:
O Concert/Symphonic Band	Director's Signature:
O Choir	Director's Signature:
O Jazz Ensemble	Director's Signature:
O CIM Young Artists Program	
O Home schooled	
Other: please specify:	

NOTE: Unless approved by your school, pit orchestra for the school musical cannot be the only ensemble in which you participate

If you are unable to participate in your school music program for any reason, please discuss the conflict with the COYO Manager. The COYO Manager will need to confirm the conflict with the school for you to remain in COYO.

Please turn form in by Sunday, August 21, 2022.