

Alabama Orchestra Association 2025 All-Region/All-State Policies

Participation Policy:

- It is anticipated that students will commit to the All-Region Orchestra weekend as they commit to participate in the All-State Orchestra Festival.
- Students participating in the Alabama All State Orchestra Festival Must attend ALL REHEARSALS AND REQUIRED ACTIVITIES OF THE FESTIVAL.
- If a student is unable to attend ALL activities of the Festival, it is his/her responsibility to immediately notify the President, Jordan Kirchner-Ford, president@alabamaorchestraassociation.com, and Executive Director, Anna Marie Tysinger, executivedirector@alabamaorchestraassociation.org, so that an alternate may be given that place.
 - *If a student drops out within 10 days of the All-State Festival; with the exception of health or family emergency; he/she will not be eligible to audition for the Festival the following year.

Behavior Policy:

- Students must act in an appropriate manner throughout the course of the festival weekend
- Students will show respect to the conductor, sectional instructors, chaperones and other students in the festival including
 - Not talking or playing out of turn
 - No rough-housing or other physical acting out
 - Restrict your activities to the assigned portions of the building
- Students will arrive on time for all rehearsals/sectionals
- *Immediate dismissal from the festival will result for the following behaviors:*
 - Use of alcohol
 - Use of drugs
 - Inappropriate sexual behavior

Hotel Policy:

- Please abide by all hotel rules and adhere to quiet times (typically 10pm-6am). We are not the only people staying at the hotels.

Infractions after the first warning will be brought to the President for action. Students who miss a rehearsal or are tardy to two rehearsals without notice will automatically be dismissed from the Festival and future Festivals. After one year, the student may petition the AOA executive board for permission to reinstate eligibility. No refund will be given for dismissals.

If you are unavoidably detained, unwell, or otherwise going to be missing from the beginning of a rehearsal, you must call/text us.

- Anna Marie Tysinger, Executive Director, 334-655-1066
- We feel a strong responsibility for the welfare and safety of all participants.
- Your call will save us from having to track you down.

Masks Optional for 2025

- **Masks are optional at the AOA All-Region/All-State Orchestra Festivals in 2025.**

Schedule

You will be provided with a current, detailed schedule on site at each event. Preliminary, general schedules may be available in advance.

Meals

Most meals during the All-Region/All-State Orchestra Festivals are on your own, with a few possible exceptions during All-State in February.

- Please carefully check the schedules to insure an on-time arrival for rehearsals/sectionals after meals.
- Please respect the host school's policies regarding food/drink in lobbies or auditoriums. We are guests in their home.

Concert Dress

Students have a few options for formal concert attire:

1. Tux with black tie (bowtie or necktie), white shirt, black pants, black dress shoes, black socks.
2. Black suit with black tie (bowtie or necktie), white shirt, black pants, black dress shoes, black socks.
3. Long black dress that comes below knee and below elbow. Black shoes and black stockings/hose.
4. All black dress clothes with black shoes and black socks.
5. Black pants or skirt with white long sleeve shirt or blouse, black dress shoes, black socks.

Please remember:

- Shoes: Black dress shoes, close-toed, flats, or a 1"- 2" heel are acceptable. No clogs, sandals, flip-flops, boots, or platforms will be accepted.
- Hair: At all performances the hair should be placed out of the students' eyes in a professional style. No bows, ribbons, or barrettes. All hair clips and accessories should be discreet and blend with the hair color.
- Jewelry: Jewelry should be modest and worn under the uniform. All earrings should be small loops or studs.

Concert Information for Musicians

- Wear concert clothes to the morning rehearsal.
- Only take your instrument and music on stage.
 - Leave valuables, coats, etc. with your chaperone or in the warm-up room
 - Leave instrument cases in the warmup room
 - (Warm up rooms will be locked while you are performing)
- All Festival participants are asked to remain in the hall for the entire concert to show respect for all ensemble performances. Students may be assigned specific areas reserved for them in the auditorium.
- Instructions for changing out orchestras will be given at morning rehearsals
- After your performance **all music and your folder must be turned in**. Do not take any of them home.

Concert Information for Families and Friends

- Concerts for all Festivals will be held on Sunday afternoons. Specific times are TBD.
- All concerts are open free of charge to the public.
- No flash photography. No recording devices allowed due to copyright restrictions. A video of the concert will be available. Order forms and payments will be received in the lobby on Sunday.
- The auditorium will be closed to the public during the morning rehearsals prior to the concert. The doors will open as soon as the last warm-up is complete and students have left the stage.

The Julie Hornstein Scholarship

In 2022, a scholarship fund was established in honor of Julie Hornstein upon her retirement after 15 years as the Alabama Orchestra Association Executive Director. This fund will allow all student applicants the opportunity

to participate in AOA's All-Region and All-State Festivals. If you would like to donate to the Julie Hornstein Scholarship Fund, please see Anna Marie Tysinger in the lobby. The Alabama Orchestra Association is a non-profit organization; all donations are tax-deductible. Cash, check, and credit card payments will be accepted; please add JHS in the memo line of any donation. Thank you!

Grant Information and Advocacy Request

This festival is supported, in part, by a grant from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. This helps us keep fees manageable and the Festival at the highest quality level. Unfortunately, in tough economic times, public arts funding at all levels becomes endangered because it is easy to give it a 'frills' label. If you think funding for arts and arts education should continue, please write a brief note/email/call to each of your state and federal legislators letting them know that your family benefited from these funds and encouraging them to think twice before calling the Arts an easy item to cut. Your voice does count!

