



MUSICIANS' & PARENTS' HANDBOOK

ABILITY is what you're capable of doing
MOTIVATION determines what you do
ATTITUDE determines how well you do it

Remember the Es: Effort, Execution, Enthusiasm, Excitement, Energy, Electrify, Excellence, Entertainment, Eagerness, Endeavor, Enjoy

The Bravura Youth Symphonic Band was founded by music professor Don Marino in February of 2011 in Temecula, California.

The word "Bravura" (bra-voor-a / bra-vyoor-a) is an Italian musical term that has many meanings, some of which are: brilliant, spirited, energetic, superb, exceptional, splendid, and notable.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Bravura Youth Symphonic Band is dedicated to providing a positive and challenging experience in which its members can enrich their lives by developing character, confidence, self-discipline, teamwork, respect, and achievement, and, to nurture a lifelong understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of fine music and the arts.

ELEGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Membership will include musicians, middle school through college age with, at least, an intermediate proficiency on a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument.

PARTICIPATION FEE

The discounted Participation Fee is \$400 for the whole season (August through June). To take advantage of this discount, the fee must be paid in full by the end of September. If you are unable to pay the \$400 by the end of September then an alternative payment plan would take effect whereby the Participation Fee would be \$250 for the Fall season (to be paid by the end of September) and the Participation Fee for the Spring season would be \$250 (to be paid by the end of February).

Failure to pay the Participation Fee in full will result in the termination of the musician as a member of the Band with no refund available of any monies already paid. When the Participation Fee is paid in full the musician may be re-instated into the band.

MULTIPLE FAMILY MEMBERS PARTICIPATION FEE

The Participation Fee for families that have more than one member in the band will be per the payment plan for the first member and 20% discount for any and all additional family members.

ADDITIONAL FEES

In addition to the Participation Fee there will be instances when extra fees will be administered for such things as tour costs, transportation fees, etc.

REFUND POLICY

The Participation Fee is non-refundable unless requested prior to the first rehearsal or due to extreme circumstances (i.e. illness).

REGULAR REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

The 2018-19 season will begin on Monday evening August 20, 2018 from 6:00-8:30 PM. All of the rehearsals, with a few exceptions, will be every Monday from 6:00-8:30 and will be held in the Band Room at **Chaparral High School**, 27215 Nicolas Road in Temecula. When a Monday is part of a holiday weekend the rehearsal that week will, most likely, be on Tuesday evening. The rehearsal schedule is posted on our website.

Although BYSB will try to adhere to the regular schedule as much as possible, it must be realized that, sometimes for various important reasons, changes to either the rehearsal day, time, or site may need to take place. Every effort will be made to keep any changes to a minimum and only when it is absolutely necessary. There may also be the rare occasion when it will be necessary to schedule additional rehearsals. The musicians and their parents should refer to the Calendar on the website and also check their e-mails for any changes.

FINANCIAL AID

The BYSB Board of Directors does award financial aid to those musicians whose families are unable to pay the required Participation Fee (in part or in full). Request for financial aid DOES NOT automatically mean approval. To be considered for financial assistance, the following criteria must be met:

- A letter signed by the parents stating justifiable reason(s) why the Participation Fee cannot be paid by them (in part or in full).

- The musician **MUST** be fully committed to attending and participating in every rehearsal and performance that is scheduled by the BYSB Music Director.
- Based on conditions set by the board, the musician will be subjected to one of the following:
 - assigned work hours in preparation of rehearsals and/or events
 - assigned fundraising duties to earn funds on his/her behalf
 - assigned a payment plan to cover part of the Participation Fee

Once all of the above criteria have been met, the request will be reviewed by the board for consideration. If approved, the musician and his/her family will be notified of the award with set conditions.

FREE MEMBERSHIP

Any musician that has been a member of the band and has graduated from high school may continue or come back as a member free of the Participation Fee.

Any musician whose parent is a member of the Board will not be charged the Participation Fee.

INCENTIVE REWARDS

Any musician, who is a fully-paid member of BYSB, and not receiving Financial Aid, can earn \$100 for each new member he or she invites to join BYSB. If the new member is needed and accepted as a member in BYSB and pays the full Participation Fee, the musician bringing the new musician(s) in will receive their incentive reward. If a new member joins BYSB in January or later the incentive award will be \$50.

FAMILY VACATIONS

It is very imperative that every musician be responsible and follows through with their commitment to BYSB by participating in all of BYSB concerts and performances. The success of BYSB relies on the attendance of the musicians. BYSB's season runs from the middle of August through the entire month of June. June is our busiest month with a minimum of 3 performances. **BYSB does not rehearse or perform during the entire month of July or the first two weeks of August. This gives a total of 6 weeks in which families can plan their summer vacation. It would be greatly appreciated if the families would use this time for their summer vacation so that the musician will not miss our Summer Concert, Disneyland, and any other performances which is regularly planned for the end of June...thank you.**

REHEARSALS AND CONCERTS

The season for BYSB is from August through June and will consist of weekly rehearsals. There will be a minimum of 3 concerts, Winter, Spring, and Summer (Pops).

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY FOR ALL CONCERTS!

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The staff of BYSB is fully aware of the demands that are made on the musicians' time with school, family, and other commitments. However, a band is a team effort and needs the full participation of each team member to be fully effective. In a "team" situation, the good of the team comes before the individual. The old adage, "a chain is only as strong as its weakest link" is certainly true. **Therefore, it is expected that every musician will attend all rehearsals and all**

performances. This is the obligation and responsibility and respect that must be given to the musician's fellow BYSB members.

ABSENTS

A musician may be absent (for any reason including illness or school conflicts) a total of three (3) rehearsals during any one concert rehearsal schedule. Upon the 4th absence, the musician may be automatically dismissed from the band without any benefit of a Participation Fee refund. The musician can then register to be a member at the beginning of the next concert rehearsal schedule.

TARDYS

If the musician is not ready to play when the Conductor steps upon the podium to begin the rehearsal, the musician will be considered tardy. Every 2 tardys will be considered 1 absence.

ATTENDANCE SIGN-IN

When the musician arrives at each rehearsal they must sign-in by initialing and posting their time of arrival. **Failure to sign-in will be considered an absence.**

BEHAVIOR / CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

To be a member of BYSB is considered an honor and is to be treated with all due accord. The following rules lend to being considered a member in good standing. Any infraction may be a cause for suspension or dismissal as deemed appropriate by the Music Director.

- Arrive early enough to help with the set-up and then be seated and warmed-up and ready when the Music Director starts to begin the rehearsal.
- **RESPECT** – for the Conductor, fellow musicians, parents and other adults, all personal property, and the rehearsal and concert venues.
- No phones or other electronic devices may be out or used in the rehearsal room.
- Must wear Appropriate Dress Attire
- No food or drink is allowed in the rehearsal or concert areas. Breaks will be given in order for the musician to be able to eat or drink in the proper locations.
- Bring your instrument, music folder with all the music, a soft black pencil / eraser
- Use and/or possession of drugs, alcohol or tobacco will be grounds for immediate terminations of membership with no refund of the participation fee.
- Failure to learn your music to the standards of the Music Director may be cause for suspension from performing in that particular concert. Consistent neglect will be cause for termination of membership with no refund of the Participation Fee. Talking and/or any distractions during the rehearsal are strictly prohibited.
- Stop playing and give full attention to the Conductor when he is talking and giving instructions.
- Immediately mark your music appropriately when given instruction by the Conductor or Section Leader – **Mark your music with soft pencil only.**
- All music must be returned in excellent condition. **The musician will be charged \$5.00 for any part lost or in damaged condition.** If the musician's folder is lost there will be a charge for all of the music in the folder

CONCERT DRESS REQUIREMENTS

Formal Concert Attire – Concert Halls, Auditoriums, Special Concert Events:

Guys: Black Suit or Black Tuxedo / Black Belt or Cummerbund
White Long-sleeved Dress Shirt
Black Bow-Tie
Black Dress Shoes and Black Dress Socks

Gals: Black Dressy Dress (must cover the knees when seated) **OR**
Black Dressy Top with Dressy Black Slacks or Dressy Full Skirt
Black Dress Shoes / Black Stockings

Casual Performance Attire – Disneyland, Malls, Outdoor Concerts, etc.

Official BYSB black Polo Shirt neatly tucked into Black Dress
Slacks with Black Belt, Black Socks, Black Dress Shoes

ATTIRE NOT ALLOWED

Baggy Pants, baggy shirts, low-cut blouses or dresses, bare midriffs, high slits on skirts, sandals, athletic shoes, open-toed shoes. No jeans, even if they are black – not dressy.

Jewelry, chains, or accessories that could be distracting to the audience.

MENTORS

Adult family members of the musicians may participate as a member of the band with the prior permission of the Music Director if they perform at an acceptable level of competency and do not take the place of a qualified younger musician and can act as mentors to the younger band members.

AUDITIONS

All musicians who are currently members of BYSB must audition twice during the season, once before the beginning of the season in August and again after the holiday break in January. The auditions are intended to place the musicians in their proper seating in their respective instrument sections. Seating will be based entirely on the performance at the audition and not on seniority or any other factor. The musicians will be judged on: intonation, tone quality, rhythmic accuracy, technique musicianship, and sight reading ability. There may be occasions during the season when any of the musicians may be asked to audition again by the Music Director to re-assign seating. This policy will help the musicians to be highly-motivated to work hard with their practicing and to continue to strive to play their instrument as well as possible

SEATING

The goal of the band's performances will be to sound as musical as possible. Therefore, the Music Director will do what is deemed necessary to achieve that goal which would include making seating changes at his discretion. Normally, the musician who earned the seat of Section Leader or "First Chair" will be given the opportunity to play the solo parts within the section. If, however, the Section Leader is not playing the solo to the expectations of the Music Director, other musicians in the section will be given the opportunity to "challenge" the Section Leader to determine who plays the part the best. This policy, also, will tend to motivate all of the musicians

to play at the best of their ability at all times. The seating of the individual musicians will always be based on what is best for the band.

PRACTICING POLICY

It is absolutely mandatory that each BYSB musician is thoroughly prepared to perform all of the music come concert time. Therefore, it is highly recommended that each musician practice the music of BYSB anywhere from 30 minutes to one hour 7 days a week.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Though many youth band REQUIRE their musicians to be taking private lessons during their tenure in the band, BYSB will only strongly encourage the musicians to take private lessons on a regular basis. It is a widely-known fact that the more efficiently a musician plays the more enjoyment is reaped from the playing of music. This community has an abundance of outstanding professional private music teachers and the Music Director will be able to recommend one or more of these teachers to the parents.

PERFORMING PHILOSOPHY

The experience of performing live public concerts has a positive effect on both the musical and personal growth of the musicians. Therefore, BYSB strongly believes that the pursuit of the band performing in a variety of locales and venues is very beneficial to the musicians.

SOLO & ENSEMBLE OPPORTUNITIES

BYSB supports the idea of giving the advanced members of the band the opportunity to perform a solo or in an ensemble as part of each full band concert. Auditions will be held to choose any musician(s) qualified to perform at the concerts.

TICKET SALES

Each BYSB member is REQUIRED to buy a minimum of 4 tickets for every one of the 3 scheduled concerts during the season.

SOCIAL EVENTS

BYSB believes that social activity and growth is very important in the lives of young people. Consequently, year-round social functions such as beach or pool parties, BBQs, Disneyland, and other social events will be a part of the activities of BYSB.

FUND-RAISING

Raising money for organizations be it schools, sports teams, scouts, musical groups, theater groups, must be included in order to enable that group to succeed or, unfortunately in many cases, to even exist. BYSB is no different. There are many expenses involved in the running of the band. Money is needed to have insurance, buy music, rent rehearsal space, rent concert venues, pay staff salaries, print programs, flyers, advertising, video and audio record concerts etc. Desiring to keep the Participation Fee, which doesn't come close to covering all of the bands' expenses, as low as possible, it is very important that Fund-Raising be an on-going year round activity. Grants, donations, and contributions, also, are especially important means to raise funds.

TOURS

BYSB strongly believes that the opportunity to travel is very important in the educational, cultural, and social experience of young people. Through extensive fund-raising, periodic performing tours in cities around the world will be planned.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Don Marino – Founder, Executive Director, Music Director/Conductor

Britt Longmore - President

Jeff Carr – Past President

Marti Treckman – Vice-President

Adriana Garcia - Secretary

Juanita Marino – Member at Large

ADVISORY BOARD

Gordon Firemark, Don Jackson, Tom Marino

PARENTS COMMITTEE

BYSB is open to hearing ideas from the parents of the band and welcomes any and all parents to attend a meeting with the Directors and/or Board members to enable a discussion to take place that would enhance the experience of the band musicians.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Don Marino donmarino3@gmail.com (951) 699-6987 (H)

Don Marino...*Founder, Executive Director and Music Director*

Don Marino, founder and music director/conductor of The Bravura Youth Symphonic Band is a highly-respected professor of music with 50 years of experience as an educator, conductor, and musician. Having taught and conducted musical groups at the elementary, middle school, high school, college and professional levels, he has achieved great success by combining his musical knowledge and motivational skills with energy, enthusiasm, friendliness and humor. He has conducted hundreds of concerts that included symphony orchestras, operas, ballets, musicals, wind ensembles, concert bands, jazz bands, and show choirs. Many of these concerts took place in famous venues such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion of the Los Angeles Music Center, Royce Hall at UCLA and the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. For twelve years he led the Southwest Youth Symphony Orchestra of Los Angeles County which was recognized as one of the finest youth orchestras in southern California of its time. Professor Marino has been honored with many awards throughout his career including “Teacher of the Year” and, in 2011, was inducted into the California Jazz Educators Hall of Fame. Locally, he was the band director at Chaparral High School in 2009-10 and music director of the Inland Valley Youth Symphony. In November, 2014, he founded the Bravura Youth Jazz Band in Temecula. In 2016, he founded the Bravura Jazz Camp in Temecula. He is very proud of the fact that many of his former students are now professional musicians around the world including two of his own sons.