NORTHERN IOWA JUNIOR ORCHESTRA  Goals and Policies

NAME:

The name of this organization will be the Northern Iowa Junior Orchestra or NIJO. All programs and correspondence will be identified as follows:

Northern Iowa Junior Orchestra
An affiliate of the UNI Suzuki School

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this organization will be to fulfill the need for a potentially superior musical organization which will challenge, educate, and stimulate the advanced students of music in northeast Iowa; to extend the school music programs, never substituting for them; and to contribute to the cultural life of the participating students and their communities.

ELIGIBILITY:

String students in grades 5 - 8 will be eligible to audition for the junior orchestra. A student must be a participant in good standing in his/her appropriate school instrumental performance group, if such a performance group is available.

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

NIJO is directed by Mr. Todd Williams & Ms. Erin Gaherty-Williams. Mr. Williams is a faculty member of the UNI Suzuki School and Ms. Gaherty Williams is the music director for the West High Orchestra. Players for the WCFSO and UNI School of Music may assist with the rehearsals at the music director's request.

AUDITIONS:

Eligible students will be invited to play a prepared selection for the audition staff on audition day (tba—September). Students will be notified of the results at the audition or by mail or phone.
FACILITIES:
Use of the facilities is being donated by UNI School of Music School and are subject to availability.

CONCERTS:
There will be one local concert this season in April.

TOUR:
There will be an all day tour in April.

CONCERT & TOUR DRESS:
  • Dress for men: black pants, white shirts, dark socks and shoes
  • Dress for women: black pants or skirts with white blouses, dark shoes

REHEARSALS:
Generally, rehearsals will take place at Russell Hall, room 111 on Fridays from 5:00-7:00 and one Saturday morning from 9:30 - noon. Alternate location for rehearsals will be in Davis Hall at Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center.

Fall rehearsals generally take place the first Friday of October, November and December.

Spring rehearsals will be every Friday except one Saturday morning in April. Rehearsal location changes will be announced as much in advance as possible.

ABSENCES:
Members are asked to submit their conflicts with the rehearsal schedule in writing at the audition or as soon as possible after receiving the schedule. Members should call or email Cathy Craig at 273-2508 or cathy.craig@uni.edu in the case of unforeseen absences. When a rehearsal is missed, it is the member's responsibility to contact the administrator or fellow section member to be advised of the week's assignment.
COMMITMENT:

You are expected to be at every rehearsal. By joining you have indicated that NIJO is a priority and you will refrain from adding activities to your busy calendar that conflict with rehearsals. When adding activities that may conflict, it is your responsibility to notify the other activity that you will be unavailable on during NIJO rehearsal times.

EXPECTATIONS:

All orchestra members are expected to spend time practicing the assignments during the weeks between rehearsals. All orchestra members are expected to attend rehearsal on time (be in your seat ready to play at 4:55 or 9:25). All members should bring a pencil. Cello and bass students should bring a rock stop.

NIJO MUSIC:

Your folder of NIJO music is your responsibility. If the music is lost or damaged you will be charged the cost of replacing the music. This will be based on the current market price. This may be as much as $60 per piece because single part music for orchestra works is usually not available. A lost part means we must buy the entire set. KEEP YOUR MUSIC SAFE!

ADMINISTRATION:

Administration of NIJO activities will be the responsibility of the UNI Suzuki School and the musical directors. In addition, the musical directors will hold auditions, select the music, set the concert dates, schedule rehearsals, and attend to any ancillary business of the orchestra.

FUNDING:

The orchestra will be self-supporting and is solely responsible for raising funds. Participating students will be charged an annual fee to cover administrative costs and staff considerations. Payment is due at the first rehearsal. Checks should be made payable to UNI Suzuki (NOT NIJO) and can be mailed to UNI Suzuki School, School of Music, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0246 OR given to the Orchestra Administrator at the start of the first rehearsal OR left in the black box by the Russell Hall main office (115). Students may be responsible for a portion of their housing, food, and transportation costs on trips or tours taken during the season depending on the extent of the tour. Contact the administrator to arrange for installment payments of fees.
TREATS:

Members will be asked to bring treats to rehearsal. A reminder email will be made on Tuesday before each rehearsal. The member bringing the treats will be asked to clean up the treat mess after rehearsal.

WEATHER RELATED CANCELLATIONS:

If Waterloo, Cedar Falls or UNI cancels school for the day or dismisses classes early, NIJO rehearsal will be canceled. An email will be sent to all members.

COMMUNICATIONS:

All announcements and cancellations will be sent via email unless other means is requested by the student or student’s parents. Information will also be available on the UNI Suzuki School website. 

http://www.uni.edu/music/suzuki  (Click on the NIJO logo.)

CONTACT PERSONS:

- Mr. Todd Williams
  Music Director
  todd.williams@uni.edu

- Ms. Erin Gaherty-Williams
  Music Director
  gaherty@gmail.com

- Cathy Craig
  Suzuki School Coordinator & Orchestra Administrator
  cathy.craig@uni.edu
  273-2508