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

Northern Iowa Youth Orchestra
(is) 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: Students in grades 9 - 12 will be eligible to audition for the youth orchestra. A student must be a participant in good standing in his/her appropriate school ensemble or performance group (orchestra or band), if such a group is available. Exceptions to the above will be made on a case by case basis.

MUSIC DIRECTOR: NIYO is directed by Mr. John Chiles. 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 days (September). Students will be notified of the results at the audition or by email or phone. Audition for solo parts/sections may occur during the course of the semester.

FACILITIES: Use of the facilities is being donated by UNI School of Music and are subject to availability

CONCERTS: There will be a minimum of two (2) calendar year performances for NIYO. Additional performance opportunities will be made available on a yearly basis. Concert call times are one hour before the concert start time.

CONCERT DRESS: Concert dress is concert specific and will always be announced at the dress rehearsal

MEN:
OPTION #1: Solid colored shirt with black slacks, black shoes, black socks
OPTION #2: Black dress shirt with black slacks, black shoes, black socks

WOMEN:
OPTION #1: Colored dress or dress shirt/blouse with black or colored pants or skirt, black shoes
OPTION #2: All black dress, blouse & skirt or blouse and pants, black shoes

REHEARSALS: Rehearsals will take place at Russell Hall or Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center/Davis Hall most Saturdays from 10:00 to noon. A complete list of rehearsals is available on the NIYO web page. Attendance at the final dress rehearsal before each concert is mandatory. The final rehearsal may be a different day than regular rehearsals.

ABSENCES: Members are asked to submit their conflicts with the rehearsal schedule at the fall meeting. Members should call or email Cathy Craig at 319-273-2508 or cathy.craig@uni.edu in the case of unforeseen absences such as illness. 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. If the dress rehearsal is missed, the student cannot perform on the concert. Two absences per concert cycle are allowed. Two late arrivals count as an absence.

COMMITMENT: You are expected to be at every rehearsal. Arrive five minutes before the beginning of the rehearsal. By joining you have indicated that NIYO 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 during NIYO 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 9:55). All members should bring a pencil. Cello and bass students should bring a rock stop.

NIYO MUSIC: Your folder of NIYO music is your responsibility. If the music is lost or damaged, you will be charged the cost of replacing the music and folder. 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. Your folder and the music (both copies and originals) must be returned at the end of each concert.

ADMINISTRATION: Administration of NIYO activities will be the responsibility of the UNI Suzuki School and the NIYO musical director. In addition, the music director 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 a fee to cover administrative costs, music purchases and staff considerations. Payment is due at the first rehearsal. Checks should be made payable to UNI Suzuki (NOT NIYO) and can be mailed to UNI Suzuki School, School of Music, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0246 OR given to Cathy Craig at the start of the first rehearsal. Contact the administrator to arrange for installment payments of fees.

Students will be responsible for their all or part of their housing, food, and transportation costs on trips or tours taken during the season.

WEATHER RELATED CANCELLATIONS: If Waterloo, Cedar Falls or UNI cancels school for the day or dismisses classes early, NIYO rehearsal will be canceled. An email will be sent, the announcement will be posted on the website and a cancellation message will be left on the school’s answering machine (273-2508). If UNI closes the campus due to winter storms, NIYO rehearsals are automatically canceled.

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

http://www.uni.edu/music/suzuki (Listed under General Information in the Affiliates section or by clicking the NIYO logo at the bottom of the home page.)

CONTACT PERSONS:

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  Music Director

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- Cathy Craig
  Suzuki School Coordinator & Orchestra Administrator

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