



Hendricks Symphony Orchestra

Instrumentalist Guidelines

(Revised July 4, 2026)

Listed in this document are the things that you may already know, and we hope you will forgive us for repeating them. It is our hope that this list will continue to change and evolve, as it reflects our ever-growing organization.

The Orchestra

The Hendricks Symphony Orchestra is a select instrumental group dedicated to performing the masterworks of the orchestral repertoire. We will rehearse on Tuesdays during the concert season and expect to perform at least six (6) concerts a season.

Joining the Orchestra

The Hendricks Symphony Orchestra is open to all residents of the community interested in playing great orchestral music. New members are accepted by audition. For additional information, or to schedule an audition, contact **Amy Eggleston** by email at amy.eggleston.hss@gmail.com or **Dr. Albert Lilly** by email at albert.lilly.hso@gmail.com. While there is no membership fee, members are encouraged to make an annual donation to the Hendricks Symphonic Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation, to help offset expenses. You may do so by going to our donation portal at: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/our-20th-season-masterworks-and-memories-2026--27>.

Audition requirements

Auditions may be held annually at the discretion of the director, but each section must audition once every five years. Auditions are primarily to enable us to find out more about you. We want them to be a positive experience, and we promise to do everything we can to make you comfortable, so that you will be able to play with confidence. We will ask you to:

1. Perform an instrumental selection of your choice (accompanist will be provided). It can be a sonata, concerto movement, or an orchestral excerpt (please bring piano music if you want it accompanied). Your selection should contain both passages that will show your tone quality and those that will show technique.
2. Play prepared orchestral excerpts for your instrument, as listed on web site
3. Play scales and sight-read, mainly orchestral excerpts.

Attendance requirements

Members must attend a minimum of 80% of the rehearsals for a program and must attend all dress rehearsals. Any exceptions must be approved by the conductor. It is your responsibility to check in with the personnel manager.

Concert Attire

Men wear black tuxedos or a tuxedo-like suits (not grey, brown, or blue), white shirts, black bow tie, black shoes, and black socks.

Women are all in black: long floor length dress, or same length black skirt or slacks with preferably a long-sleeved black blouse, and black dress shoes.

Expectations

Each musician is expected to learn the music assigned for each rehearsal on his or her own before the rehearsal. Personal practice is where you learn the notes, rehearsal is where the music is put together to create the greater whole. Beyond the first reading of a work, rehearsal time will be devoted to the development of ensemble sound, interpretation, and other musical matters. It is further expected that each musician will make a reasonable effort to develop his or her own instrumental skills and will make every effort to contribute in a positive manner to the work of the group.

Music Sign-out

Folders can be signed out at the first rehearsal for each concert, and they must be returned at the last performance of that program, so they can be prepared for the next performance. When possible, we will make available extra string parts so each stand member can have one to take home and practice. **If for some unforeseen reason you cannot attend a rehearsal, it is your responsibility to make sure the music is at the rehearsal so that the part can be covered.**

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

We prefer that you do not bring cell phones and other electronic devices to rehearsal, but if you feel you need them on your person, **they must be silenced with no vibration mode on.** You can retrieve messages at intermission or after the rehearsal or performance.

Rehearsal Behavior

Rehearsals will begin with a warmup promptly at the assigned hour. Food and gum chewing is not allowed. Water bottles should be the no spill variety. Each member is expected to bring a sharp pencil with an eraser to rehearsal to mark your music. Music should **never** be marked with colored pencil or pen. Talking should be kept to a minimum, and all questions should be addressed to the conductor.

Concert Behavior/Expectations:

Cell phones, or any other electronic devices are not permitted on stage during the concert. Personal effects (purses, etc.) may be left backstage (as it is secure) or another safe place. Once you are on stage, there is to be NO TALKING, dancing, or waving at friends/family in the audience. Musicians are not allowed in public areas or to mingle with the public before or during a performance. Upon completion of your part, remain still while watching the conductor until the completion of the piece (this includes page turning/flipping). At intermission and at the end of the concert, do not leave the stage until the audience has stopped applauding and the lights have come up. Most of all, have fun!!