

Archdiocesan String Festival Policy (May, 2010)

1. Students must attend a Catholic school (archdiocesan or private) in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to be eligible to participate in the String Festival. Children who are home-schooled not eligible.
2. Eligible students must be in grades 5 through 8, presently studying their instrument, while having at least 2 years of playing experience, currently participating in their school's string program where available, must be recommended by the child's string instructor, and approved by the school's music teacher and principal.
3. The students and their instructors are responsible for properly preparing the music for rehearsals and concerts. The director of the String Festival reserves the right to determine if the student is ready for performance.
4. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals. One absence is permitted, and must be reported to the orchestra director or designated liaison. The director may allow an additional absence in a case of extenuating circumstances.
5. Children participating in the Archdiocesan String Festival must also participate in the Concert of Excellence hosted by the Archdiocese at the Kimmel Center in Verizon Hall. This event is held in alternate years. .
Students must participate in BOTH Concerts.
6. A non-refundable registration fee of \$15.00 will be assessed for each student. Payment must be made at the time of registration.
7. Blind auditions for seating are optional. A blind audition means the judges will not have visual or verbal contact with the students during the audition process, thus allowing for the highest level of accuracy in the judging process, as well as a more comfortable experience for the student. All concerns will be communicated via a third party representative in the audition room.
8. In order to properly balance the sound of the string orchestra, all students in grades 5 and 6 will play violin 2, and students in grades 7 and 8 will play violin 1. No exception will be made.
9. Students must provide their own transportation to rehearsals and performances, with the exception of any rehearsals scheduled for the Kimmel Center Performance, at which time, bus transportation will be provided on those days by the archdiocese.
10. Lastly, in the remote chance that a student's behavior is not exemplary, the orchestra director reserves the right to dismiss any child from a rehearsal and or performance, which may also result in a status of ineligibility to all future Archdiocesan events.