

Susanville Symphony Academy of Music

"Melody is the universal language"

Greetings **Musometrists**,

I trust that your July was a pleasant one, filled with hot dogs, apple pie and Chevrolets. Mrs. Harris and I enjoyed working around our home and a short trip to see our children up in Oregon. Today is August 1st, so I am back at work, teaching lessons and preparing for our upcoming 2022/23 season.

PARENT COUNCIL Our Parent Council/Mentor meeting is still scheduled for Sunday evening **August 21st**, at the Harris home (**705 CA-139 (Ash Street) in Susanville**). The gathering begins at **6 PM** and we will begin preparing for the events of the season, as well as developing our procedures for the months ahead. If you are a Mentor, or an interested Parent, this is your opportunity to be in on the cutting edge of our Academy as we grow and develop our program through this year. You need not bring anything but yourself.

REGISTRATION The season begins with a **Registration** event, **Monday August 29th, 2022** at Richmond Elementary School. This event will begin at **5:30 PM** and run until **7:30 PM**. There will be no rehearsal that evening, but we will distribute folders, with music, as well as rehearsal schedules and other information about this year's academy. We will also be able to take a look at instruments, to make sure they are in working order, or (if you are renting an instrument) assign an instrument to you for the season.

TUITION Our Tuition schedule has changed for this season as follows:

- 1 Student (Child or adult) - \$75 per term or \$140 for the entire season
- 2 Students (Same family) - \$100 per term or \$180 for the entire season
- 3 Students (Same family) - \$150 per term or \$250 for the entire season
- Additional Students will be \$40 additional or \$75 for the entire season (If your family has 4 or more students)

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Your Tuition money goes to cover these items

- Facility rental (for rehearsal and performance)
- Honorariums for our Directors
- New Music Purchases
- Honorariums for clinicians
- Food/Snacks for rehearsals and performances
- Seed money for Fundraising projects'
- Purchase of new instruments (as needed)
- Repair of current Academy Instruments and equipment
- Publicity for our concert events and
- T-shirts for concerts

BEGINNING MUSICIANS You will note that we are adding a **Beginning Musicians Class** for the **1st Semester** and a **Beginning Band** and **Beginning Strings** in the **2nd Semester**. (This group runs from **5:30 – 6:25 PM**). During the **1st Semester** our Beginning Musicians Class will meet **every week**. During the **2nd Semester** our Beginning Musicians will then meet **every other week** with either the **Strings** (if they choose to play Violin, Viola or Cello) or the **Winds** (If they choose to play a Band instrument.). **Percussionists** will also go with the **Winds**. We are pleased to add this program to our Academy. **Miss Kayla Millar** will be instructing these groups.

AUDITIONS All current Academy musicians will be asked to perform an “audition” during our first two rehearsals. This will help our leadership assess the skills of musicians and better give instruction on how to improve your skills. We will place each musician in ranks (1st Chair, 2nd Chair, etc...) and incorporate a “Challenge” system where our members can move up in ranking throughout the year.

PRACTICE REWARDS For our students who are still attending school (sorry adults, you are still on the honor system) we are offering a reward for verified rehearsal time away from our regular rehearsals. If a student rehearses 2 ½ hours per week (signed off by a parent)

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then they accumulate points for prizes that will be distributed at the last rehearsal of the month (for their particular ensemble). We really

do not get enough time to rehearse like a typical school program that meets every day of the week, so we have to compensate by disciplining ourselves to practice on our own. Some of our Academy students do practice on a regular basis and we want to encourage and reward this good discipline. You will be able to pick up Practice Record Sheets at all of our rehearsals. We'll explain the full details at our first rehearsals.

SCHEDULE We have an exciting line up of music and education planned for this year. I have attached a comprehensive rehearsal schedule that will go through to our final performance at **Cornerstone Memorial Park in Spaulding on Sunday July 2nd, 2023**. This schedule is our master for the year. Print it, look at it, use it and don't forget to check it on a regular basis. This is a basic **REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE** for the entire Academy. We will be posting an additional schedule for our Recitals and Auxiliary Performance opportunities, after we have confirmed all of those dates. In the past we have had folks show up for the wrong rehearsal date, or fail to show up on their scheduled rehearsal date, because we do not really pay attention to this kind of stuff. (*Say, "I love Squid" to Mrs. Harris and if you are one of the first 4 members to do so, at your first rehearsal, you'll get a \$5 Frosty Mill gift certificate*) so please don't be one of those who miss out because you're not paying attention.

DRESS CODE Our Concert Dress Code is the same for every event. It will not change, as we have in the past, to match the occasion, but every time we perform, the dress code is as follows:

Ladies: Knee length (or longer) dark skirt (or pants)

T-shirt provided by the Academy

Gents: Dark slacks

T-shirt provided by the Academy

(Suits: Dark Coat, White Shirt, Ties are optional, but they always nice.)

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All: Nice shoes please

Avoid: Jeans, Tennis Shoes, Flip-Flops, Army Boots, Scuba Gear

The one exception to this Dress Code is for our recitals, which are of a more relaxed nature. However, at Auxiliary Performances for the general public we should all adhere to our Dress Code.

Welcome back, Musicians. We are going to have a great year. One last reminder: **REGISTRATION – MONDAY AUGUST 29TH, 2022 @ RICHMOND SCHOOL.**

Mr. Harris