

Everyone has the right to feel physically and emotionally safe at Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestras (GBYO). I will do everything I can personally, as a member of the GBYO community, to create and preserve a physically and emotionally safe environment. As a member of the GBYO community, I will strive to treat everyone with respect regardless of any differences.

Bullying is defined as intentionally aggressive behavior that can take many forms (verbal, physical, social, emotional, or cyber - or any combination of these); it involves an imbalance of power, and is often repeated over time. The bullying can consist of one child bullying another, or a group of children bullying another child or group of children.

Student's responsibility:

I commit that I will not bully my peers. If I witness bullying, I will report it to the Conductor of my orchestra/ensemble or to the Music Director of GBYO.

Student's Name (Print): _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's responsibility:

I commit to encouraging my child to always respect others. I will also respect all other adults (parents and staff) at GBYO. I have instructed my child not to bully. I have advised my child to report any bullying to the Conductor of my child's orchestra/ensemble or to the Music Director of GBYO.

I believe that everybody should enjoy GBYO equally, and feel safe, secure, and accepted regardless of color, race, gender, popularity, musical ability, intelligence, religion, and nationality. Bullying can be pushing, shoving, hitting, and spitting, as well as name calling, picking on, making fun of, laughing at, and excluding someone. Bullying causes pain and stress to victims and is never justified or excusable as 'kids being kids', 'just teasing', or any other rationalization. The victim is never responsible for being a target of bullying.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

I understand that Bullying may result in immediate expulsion from GBYO.

GBYO Attendance Policy & Membership Agreement

Members of the Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestras (GBYO) are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances that are published in the GBYO calendar. If you must miss a rehearsal, please inform your conductor in advance. Excessive absences will result in exclusion from the concert performance. Attendance at dress rehearsals is mandatory. In most instances, a student who is absent from the dress rehearsal will not be allowed to perform in the concert.

Each player in an ensemble is important. There are only a few acceptable reasons for missing a performance. A student who misses a concert may be dropped from the ensemble or may be moved back in the section. The consequences of excessive absences and/or missed dress rehearsals or concerts are at the discretion of the member's conductor in consultation with the Music Director.

GBYO makes every effort to avoid conflicts when the GBYO calendar is formulated. We plan around school vacations, religious holidays, CMEA auditions and festivals and the Fairfield County String Festival.

GBYO expects its members be in good standing as participants in their school music programs, where they exist. "Good standing" is determined by the school program.

Members who withdraw before October 1 of any season will have their membership fee, minus a \$25 handling fee, refunded upon request. **Members who withdraw or become ineligible to participate in GBYO on or after October 1 will not receive a refund.**

I understand the policies stated above and accept them as conditions for membership in GBYO.

CLEARLY Print Student's Name

Student's signature

Parent's signature

Date

Date

GBYO DIRECTORY

Each season, GBYO creates a family directory. This directory is for internal use only and many families find it helpful in setting up carpools, small group ensembles and social activities. Information listed includes student and parent names, GBYO ensemble, parent email/home/cell phones, city of residence and school attended.

Please check the box if you DO NOT WISH for your musician's information to be included in the family directory this fall.

I do not wish to be included in the directory.