



Stairway of the Stars

Student Code of Conduct

Since 1948, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has taken great pride in showcasing the comprehensive instruction in choral and instrumental music in our schools through the annual “Stairway of the Stars.” Our district’s tradition of musical excellence, spanning from elementary through secondary education, is widely recognized and admired. With the collaborative support of teachers, parents, local/district administrators, and community members, our student musicians will once again present an extraordinary display of music and artistry.

For an enjoyable performance to take place, the understanding and cooperation of parents and students are needed. During rehearsals and concerts, supervising nearly 1,000 student musicians is an incredibly daunting task for district personnel. A consistent, uniform standard of student behavior and a definition of proper performance and audience etiquette are expected for all our student musicians. Therefore, the SMMUSD Stairway of the Stars Student Code of Conduct is presented below.

1. All district and school behavior/disciplinary policies are in effect at all Stairway rehearsals and performances.
2. All participants will demonstrate respect to every student, teacher, or staff member at all times.
3. Backpacks, bags, purses, books, homework, pens, pencils, and electronic devices will be allowed ONLY at rehearsals. However, if these items interfere with the rehearsal proceedings, they may be confiscated by any SMMUSD Music Teacher. (See SMMUSD School Board Policy 5131.8)
4. No food, candy, gum, or drinks will be allowed during the performances. Water bottles need to be kept off stage.
5. All student performers should attend to their restroom needs and personal matters before the performance. Once the performance begins, student performers will NOT be allowed to leave the concert hall until the concert is concluded. (An exception will be made for students who have written medical authorization that is submitted to the students’ music teacher or emergencies such as sudden illness).
6. Only the participant’s instrument, case, and music folder are allowed in the performance area. No backpacks, bags, purses, books, homework, or electronic devices will be allowed during the performance.
7. All student musicians should follow the concert dress code as outlined by their school music program. Please contact your school’s music teacher if you have any questions or need assistance with concert dress.
8. All student musicians are expected to follow proper audience etiquette during performances, including: no talking or making noise; no phones/screens; applauding at appropriate times; respecting others' space; staying seated; and using restrooms only with teacher permission and between pieces/groups performing.

ANY STUDENT WHO MISREPRESENTS THEIR SCHOOL, COMMUNITY, AND THE DISTRICT, OR IS DISRESPECTFUL TO ANY PERSON, WILL BE SUBJECT TO REMOVAL FROM ANY STAIRWAY REHEARSAL OR PERFORMANCE. PARENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY AND REQUESTED TO ESCORT STUDENTS HOME.



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Please complete the attached form and return it to your student's music teacher, who can also address any questions or concerns that you may have. Thank you for your continued support of our music program and for encouraging our young musicians.

Educational Services Department of Visual and Performing Arts - Music

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Please print

Student Name _____

School _____ Grade _____

Music Teacher _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Phone _____

We have read the Stairway of the Stars Student Code of Conduct and agree to the terms and conditions. We understand that any violation of the Student Code of Conduct will result in the removal of the Stairway performer and may also lead to further disciplinary action administered by the school.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature