

Got Strings Member Code of Conduct

To ensure a positive benefit from our educational experience, Got Strings has established a member “Code of Conduct”; in an effort to encourage an environment that promotes education, self-control, and respect for others. Got Strings does not discriminate based on a person's national origin, race, color, religion, disability, sex, personal orientation, or familial status.

Got Strings Member Attendance

It is the responsibility of the Got Strings member to not miss more than 3 rehearsals (of 12), and participate in all pre-announced performances. Got Strings members must arrive to rehearsal no later than 15 minutes before the start of the rehearsal, and at the pre-announced concert arrival time.

Got Strings members will not be adequately prepared to perform if they do not attend the required rehearsals. However, on rare occasions, Got Strings members may have a need to miss a rehearsal or concert due to a personal illness or family emergency. If this situation is necessary, said student must request, complete, and turn in a Got Strings excused absence form in advance. If any Got Strings member misses more than three rehearsals during a given semester, they may potentially not be eligible to perform in the given semester’s concerts, at the discretion of the Artistic Director or conductor. Your potential absence affects your orchestra. Leaving rehearsal early or arriving late, is disruptive. Please contact the Artistic Director *in advance* if you intend to be late or must leave early.

Got Strings Member Preparedness

Got Strings members will be given folders containing most of the semester’s music for that semester, receiving additional music as the semester progresses. Got Strings members are expected to keep music clean, properly sorted, and repaired if torn or damaged. Got Strings members are responsible for learning their music on their own, allowing for rehearsal time to focus on improving ensemble musicality issues. Got Strings parent are asked to help encourage daily practice and seek private lesson help when needed.

Got Strings members are expected to maintain proper playing capabilities of their own instrument, promptly replacing broken strings and repairs and securing a replacement instrument if necessary. Got Strings members are required to bring their own music folders to all rehearsals and concert, not relying on another member for this task. Got Strings members are expected to bring a sharpened pencil and water bottle to each rehearsal.

Got Strings Behavior

Got Strings members are expected to give their conductor their full attention at all times. Got Strings members are expected to be quiet when a conductor or leader is talking. Chewing gum or eating at rehearsals (except for allocated snack time) or concerts is not permitted. Electronic devices must be turned off and remain in your case during for the entire duration of our rehearsals and concerts, even during breaks. Any electronic devices that are out during rehearsals or concerts will be collected by the conductor for the remaining of the concert or rehearsal.

Respect of Property and Others

Got Strings does not tolerate teasing, making fun of, or aggressive or provocative behavior towards our members. Our members speak respectfully to peers and adults and listen quietly when someone is talking. Use of inappropriate language at Got Strings rehearsals, concerts or when representing Got Strings, is ground for immediate dismissal. Got Strings members do not touch or play other’s instruments or Got Strings property. Got Strings members clean up after themselves and clean up any trash that is left by any member. Vandalism is grounds for dismissal.

Safety

Got Strings members are to remain in designated areas of the rehearsal and concert space at all times, and be visible to our designated leaders. Disruptive behavior such as playing on elevators, stairs, bathrooms, running in facilities, fighting, and horse-play is not tolerated. A Got Strings parent, guardian or designated adult is required to pick up Got Strings students promptly at the end of rehearsals and concerts. Got Strings parent, guardian or designated adult is required to physically come in to meet your child at rehearsals and events.

In an effort to keep Got Strings focused on education and performance, “public display of affection” (PDA) as related to “dating” is not acceptable during rehearsals, concerts or when representing Got Strings at events or various outings. This includes, but is not limited to, holding hands, kissing, cuddling, hugging or inappropriate touching.

Inappropriate behavior, disruptive behavior, and PDA issues will be dealt with in the following order:

1. Inappropriate or disruptive behavior will be immediately brought to the attention of the Got Strings members.
2. Immediate resolution is encouraged if there is a conflict between another member or someone in charge.
3. Inappropriate or disruptive behavior will be brought to the attention of the Got Strings member's parents.
4. Got Strings member will be placed on probation or dismissed if the behavior continues.
5. Got Strings member will be dismissed if behavior does not improve.

Got Strings Cooperation with School Music Programs

Got Strings supplements our area school music programs, and is not intended to be a replacement. Got Strings members are expected to be a vital participant of their school string program, unless scheduling conflicts keep them from participating.

Got Strings Music and Equipment

Music folders are distributed to students at the beginning of each semester. Students are responsible for the care of the folders and its contents, and are financially responsible for replacement if lost.

Equipment that is labeled as Got Strings property is to be handled with care. Got Strings Manhasset-style music stands are used by the top orchestra; other groups provide their own music stands for rehearsals and concerts. INRUSH electric instruments, cases, bows, rosin, cleaning cloths, cords, amps, amp bags, instrument stands, music backpacks and tuners are property of Got Strings and are on loan to INRUSH students during their membership semester. All equipment must be returned upon request, at the end of the semester, or if a student leaves the group. INRUSH students are financially responsible for missing or broken equipment.