



Letter of Commitment Spring 2026

ATTENDANCE POLICY – Attendance at all rehearsals is extremely important! **Dress rehearsals and concert performances are mandatory.** In case of unavoidable absence such as illness or an emergency, you must notify your Conductor immediately. The reason for the absence is not the issue, it is the absence itself. Absences are an inherent detriment to concert preparation and the educational mission of the orchestra.

Members are expected to arrive at each rehearsal at least **10 minutes prior** to the start of rehearsal. This allows each member to warm up and set up. Tuning begins promptly at 6:30 p.m. and attendance will be taken at this time. If you have to arrive late or leave early, you must inform the Conductor.

ABSENCES – Two (2) or more absences by a member during the spring session may result in suspension from the orchestra. Arriving late or leaving early will count as $\frac{1}{2}$ of an absence. Two (2) tardies will be counted as one absence. Any student missing the dress rehearsal for any reason other than illness will not play in that concert.

Each member of the orchestra is extremely important to the music. An orchestra is made up of many musicians but we must play as one. We must all rehearse together to produce beautiful music!

Individual Preparation - Each member is responsible for practicing their music at home and is expected to come fully prepared to each rehearsal. Lack of preparation will NOT be tolerated and the student will receive a warning. Each member will be allowed **two warnings only**. If the conductor sees no progress by the third time, the student will be expelled from the orchestra.

Playing a musical instrument and being a member of an orchestra requires a lot of discipline and, if achieved, everybody will have a more enjoyable experience. Arriving on time and fully prepared to all rehearsals marks the difference between an average orchestra and an orchestra of excellence.

I have read and understand the Hattiesburg Youth Orchestra Letter of Commitment. I hereby agree to all the terms and conditions of the letter and will bring signed to the first rehearsal.

Student Name (Print) _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____