

Pakachoag Music School

To: Private Instruction Students and Parents
Re: **Performance Classes: Sign-Up / Participation Information**

Background:

Pakachoag hosts one or two performance classes each month usually on Monday evenings, and occasionally on Tuesdays in December and May as enrollment dictates. Class dates are posted on the School Calendar available at www.pakmusic.org/googlecalendar.php These classes provide an opportunity for students to gain poise and self-confidence in a more relaxed setting than that existing in a formal recital situation.

1. Performance Class Sign-Up – General Info.

When students are ready to perform in a performance class, your teacher will let you (or your child) know. If you are not sure if your child is being scheduled, you may ask your teacher. Not all students are scheduled each month; beginning students may not be scheduled for several months or semesters. We recommend that you attend at least one performance class if new to Pakachoag so that your child will know what to expect before they are scheduled to perform in the future.

2. How do I get scheduled?

A sign-up sheet for each class date is posted on the bulletin board in the front lobby at least two weeks prior to each upcoming performance class. Teachers will oversee the sign-up of any student(s) whom they wish to participate in consultation with families. Sign-ups should be completed by the "sign up by ____" deadline. If additional slots remain open after the sign-up by deadline as noted on the final schedule, it is possible a teacher may sign up a student during the week immediately preceding the class date. If you are not sure if you are being scheduled, check with your teacher. Please note that if you withdraw after the final scheduled is posted (one week prior to the class date), you will be charged a \$15 cancellation fee. Please see the performance class withdrawal fee notice posted on the web site registration/forms page for more information.

3. How will I know in which session my child is scheduled?

Please check the bulletin board one week prior to the performance class. We will post a confirmation assignment listing showing which students are scheduled in which session; and the start and end times of each session. If you are expecting to see your name on the list and it is not included, please leave a note for the Director (or call the office). Session assignments are made by the Director – we try to mix students so that we have a varied collection of students (instrument-, level- and age- wise) for each session. If you have a time conflict on the day of the performance class that requires that you be scheduled within a particular time frame, please note this on the sign-up sheet or call the office in advance. We cannot guarantee we will have more than one session so may not be able to accommodate specific time constraints.

If we have two sessions, we try to schedule students who come for an accompanist rehearsal earlier in the evening (between 5:00 and 6:15) in the first session but this is not always possible.

4. What time(s) is the class?

First session classes usually start at 6:30 or 6:45.; if we have two sessions, the second session usually starts at 7:15 or 7:30. Please check the bulletin board one week in advance of the scheduled performance class(es) to confirm class time(s).

5. Do I need to stay for the entire class? YES – for reasons of education and good etiquette.

Students should be present for the entire class. Most importantly, listening to each other as much a learning experience as performing. Also, as those performing comprise our audience, it is disruptive to leave during another student's performance. Finally, for those scheduled toward the end of the performance class, it is discouraging if the audience has dwindled as we reach the end of the class. We recognize that everyone is juggling multiple priorities, but urge families to plan ahead so that you are able to stay for the full session in which your child is scheduled to perform.

6. Who can come?

Anyone is welcome – friends and family.

7. What am I supposed to play? Do I have to do anything special? Will there be a written program? Can I request that I or my child perform first (or last or in the middle)?

Your teacher will confirm which piece(s) you are ready to play and can answer any other specific questions. Students announce the name of their piece and composer when they come up to perform. A program sheet listing students and the order in which they will perform is provided at each class. We do not accept requests for special placement in the line-up order except for those students who have a lesson scheduled at the same time as the performance class. (Recitals, but not performance classes, include a formal type-written concert program.)

8. How do I know if I will need a piano accompanist rehearsal?

Only instrumental and voice students (not piano students) may need an accompanist rehearsal. Please ask your teacher if you will need a rehearsal; and please read the "Accompanist Information Sheet" posted on the web site register/forms page regarding accompanist sign-up and preparation information. A sign-up sheet for accompanist rehearsals is also posted on the lobby bulletin board at least two weeks in advance of a performance class date. Rehearsals are usually scheduled the same evening as a performance class (ten or fifteen minutes slots between 5:00 and 6:15). Tuesday evening performance classes (scheduled prior to recitals) do not include accompanist rehearsals prior to the class.

9. I believe I may need more than a 10 or 15 minute rehearsal with the accompanist. Do I have any options?

Pakachoag offers the opportunity for additional rehearsals for a fee with our School Accompanist. A special information sheet on how this can be arranged is available upon request.