

En Masse Orchestra Guidelines

General

- First, and most important – Have Fun!
- Do your best to learn your part before you get to the convention.
- Put your music in a black 3 ring binder before you get to the convention.
 - Some people use sheet protectors to hold their music in the binder.
 - Others punch holes in the music.
- Make a list of questions you have.
 - Ask these questions of the Sectional Leader at Thursday's Sectional Rehearsal - Not the conductor at the Wednesday En Masse Orchestra rehearsal.
- Attend all the En Masse Orchestra rehearsals
- Attend all the Sectional Rehearsals (These really help!)
- During rehearsals –
 - Be on time - This means seated and tuned (with an electronic tuner) by the published start time.
 - No “noodling” please!
 - Limit talking as much as possible.
 - Return from breaks at or before the announced time.
 - Mark your music liberally with fingering, reminders, etc.
 - A useful rehearsal technique – If the conductor is rehearsing a section other than your own, play along using “air strokes”. This helps you practice your part and hear what the other sections are playing.
- In case there is any doubt – the conductor sets the tempo 😊
- All of the concerts at the convention are free and open to the public. Invite your friends!
- Please bring –
 - Instrument
 - Music Stand
 - Music
 - Pencils / Pens / Highlighters
 - Tuner

Dress Code

- For all rehearsals, including the Saturday “Dress Rehearsal”, street clothes are acceptable
- For the Saturday En Masse Orchestra concert
 - Black pants or skirt, socks, shoes.
 - White or black top, depending on year. 2018 is white top.