Big Bend Community Orchestra Member Expectations

1. **Arrange for an individual session with the conductor** after it has been determined that a seat is available in your instrument section. The purpose of this session is for the conductor to meet you and for seating placement in your section. Membership in the orchestra will be given first to adults from the community followed by non-music major university students who don't have the opportunity to play in a school organization. TCC students may take orchestra as a class for credit with permission from BBCO. High School students may play with the permission of the BBCO. Interested university music majors will be used as needed (strings are always needed).

2. **Complete the BBCO "Musician Commitment" indicating which concerts you expect to be available to play and give it to the Membership Chair by the second rehearsal attended.**

3. **Support the organization by paying tuition, helping with the work of at least one committee, and donating when possible to the financial needs of the group.** Take an active role in improving the BBCO by attending board meetings or making suggestions to board members. Ask not only what the orchestra can do for you, but also what you can do for the orchestra.

4. **Attend rehearsals regularly.** For the good of the orchestra as a whole, members are expected to practice their parts and attend as many rehearsals as possible. Members should excuse themselves if they are not able to play their part adequately or have not attended enough rehearsals to know what the conductors expect (normally at least 2 rehearsals). Instrumentalists with only one person on a part should either ask someone to substitute for them or ask the personnel chair to do so in order for all the parts to be covered for as many rehearsals as possible. If a person misses more than 2 rehearsals in a row without notifying the personnel chair, they stand the chance of losing their seat to someone on the waiting list.

5. **Be ready to start on time and follow the conductor's directions.** Contribute to good morale by showing a good attitude and not taking musical criticisms personally.

6. **Keep your instrument in good repair, work on intonation problems, and ask for help when needed.**

7. **Refrain from unnecessary talking and cell phone use during rehearsal. Be friendly and get to know other orchestra members during breaks and before and after rehearsal.**

8. **Be responsible for printing copies of music as directed and bringing them to rehearsals.** A charge of 10 cents per page will be charged for copies made for members at rehearsals. Any loaned original copies must be returned at the appointed time.

9. **Meet the Dress Code for Concerts:**
   Men: Black slacks and long-sleeved solid color jewel-toned* shirts (no casuals).
   Ladies: Long black skirts or slacks and long-sleeved solid color jewel-tone* blouses (no casuals).
   *"Jewel-tone" means intense colors such as ruby red, blue topaz, royal blue, emerald green, fuchsia (deep pink), bright teal (blue-green), deep royal purple, goldenrod yellow, etc. No pastels or faded colors please. If a jewel-tone top is unattainable, black will do, but no white tops please.

10. **Remember that each part and each person is important to the whole group.** If each person makes being a responsible member a high priority and makes every effort to meet these expectations, our orchestra will steadily improve. A committed member is appreciated by everyone and helps produce a rewarding, positive, and fun experience for all.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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