



TO: Albuquerque Prelude String Orchestra Parents and Students

FROM: Thomas Goodrich and Emily Awes, Co-Conductors, Albuquerque Prelude String Orchestra
Dale Kempster, AYS Program Music Director

Congratulations on being selected for the 2008 - 2009 Albuquerque Prelude String Orchestra! We are sure that you will find your year in the Prelude Strings a rewarding time, as we solidify the fundamentals of string technique while preparing music for our scheduled concerts. **If for any reason you are NOT planning to participate in the Albuquerque Prelude String Orchestra this year**, please call the AYS Program office at 875-1319 by July 10. This courtesy on your part will allow students on the waiting list the opportunity to perform with Prelude Strings. **Please read the enclosed tuition form carefully and note the important deadlines.**

First Rehearsal

The Albuquerque Prelude String Orchestra will have its student and parent orientation on Saturday, August 16, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Parents, plan to attend the entire two hours of this important orientation, which will include a short rehearsal (students, bring your instrument!) so that you may meet the instructors and staff that will be working with your child each week. You will also get an overview of what your child can expect each week, and in turn, what we expect from your child. The Albuquerque Prelude String Orchestra will rehearse at the Public Academy for Performing Arts (PAPA) every Saturday that Albuquerque Public Schools is in session unless otherwise announced. Please refer to the enclosed schedule and enter the dates on your calendar. Please note that the rehearsal on August 23 will be "PRELUDE CAMP" from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. More information about Prelude Camp will be given during the Aug. 16 orientation.

Public Academy for Performing Arts, 4665 Indian School Rd. N.E., Ste. 101, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110 (Located in the Pinetree Business Complex on Indian School Rd. between Washington and San Mateo.) Directions: take I-40 to the San Mateo exit. South on San Mateo to Indian School Rd., turn west. We're on the north side of the street, immediately next to Congregation B'Nai Israel. Use the westernmost entrance to the parking lot, and follow the signs to the back of the complex.

Requirements for Participation in the AYS Program

The AYS Program is an enhancement to, and not a substitute for, existing school music programs, each of which has independent rules and policies. The AYS Program will coordinate activities with school programs as appropriate, but will neither interfere with, nor participate in establishing the rules or policies of, any school music program. Dismissal from any public or private school will be viewed as a failure to participate in school band or orchestra and will result in dismissal from the AYS Program.

A list of students will be sent to all Music Directors and/or Orchestra Directors verifying appropriate participation according to the AYS Program policy in your school instrumental music program. If your school has no instrumental program, the school principal must sign this sheet, indicating that no instrumental program is offered.

Attendance

Attendance at all rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and concerts is **MANDATORY**. Please refer to the schedule on the back of this letter before making any travel or vacation plans. Our attendance rules are strict because we can guarantee the quality of our program only if our orchestra members are fully committed. If you find that you will be tardy or absent, violins and violas should call Mr. Goodrich at 350-1969; cellos and string basses should call Ms. Awes at 463-2517. Further details about attendance will be explained at our orientation on Saturday, Aug. 25.

Transportation

In the past, car-pooling has been a very effective and cooperative way to meet transportation needs. Students from each school generally make arrangements with each other. There will be an address and phone list in your child's music folder at the first rehearsal and parent orientation on August 16.

Thank you, and have a wonderful summer!