



Stairway of the Stars- Student Code of Conduct

For more than six decades, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has taken great pride in showcasing the comprehensive instruction in choral and instrumental music in our schools through the annual “Stairway of the Stars.” The tradition of musical excellence from elementary through secondary levels in our district is well-known and long-admired, and with the collaborative support of teachers, parents, local/district administration and community members, our student musicians will once again present an extraordinary display of music and artistry.

In order for an enjoyable performance to take place, the understanding and cooperation of parents and students are needed. During the rehearsals and concerts, the supervision of nearly 900 student musicians by district personnel is an incredibly daunting task. In previous years, there have been concerns raised for a consistent and uniform standard of student behavior and a definition of proper performance etiquette. Therefore, the SMMUSD Stairway of the Stars Student Code of Conduct is presented below.

1. All district and school behavior/disciplinary policies are in effect at all Stairway rehearsals and performances.
2. All participants will demonstrate respect to every student, teacher or staff member at all times.
3. Backpacks, bags, purses, books, magazines, homework, pens, pencils and electronic devices will be allowed ONLY at rehearsals. However, if these items interfere with the rehearsal proceedings, they may be confiscated by any SMMUSD Music Teacher. (See SMMUSD School Board Policy 5131.64)
4. No food, candy, gum or drinks, including water bottles, will be allowed during the performances.
5. Before arriving at the auditorium, all student performers should take care of restroom needs and personal issues. Once the performance begins, student performers will NOT be allowed to use the restroom facilities until the performance is over. (An exception will be made for students who have written medical authorization that is submitted to the students’ music director or emergencies such as sudden illness).
6. No items other than the participant’s instrument and case, music folder, and music stand will be allowed in the performance area during the performances. No backpacks, bags, purses, books, magazines, homework, pens, pencils or electronic devices (including cellular phones, games) will be allowed during the performances. Note-writing will not be allowed.

ANY STUDENT WHO MISREPRESENTS HIS/HER SCHOOL, COMMUNITY, AND THE DISTRICT OR IS DISRESPECTFUL TO ANY PERSON WILL BE SUBJECT TO REMOVAL FROM ANY STAIRWAY REHEARSAL OR PERFORMANCE. PARENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY AND REQUESTED TO ESCORT STUDENTS HOME.

If you have any questions please contact your child’s music director. They can address any questions or concerns that you may have. Thank you for your continued support of our music program and your encouragement of our young musicians.

Sincerely,

Visual & Performing Arts Coordinator and The SMMUSD Music Teachers