Golden Valley Orchestra

Serving the community through beautiful music

Sept 14, 2026

Dear orchestra member,

WELCOME to the orchestra and our 2026-27 Concert Season. We are delighted to have you and trust you had a wonderful summer.

The board of directors and orchestra members would like to welcome back David Carrillo as our Artistic Director and Conductor with Will Samorey as our Concertmaster.

Please refer to the following documents for more information about orchestra information and policies:

- Players Handbook
- Dues Application – Please fill out and return to Stewart with your payment (cash/check/credit card)
- FLU & COVID Statement
- Rehearsal/Concert Schedule
- Concert Season Flyer

A copy of the *Players Handbook* will also be placed in your music folder for ease of reference regarding orchestra policies, details about the orchestra, committees etc.

REMINDERS

Membership Dues

- Dues are $160 this year and need to be paid **prior to the first concert** or by October 31, 2026. If you started playing with the GVO after January 1, 2027 your dues amount is still $160.
- Please submit payment to Golden Valley Orchestra and give your dues to Stewart Rosen, Board Treasurer (Violin 1) during rehearsal break.
- Dues can be paid via cash, check or credit card. ***See NEW QR Code/GIVE MN donation web page on Membership Dues Statement.*** *If paying via QR Code, make sure to check the box to ensure the GVO gets all fees associated with your membership dues/donation.* Please be aware an additional credit card processing fee (approx. $5) will be applied if paying via credit card.
- If you have a hardship and are unable to pay your dues, please see Beth Moorhead, Board Member to see if a scholarship can be arranged.
- The Golden Valley Orchestra is a 501(c)(3) - therefore, any contributions are tax deductible.

Rehearsals, Dress Rehearsals and Concerts

- **Rehearsals** – Held Mondays at 6:45 PM at Brookview Community Center, unless announced. Please be in your chair and ready to tune at 6:45 PM. Break is at approximately 8:30 PM for about 10 minutes.

- **Concert locations** are noted below. Call is one hour prior to all performances, regardless of venue.

Brookview Community Center 316 Brookview Parkway South Golden Valley, MN 55426	**Concert venue sites** – to be determine. Locations will be announced.	Knollwood Place 3620 Phillips Parkway St Louis Park, MN 55426

- **Stands** – **Please be sure to bring your GVO black Manhasset concert stand to our first rehearsal.** If you do not have a GVO or stand you will need to bring your own stand to rehearsal. Unfortunately, we do not have room at the community center to store these stands. Please take your stand home and bring it to all rehearsals and concerts. If you desire to bring your own stand to rehearsal that is fine, however you must have a Manhasset stand for concert performances.

- **Music Folders** –
  - All folders are assigned at the first rehearsal.
  - Please make sure the music in your folder has your folder number/ID on it. *See upper left-hand corner of music).*
  - Any instructions, bowings, markings given in rehearsals should be noted in #2 pencil only. Please make notes on your music during rehearsal. This helps ensure our conductor and/or concertmaster does not need to waste time on repeating comments during rehearsals.
  - Typically, after a concert set your Music Folders will be collected immediately following the performance so our Librarians can pull old music and replace new music in your folder.
  - You will receive your assigned folder at the next rehearsal.
  - PLEASE RESPECT OUR LIBRARIANS by following their instructions and return your folder with all music when asked.

- **Attendance** – **If you have a conflict with any of the concerts or rehearsals, please inform the Personal Manager, Jennifer Becker with your schedule.**
  Email: jbeckerviolins@gmail.com | **Phone:** (612) 528-2239

  - **All principal musicians are REQUIRED to retain a substitute if you know you will be absent for a concert. All principal strings MUST retain a substitute if you will be absent for a rehearsal or concert.** For all other musicians, obtaining a substitute for your absence is highly recommended, especially in the winds and brass section. If you are a wind/brass player, please see Beth Moorhead if you need further assistance finding a sub.
  - If you are to be late or miss a rehearsal, please contact the Personal Manager or your section leader.
  - Every effort must be made to attend all the rehearsals and the dress rehearsals to ensure excellent performances.
  - **No more than 2 rehearsals, nor the Dress Rehearsal should be missed during a concert set. If you miss the Dress Rehearsal you should not be playing in the concert, UNLESS due to illness or unexpected circumstances.**
  - Dress Rehearsals are usually held at the concert venue site, the day prior to the concert. Please listen for any announcements regarding possible changes not noted on the schedule.

Rehearsal and Concert Etiquette

- **Phones** – Please silence all phones and put them away during rehearsals, dress rehearsals and concerts.
- **Arrival to Site Locations** – Please do not show up at rehearsal or performance venues prior to the time noted on the rehearsal schedule. The orchestra pays additional fees when you arrive too early or stay too late.
- **Tuning** – The Concertmaster will signal the principal oboist for the A.
  - All musicians should be silent until your section tunes.
  - Two or three A's are normally given; one for winds and/or one for brass and one for strings. This order may change as directed by the Concertmaster.
  - Downbeat is immediately following tuning. When the conductor puts one foot on the podium or stands on the podium, this signals all musicians should be quick and ready to play.
- **Conductor** –
  - When the conductor stands on the podium this signals silence. All musicians should be in their seat and ready for the downbeat. *(Instruments up and ready to play)*
  - **If the conductor stops,** immediate silence should take place among all musicians.

    - **Any questions during the rehearsals should be directed to your section leader or the Concertmaster.** They will ask the Conductor at the appropriate time to limit multiple discussions, reduce rehearsal time and/or minimize distractions for the Conductor and fellow musicians.
- **Performance etiquette**
    - Silence is needed when the Concertmaster enters. Please be ready to tune.
    - At the beginning of the concert, please stand when the Principal Cello or Concertmaster stands to signal the entrance of the Conductor.
    - Be ready to stand during applause and/or when the conductor recognizes soloists.
- **Dress attire** –
    - Concert Black for women and men
        - Women - Black dress or black top and pants/long skirt with black hose/socks and black shoes.
        - Men - Black suit or black jacket and pants with black shirt and black socks & shoes **OR** all black long sleaved shirt, black pants, socks, and shoes.
    - Please make sure your desired attire does not stand out from other musicians.
    - Some concerts will vary in dress vs. the Concert Black. If so, this will be announced at rehearsal.
- **Set-up & Break-down** – ALL orchestra members are responsible for setting up and breaking down at all venues as instructed by our operations manager.
    - Be sure to bring a Manhasset stand for the concert if you don't have a GVO stand.
    - In all venues (especially churches) we need to put things back exactly as we found them.
    - All members need to participate in arranging the chairs and stands.
    - In general, the winds and brass set-up and the strings break-down.

Do you have additional questions? Please don't hesitate to ask one of your fellow Board Members listed below.

Board Members:

- Tiffany Dust (President) - tiffany.dust@gmail.com
- Beth Moorhead, (Past-President) – brmoorhead@gmail.com | (612) 239-4267
- Jennifer Becker (Personnel Manager/Messiah Chair) - jbeckerviolins@gmail.com | (612) 528-2239
- Stewart Rosen (Treasurer) - stewart_rosen@msn.com
- Brian Krysinski (Librarian) - briankrys@gmail.com
- Maria Cecka (Asst. Librarian, Care Facility, Fundraising) - ceckamaria16@gmail.com
- Jodi Rogstad (Secretary and Marketing/PR) - jodirogstad@gmail.com
- Aaron Nyquist (HR/Operations) - aaron.nyquist12@gmail.com
- Lucas Roman - orangeballstudios@gmail.com

Thank you,

The GVO Board of Directors