Atlanta Summer Stringfest

2019 Policies

Atlanta Summer Stringfest welcomes young string players of any race, nationality, or religious persuasion. Public or private school students and homeschoolers are all welcome.

Age

Generally, *Stringfest* is for children age 9 and up. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis at the director's discretion. If your child is younger but has had private lessons, please ask!

Tuition & Fees

Camp tuition for 2019 is $120 per student. Payment must be received before registration will be processed. Tuition is refundable until June 3; no refunds will be given after that date unless event is cancelled. A fee of $35 will be charged for any returned check.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and the performance. Please be on time – tardiness is disruptive and is less than respectful to the instructor and the other students.

Students missing multiple rehearsals may have their seating changed or be denied permission to perform. If you will have to miss a rehearsal due to illness or family emergency, please send an e-mail to <AtlantaSummerStringfest@gmail.com> to let us know.

Please write all *Stringfest* dates and times into your family's calendar as soon as possible, so that no one will say later, "But we didn't know the concert was then!"

Practicing

Each student musician is expected to practice his/her *Stringfest* music carefully during the week. Students who take private lessons are encouraged to ask their private teacher for any help they may need with their orchestra music.

E-mail

Most correspondence from *Stringfest* will be via e-mail. Please check your e-mail regularly (at least twice/day during camp), and be sure to notify *Stringfest* immediately at <AtlantaSummerStringfest@gmail.com> if you have a change of e-mail address!

Parental Supervision

Students may be dropped off at *Stringfest*, but parents and siblings are also welcome to stay. Family members may read, work, or play quietly in one of the four classrooms adjacent to the basement Fellowship Hall. All participating students will be supervised by the directors and several parent volunteers.

Under no circumstances may anyone except participating students be left at the church. Non-participating children must be supervised by a parent or adult guardian at all times.

Dress Code

Everyone (including family members of students) must come properly dressed to *Stringfest.* We ask students and their family members wear **modest clothing**. For girls, please no low-cut necklines, spaghetti straps, skin-tight clothes or midriff skin showing. No short shorts, short skirts, or low-cut shorts. No undergarments should be visible. Boys should wear belts if necessary to accomplish this.

If not dressed properly, students may be asked to put on something more modest, or may be dismissed from a rehearsal or performance. Other family members who are not dressed properly may be asked to sit in the car.

Concert Dress

Dress for the final concert on Thursday will not be formal: Reasonably nice short-sleeved shirts or solid-color t-shirts, along with modest shorts or skirts are fine. No clothing with writing or pictures on it, please!

Conduct

Students and family members are expected to behave in a respectful, cooperative, considerate, careful and modest fashion at all times. *Stringfest* seeks to cultivate an environment of learning and mutual respect; any behavior which detracts from this environment will not be tolerated.

At no time should students exhibit behavior such as:

- Disrespect for any director, parent or monitor
- Disrupting rehearsal
- Foul language or gestures
- Other unwholesome talk
- Roughhousing
- Bullying
- Physical or verbal abuse
- Damaging the property of others
- Immodest or inappropriate personal relations with others
- Any other behavior deemed inappropriate by the director

Any student whose conduct violates these principles may be subject to dismissal from the program at the discretion of the director, without refund.

Possession or use of weapons, illegal drugs, or alcohol on the church property are strictly forbidden, as is any tobacco use by minors. Parents wishing to smoke must do so at their car.

We are privileged to meet at Redeemer Presbyterian. Any abuse of this facility could cause us to lose this privilege; therefore, abuse of the facilities may be grounds for immediate dismissal without refund, depending on the seriousness of the infraction. Damage done to facilities or equipment will be the financial responsibility of those who cause the damage.

Cell Phones & Other Electronics

Cell phones and other devices may be carried by students, but should be turned off in the rehearsal room. **No texting, surfing, game playing or calls are allowed during *Stringfest* rehearsal or concert hours.** All use of cell phones or electronic devices by family members should be limited to areas where it will not disturb rehearsals or others who may be working. Please be considerate!

Any content shared on computers or mobile devices while at *Stringfest* is subject to monitoring by the responsible adults present. No one is authorized to use the church's wireless network.

Facility Care

Please remember that we are guests at Redeemer Presbyterian, and at any other concert venues. Please leave everything in better condition than you found it in!

At Redeemer, please enter the church using only the marked entrances. The nursery, preschool room and utility rooms downstairs, and the offices upstairs, are off-limits. The kitchen is not to be used for food preparation, but hand-washing and minor clean-up (rinsing coffee cups, wiping tables...) are allowed. No one may play the piano.

Outside the church, young children may play only in the grassy area, under the direct supervision of a parent. There is *not* a playground available. There should be no playing immediately around the church building or in the parking lot or woods, and no child should ever be left unattended outside the church. Parent monitors will be checking on this.

Smoking is forbidden in the church building. Parents wishing to smoke should do so at their car only, not inside or near the church building.

Instruments

It is each student's responsibility to come to rehearsals with an instrument, bow and equipment that is in good playing condition. Unfortunately, ***Stringfest* cannot provide instruments for students**. Before the week of camp, please take your instrument to a reputable strings-only shop (such as Ronald Sachs Violins) to have it “tuned-up.” Various minor repairs and adjustments may be necessary, you may need new strings, or you may need to have your bow rehaired or get a new (inexpensive) student bow with good hair.

Instrument Care at Rehearsals and Concerts

Students should never play or handle another student's instrument, case, or accessories. Instruments and bows should never be left sitting out – please put them in the case for safety if you have to leave temporarily. Cases, backpacks and bags should be kept either on available tables, or in out-of-the-way spots around the edge of the Fellowship Hall. Please show courtesy to others by not leaving your things in the walking areas!

Other Required Materials

Music Stand in good condition (important – stands which tip over cause damage and disruption)
Shoulder Rest or sponge (for violin & viola)
Rock Stop (for cello & bass)

Each day, students must bring the following to rehearsals:
Music Folder (issued by *Stringfest*) with all *Stringfest* music
Pencils !!

Please make sure that all your things are clearly labeled!

Folders & Music

All folders & music issued by *Stringfest* remain the property of *Stringfest,* and must be returned. A fee of $5 will be charged per item of music not returned, and a fee of $5 per folder not returned. Students may write in *pencil only* on their *Stringfest* music, taking care to be neat so that the music is usable for the next student who uses it.

Lost and Found

Any items found left behind will be available from the Camp Director for one week after camp ends. After such time items will be sold or donated. PLEASE put your name on everything! Coats, backpacks, music stands, music books, and even violin cases can look the same! Please assume the responsibility of keeping up with your own things.