

## HDMTA DRESS CODE

### Prologue:

Everyone knows that different clothes are appropriate for different events; you wouldn't wear the same outfit to a swimming party as you would to the Prom. In the same way, certain clothes are appropriate for musical performances and some clothes are not. The clothing guidelines that follow are to help enhance the performance, as well as prepare you for the more stringent requirements for the Young Artists Competition and college performances. Remember that though the following are called guidelines, they are in fact, requirements.

### Clothing:

You shouldn't have to think about your clothing during your performance, so you should plan ahead so that you will feel comfortable, and look professional. It is a good idea to try out your clothing in front of a mirror before performance. Stretch as you would to play your instrument and ask yourself if anything is showing that you hadn't planned on. Look from all angles. No underclothing or straps should show at any time.

**Men:** Button-down shirts and nice pants. Ties are optional, but encouraged. Dress shoes are preferred, **no Birkenstocks, flip-flops, slippers, sandals, or Crocs allowed.** Socks should match the shoes or the pants.

**Women:** Dresses, skirts, or dressy slacks. Dresses and skirts must cover the knee when sitting. No bare midriffs. Dress shoes. Dress sandals are OK, *but*, **no Birkenstocks, flip-flops, slippers, or Crocs.** Platform shoes are acceptable, but remember to practice in them before you perform. Pedaling and standing will feel different in platform shoes and high heels, and you don't want to discover that on stage.

### Hair:

Hair should be neat and pulled away from your face.

### Jewelry:

Jewelry can be distracting, so make sure it is kept to a minimum and does not jingle.

### On the Day of the Performance:

1. Show up 15 minutes early and take a few minutes to warm-up.
2. Use the bathroom before the recital, if necessary.
3. Sit in the area reserved for performers; someone will come by to check you in a few minutes before the recital.
4. Please do not talk during the recital.
5. **SMILE** ☺
6. Don't forget to bow after your performance (even if you are not pleased). Remember to acknowledge your accompanist while the audience applauds.
7. **SMILE** ☺
8. Relax, you survived.