



Westchester Klezmer Program
Community and Community Service Through MusicSM

Guidelines for Participation

2014-2015 Term

Kenny Green
Matty Mozzor

Music Director
Music Instructor

Jerald Seti
Stuart Katz

Executive Director*
President*

*Serves without pay

MEMBERSHIP

All regular members shall understand and abide by all Westchester Klezmer Program Band policies.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Youth Band (pre-bar/bat mitzvah) members must attend at least five (5) rehearsals per term and at least three (3) concerts during the year in order to get "mitzvah credit" toward bar/bat mitzvah. At the end of the year, the program notifies synagogues regarding which musicians qualify for mitzvah credit. Musicians are expected to practice and to come prepared to all rehearsals and concerts.

MUSIC AND MUSICAL PROFICIENCY

We welcome musicians in fifth grade and up, with one year of instrument instruction, along with the ability to play a chromatic scale, read music, and play in a band setting with other musicians.

Musicians are expected to bring their sheet music, along with a music stand, to every

rehearsal and concert. Musicians are asked to write their name on their sheet music, instrument case, music stand, and any other possessions that they bring with them.

Your \$18 music fee covers the cost of music development. Each new musician will receive a binder for sheet music.

ATTIRE

Our band "uniform" for concerts is a Bokharan or other colorful oversized kippah/yarmulke, required for boys and suggested for girls. Musicians may purchase the Bokharan kippah/yarmulke at a Judaica store (for example, the Aesthetic Sense in Mount Kisco, the Jewish Museum (NYC), the Museum of Jewish Heritage (NYC), or Eichler's (62 West 45th Street, NYC, or www.eichlers.com). It is best to try them on rather than order on-line, as sizes vary tremendously.

REHEARSALS

The year is divided into two terms: fall-winter and winter-spring. Bands meet approximately seven times each term, on alternate Wednesday or Thursday nights.

The fall-winter and winter-spring schedules are posted on the web site at www.westchesterklez.org.

In the event that a rehearsal has to be cancelled (bad weather, emergencies), the cancellation will be posted on the web site and an email or text message will be sent out. **These will be the only methods of communication to band members.**

Cell phones must be turned off during rehearsals. If an emergency requires that a musician leave a phone turned on, then this must be clearly communicated to the Music Director before rehearsal. The call should be taken outside to avoid disrupting the rehearsal.

Talking among band members during rehearsal should be kept to an absolute minimum. All questions and comments should be directed toward the Music Director and should be for purposes of clarification only.

PERFORMANCES

Performance information is posted on the web site and also will be distributed by e-mail prior to the concert. The information will include:

- * date
- * call time
- * performance time
- * location/directions
- * concert dress
- * other vital information

Additional information may be shared at rehearsals prior to the performance. All band members should help set up and dismantle all equipment at concerts, which includes chairs, stands and all relevant percussion equipment.

BEHAVIOR

1. Skating while on the premises of any of our rehearsal or performance venues using roller shoes with retractable wheels, or any other similar kind of footwear or devices is strictly forbidden.

2. Horseplay of any kind is strictly forbidden.
 - a) Kenny Green will deal with inappropriate behavior in one of three ways:
 - i) speaking with the child; and/or
 - ii) speaking with his/her parents; and/or
 - iii) bringing it to the attention of the Executive Director.
 - b) In the event the Executive Director becomes involved, s/he may
 - i) discuss the matter with the child's parent(s); and/or
 - ii) send a warning/counseling letter; and/or
 - iii) bring the matter to the attention of the Board of Directors.
 - c) The Board of Directors may:
 - i) send a warning/counseling letter; and/or
 - ii) impose a short term suspension; or
 - iii) impose a long term suspension; or
 - iv) expel the musician from the program.
 - d) All determinations of the Board of Directors are final and non-appealable. However, a musician may reapply to join the program following one year from the date of expulsion from the program. Permission to rejoin the program will be at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors.

3. Children under the age of 15 may not leave the rehearsal room during rehearsal except to go to the bathroom or to get a drink of water and they must promptly return.

4. For adults who are participating in the adult/teen band, we realize that many of you have children with you who are waiting for you. It is expected that they will bring something with them to read or do during your rehearsal. Except to use the facilities or to get a drink of water, they must remain in the rehearsal room. They will not be permitted to wander the halls unsupervised, or to go to another room to wait for you, even if it's to do homework. There are plenty of tables and chairs they can use in the rehearsal room.

FEES

Fees are determined by the board and are expected to be paid promptly. Musicians may be asked to leave the program for non-payment of fees. Financial aid is available on a case-by-case basis.

In the event of a suspension or expulsion, no fees paid toward the program will be refunded. No exceptions.

GOVERNANCE

Westchester Klezmer Program, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors.