

Concert Dress – Northern Valley Youth Orchestras

updated October 2024

The following is a guide to choosing attire for formal NVYO concerts/performance.

Goal: polished, unified orchestral appearance, no visual distractions from the performance.

Notes:

- **All concert dress items should be black**, with the exception of white shirt as part of a complete black tuxedo/suit. SHOES and SOCKS should be black.
- When NVYO's concert attire is presented as options, those are open to any musician. as long as the attire chosen blends in with the ensemble and is not distracting.
- NVYO has a limited number of “extra” concert dress items for students who need assistance with appropriate concert wear.

Please contact Naomi Welsh if you have any concerns or questions about concert dress.

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*The goal is a unified and professional appearance, so no performer should stand out. **No glitter, sequins, sparkles etc. please, as they are distracting in stage lights, photos and recorded video. Perfume. Strong hairspray, cologne can create problems with breathing for other performers. Please do not use.*** Please choose items that will be comfortable to perform in, however all clothing should be dressy, not casual/lounging attire. This includes no denim, athletic clothing, or sweatshirts/sweatpants.

We do want concert clothing to be affordable, for families to understand easily what is expected on stage, and for students to be able to determine the clothing choices that work best for them within the constraints of the dress code. Concert dress code is designed to ensure professionalism, an ensemble that appears uniform on stage, and assist with students' ability to perform.

concert attire for all musicians:

a) all-black dressy clothing, **neck to feet**, see picture below (no denim/sweats, please)

- OR -

b) black tux or black suit (**including the black jacket**) with white or black shirt, black tie.

all musicians: black hose/socks/shoes - dressy footwear.

all musicians: NO glitter/sparkles/perfume

Here is a great graphic put together by our colleagues at the Chicago Youth Symphony! We echo their intent in providing these guidelines.

