

MEMORANDUM

TO: The North Port City Commission  
FROM: North Port Performing Arts Association, Inc.  
Joan Skowyra, President

Subject: Annual Report regarding Use of the Music Suite

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The Use Agreement between the City of North Port and the School Board of Sarasota County establishes requirements for Music Suite User groups including an annual report to the Commission in which each user group shall discuss its actual usage of the facility during the previous year. This report is a summary of each groups use of the suite during the previous year (2013-2014).

The following items are summarized in the attached reports:

- 1) The User Group's annual usage of the facility on a month by month basis, including its share of the total scheduled usage of the facility (i.e., its share of the total amount of time used by all user groups.
- 2) The User Group's public concert schedule and ticket fees,
- 3) Average audience attendance per scheduled performance, and
- 4) Total active membership

The North Port Performing Arts Association wishes to express our appreciation to the City of North Port for continuing to support our community musical organizations which use the PAC and the Music Suite during the year. The many talented musicians and volunteers who staff the box office and usher at concerts are grateful to have these world-class facilities for our use. Each group has made strides this season to increase attendance and we look forward to an even better season in 2014-2015 when each organization will continue to provide music that enriches the lives of the citizens of North Port and surrounding communities.

Joan Skowyra  
President, NPPAA

Use Report to City Commissioners - May 12, 2014

To: The North Port City Commissioners  
From: The North Port Concert Band  
Joan Skowyra, President  
[Jskowyra@comcast.net](mailto:Jskowyra@comcast.net) 941-637-1110

Re: MUSIC SUITE USE AGREEMENT ANNUAL REPORT

The North Port Concert Band is a volunteer, not for profit musical group performing six concerts per season at the Performing Arts Center located on the High School Campus. Under the direction of our conductor, Dr. Dennis Silkebakken and our board of directors, the concert band has had a very successful season. The PAC holds 1023 patrons and we performed four record breaking concerts, to sold out houses, featuring outstanding guest soloists. At peak season the band expands to approximately 90 musicians who travel from as far as Ft. Myers and Bradenton to perform with us in our beautiful Performing Arts Center.

During the 2013-2014 concert season, the band performed before a total audience of **approximately 5592 patrons - averaging over 932 per concert.**

Preparation for concertş includes:

The librarian and library committee work approximately **128 hours** for the concert season pulling music from the library , preparing individual music folders for each musician, refiling music after each concert. Work is also spent during off season to update the library and update our computerized Inventory list. The band hires a person to do physical preparation for rehearsals which requires resetting of chairs for rehearsals since the music suite is shared by two other performing groups - **26 hours** per season. (154 hours)

**Band Rehearsals:** The band rehearses each week on Thursday evenings. The conductor and board members arrive early to set up the sound system, to utilize the Hearing Loop and for special individual group rehearsals when necessary. Regular rehearsals start at 6:30 p.m. and end at 9:00 p.m. Total rehearsal hours per season is approximately **120 hours.**

**Program Printing:** From time to time we have inserts for our concert programs that are printed in the office of the music suite. I would assess this to be **10 hours** per season.

**Board Meetings:** The Concert Band has one meeting per month in the music suite which run an average of two hours for a total of 14 hours per season. I would also add that there are a minimum of 30 miscellaneous hours spent during the season working in the music suite. (**44 hours**).

Total hours of Use for the Concert Band this season: 328 hours.

We are very proud to say that the band has a website that is linked to the City of North Port's site showcasing Arts and Entertainment in the North Port area. Our patrons have the option of ordering and printing their tickets on line. Since the box office is only open for 3 hours each day, M-F, it is a convenience to the North Port and surrounding communities who patronize the PAC and the musical presentations offered there. Since the demographic of North Port is changing, we are constantly attempting to make it more convenient for younger families to attend concerts and have changed our concert time from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to make it more convenient for busy, working families to attend our performances.

Report to City Commissioners

To: The North Port City Commissioners

From: The North Port Chorale

Rita Hart, President

[rkhart@comcast.net](mailto:rkhart@comcast.net) 941-257-8405

Re: Music Suite Use Agreement Annual Report

The North Port Chorale is a volunteer, not for profit musical group performing three concerts per season at the Performing Arts Center on High School Campus. Under the direction of our Director and our board of directors, the Choral has performed a record number of patrons this year. At our peak season, the Chorale has about 80 singers who travel from Englewood and Venice to sing with us.

During the 2013-2-14 season, the Chorale performed before an approximate total audience of over 1800 patrons-averaging 600 per concert.

Preparation for concerts includes:

The librarians work approximately 60 hours for the concert season pulling music from the library, preparing individual music folders for each singer, refiling music after each concert and updating our computerizing inventory list. There is a committee that pins numbers on each chair corresponding to their music folders.

Chorale rehearsals: The Chorale rehearses each week on Monday evenings from 6:45pm-9:00pm. Actual hours for set up each season are approximately: 80 hours including tech rehearsal and time spent on performance nights.

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Board Meetings :The Chorale has one meeting a month in the music suite which runs an average of two hours for a total of 14 hours per season'

The Soundsations is a select group of the Chorale who performs at each Chorale Concert and performs at different functions in the community. Extra rehearsals for this group is each Tuesday from 2:00pm-4:00pm.The Soundsations rehearse winter and summer for a total of 110 hours.

Total hours of use for the Chorale and the Soundsations this season 264 hours.

To: The North Port City Commissioner

From: The North Port Symphony  
Laurie Brenenstuhl, Personnel Director  
[lbrenen@gmail.com](mailto:lbrenen@gmail.com) 941-388-0801

Re: Music Suite Use Agreement Annual Report

The North Port Symphony is a volunteer, not for profit community orchestra that performs five concerts per season at the Performing Arts Center on the North Port High School campus. Under the direction of our musical director, Robert Romanski, and our Board of Directors, the symphony has performed for a large number of patrons this season. We are comprised of approximately sixty musicians who travel from as far Punta Gorda and Bradenton to perform with us each season.

During the 2013-2014 season, the orchestra performed before an approximate total audience of over 3400 patrons, with an average of 700 per concert. After our fourth concert in early March, 2014, we had already exceeded the total number of patrons from the previous entire 2012-2013 season.

Preparation for Concerts includes:

Our librarian and her assistants work approximately 125 hours for the concert season researching music, going through our library, preparing individual music folders for each musician, and restocking music at the completion of each concert. The orchestra chairs must be re-set each week for our Saturday rehearsals since the music suite is shared by two other performing groups. We also have a cleaning person who spends several hours each month working in the suite.

Symphony Rehearsals:

The orchestra rehearses each week on Saturday mornings. The conductor, concert master and Board members arrive early to get things ready for the practice. Rehearsals begin promptly by 9:30 a.m. and end at noon. During the course of the season, depending upon the challenging nature of different music pieces, rehearsal might begin as early as 9:00 a.m. On average, 125 hours are spent throughout the season for rehearsals.

Office Use:

On occasion Board Members meet prior to rehearsals in the office to discuss issues that cannot wait until our monthly board meetings. Also, time is spent using the copy machine/computer. On average, 12 hours per season.

Board Meetings:

The Symphony has one meeting per month, usually the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month immediately following our rehearsal. Each meeting lasts on average 90 minutes for an approximate 12 hours a season.

Total Hours of Use for the North Port Symphony this Season: 275