

# FCS Graduation Virtual Orchestra Video Instructions

## "Pomp and Circumstance"

### **DEADLINE: MONDAY, MAY 11 @ NOON**

Please contact Ms. Knight if have any questions about these instructions. In order to make sure we have a balanced orchestra with all the parts, all FCLYO and FCS Junior High Orchestra members are **required** to submit a video unless they email me asking to be excused for a specific reason. FCS and FCLYO alumni are welcome to submit videos as well!

#### **I. Required Equipment**

Please make sure you have access to the following equipment for capturing your virtual performance. You **MUST** use two separate devices, one for recording video and one to play the track.

##### **MP3 Player / Tablet / Smartphone**

- o You need a device capable of playing MP3 audio files so you can play along with the accompaniment track.

##### **Headphones**

- o Headphones are **REQUIRED** during recording - we want to record your instrument only, **NOT** the accompaniment track.
- o In-ear headphones (i.e. earbuds/airpods) are preferable, but use whatever you have. String players, be sure to wear the **RIGHT** one only so you can listen to your instrument with your left ear.

##### **Video Recording Device**

- o Use any device capable of recording video into a digital format.
- o Consider dedicated video camera, smartphone, tablet. (Laptop webcam **NOT** preferred.)
- o Note: playback of accompaniment and recording must use two separate devices.

##### **Tripod (or other stabilizing device)**

- o Tripod adapters are available for smartphones/tablets.
- o Consider camera placement alternatives such as shelves, tables, boxes, etc.
- o Do **NOT** have someone hold the camera for you. It needs to be in a stable location.

##### **Music Stand (or alternative)**

- o Music stands need to be **OFF** camera as much as possible.

#### **II. Preparation / Practice**

1. Print or display your assigned part on your computer via <https://www.fclyoglendora.com/members>
2. Play the MP3 recording off the website or your email.
3. Practice playing while listening to the accompaniment track. Listen that you are **in tune** with the track and playing all rhythms accurately. If you have questions or are unsure how to play part of the music, please ask for help in advance.
4. Practice playing with your earbud in - experiment to get your best performance.

#### **III. Recording**

##### **1. Set up your recording space.**

- o Find a **QUIET** space with minimal ambient noise and echoes.

- o Silence/remove intermittent noise sources (air conditioning, phones, fans, desktop computers, pets, siblings, etc.).
- o Use a **plain white** or light colored background if possible. A white wall or a white sheet work well.
- o Ensure bright lighting (e.g. natural, ceiling/floor lamps, desk lamps).
- o Avoid backlighting (lights/windows behind you while shooting)
- o Place your sheet music so you don't have to look too far down while recording.

## 2. Set up your camera.

- o Set up your camera to record in **landscape (wide) orientation**.
- o Frame your video so we can see you from the navel up. Make sure your head is near the top edge of the video. Your instrument and both hands should be visible in the video. Cellos and basses, we should only see the top half of your instrument.
- o Music stands should be minimally visible or not visible and should not be blocking your hands or face.
- o Test adjustable audio settings - make sure you aren't too loud or too quiet.

## 3. Dress for your performance.

- o Wear any **black top/blouse/shirt/dress** (pants/skirts should not be visible in the video).

## 4. Record your performance.

1. Put on your headphones. Tuck any cords from your earbuds/headphones into **back** of shirt.
2. Press 'Record' on your video camera first.
3. Press 'Play' on your MP3 player/device
4. Play your part. If you make a mistake, start over.

## IV. Reviewing and Submitting

1. Review your video recording using headphones.
  - o Listen for audible noises you may not have noticed during recording.
  - o Listen for background hiss from the room or your device
  - o Listen for sound level - too loud (distorting) or soft (hard to hear over background noise).
  - o Look for proper visual framing and adequate lighting.
  - o Adjust camera settings and position and re-record if necessary.
  - o Try a different device if you are unable to achieve good results.
2. Submit your video file using Google Drive by **Monday, May 11 at NOON**.
  - o Smartphone/tablet/webcam videos: upload directly from your device.
  - o Video cameras: transfer the video file to a computer by USB cable/SD Card, etc. and upload from your browser.

Google Drive link: <https://forms.gle/1f1AcYGptG2EdgKS9>

We will do our best to use every video we receive. If your video suffers from technical problems that we cannot overcome on our end, we will respond to the e-mail address you used to submit your video and request that you review our feedback and re-record if you are able.