

The Student's Handbook for Music Festival

February 26-28, 2026



Union Springs Academy
40 Spring Street, Union Springs, New York

Welcome!

You have been invited to participate in an exciting music experience at Union Springs Academy, and we hope you are looking forward to it. The event will take place February 26-28. Hopefully by now you have seen and had some opportunity to practice the music that has been chosen to bring glory and honor to your Creator and Redeemer.

What to Bring

Bedding: a sleeping bag or sheets and blankets; pillow

Clothing: warm, modest clothes for rehearsals (the wind gets strong and cold blowing off the lake!); pajamas; socks; underwear; jacket or coat; **black pants/skirt and white dress shirt/blouse for the Sabbath morning concert**; dress shoes and socks/nylons; plastic bag for dirty clothes. **Consider labeling each item with your name using a permanent marker!**

Toiletries: bath towel/washcloth; soap; shampoo; toothbrush and toothpaste; deodorant; comb/brush.

Other Important Items: Bible; notebook and pen; prayer journal or notebook; water bottle; a heart ready to praise God.

Students may bring cell phones to communicate with their families at home. Cell phones should be given to a chaperone who will make them available when needed.

What NOT to Bring

Please **DO NOT** bring the following items:

- Laptops or mobile devices
- Comic books
- Knives
- Matches or lighters
- Candy, gum or food
- Clothing which is immodest or which communicates values inconsistent with Christianity. If in doubt, don't bring it!

Arrival

You should arrive with your school's chaperones between 9:00 and 10:00 on Thursday, February 26, and proceed to the church to register. You will then go to your respective dorms to drop things off in your room. There will be an informational meeting with the deans at 10:00 a.m. If you arrive after this time, please go directly to the church for the welcome and worship at 10:20 a.m. The first rehearsal begins at 10:30 a.m. in the church.

Rehearsals

Rehearsal schedules will be made available to students and chaperones and will be posted prominently in buildings. Students need to be present and on time at all rehearsals unless they are sick or injured and have received permission from their chaperone to miss a rehearsal. Students will sign in at each rehearsal on a form in the foyer. Students are expected to cooperate and do their personal best in preparing for the concert. Their actions should reflect respect and consideration for both adults and peers.

Rules for Music Festival

The following rules will ensure that everyone has a positive and safe experience at Music Festival. While at Music Festival, all participants are expected to behave in a manner that respects the rights and needs of others and to abide by the following specific rules:

- Your chaperone must know where you are at all times. If leaving the group for any reason, it is the student's responsibility to get permission from the chaperone or activity supervisor.
- Boys are not permitted in the girls' dorm and girls are not permitted in the boys' dorm.
- A quiet atmosphere needs to be maintained between 10:00 p.m. and 6:30 a.m.
- Report any illness or injury to your chaperone immediately, day or night.
- Plan ahead so you can be at your rehearsals and activities on time.
- Possession or use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco or pornography in any form will result in dismissal from Music Festival as well as other consequences as deemed appropriate by your school.
- Music Festival is an extension of the regular school program and the usual school rules apply.
- Friday Night Vespers – please wear church attire to this vespers program.

Sabbath

There will be Sabbath School at 10:00 a.m. for all in the church and divine service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Sabbath lunch will be provided for participants and their immediate family members following the church service. Please communicate with your child's teacher and tell them how many family members will be in attendance for lunch so proper arrangements can be made with the cafeteria. Others who would like lunch should plan to make a suggested donation of \$7.00 at the time of the meal.

At 2:30 p.m. individual school's musical program will take place in the church followed by the Music Festival Concert.

Students will be dismissed to gather their belongings and return to their homes following the concert.

You may stay and eat supper at the cafeteria if arrangements have been made.