

Plano Symphony Debutante Program

Plano Symphony Debutante Committee Deb Class 2021 Standing Rules

ARTICLE 1

Name

The Plano Symphony Debutante Committee shall implement the Plano Symphony Debutante Program, and operate under the auspices of the Plano Symphony Orchestra Association (PSOA), which shall govern the Plano Symphony Debutante Committee. A parent, relative, or guardian may sponsor the Debutante.

ARTICLE II

Goals

The goal of this program is to enrich a Debutante's knowledge and appreciation of music, to develop volunteer leadership, and expand the cultural and social horizons of young women, as well as to support and promote the growth of the Plano Symphony Orchestra. The Debutante Committee shall operate under the auspices of the Plano Symphony Orchestra Association Constitution and By-Laws and under the leadership and direction of the Board of Directors of the Plano Symphony Orchestra Association.

ARTICLE III

Membership in the Debutante Program

Section 1: Eligibility

- A. Young women who are sophomores or juniors during the 2020-2021 school year whose parent is or becomes a subscriber to the Plano Symphony Orchestra.
- B. Plano Symphony Debutantes and their parents must be active members in good standing during the candidate(s) 2-year program.
- C. Plano Symphony Debutantes parents shall contribute \$5,000 to the Plano Symphony Orchestra Association for the two-year period of the debutante's term. They must also purchase at least two subscriptions to and attend the Plano Symphony Orchestra concerts for each year their debutante is in the program. The Season subscription must be paid in full and a signed pledge for the contribution must be submitted at the time of acceptance into the program.
- D. Parents of the debutante must purchase a table for eight to the Debutante Presentation Ball when their debutante is presented. In addition they must purchase or acquire the ball gown, have professional photographs taken, and provide other incidentals.
- E. Junior debutante's parents must purchase two tickets to, and attend the Presentation Ball during their daughter's junior year. The junior debutante's ticket to the ball is included in their fee. ***Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this is not applicable to the incoming Debutante Class that will be presented at their Ball in 2021.**
- F. Debutantes or Parents who have extenuating circumstances that would make it difficult to complete the program must present this in writing to the Plano Symphony Executive Director, Robert Reed, for consideration.

Section 2: Qualifications

- A. Only young women of good character and reputation will be considered.
- B. To be considered for the Deb Class 2021, the name of each applicant must be submitted in writing by her/his parent to the Plano Symphony during the candidate's freshman or sophomore year of High School. ***We recognize this timing is delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Section 3: Number of Debutantes

Although there is no specified limit for the number of debutantes admitted into the Debutante Class of 2021, it may be necessary to limit candidates based on the number of applicants.

Section 4: Duties

- A. There shall be a required meeting held for prospective new debutantes and parents at which time the duties and obligations of the program shall be explained.
- B. To be a Debutante in good standing, each Debutante will be expected to:
 - 1. Fulfill financial obligations as presented at the Orientation.
 - 2. Provide volunteer assistance at a minimum of 3 events during their first year and one event during their second year.
 - 3. Attend a minimum of two season concerts during the two-year Debutante program.
 - 4. Attend scheduled events during both the first and second year.
 - 5. Attend training and/or social events.
 - 6. For all Plano Symphony Orchestra Association occasions, debutantes are to dress as required with no body piercing or tattoos evident and display proper etiquette and behavior.
 - 7. All rules of dress and proper behavior are as determined by the Plano Symphony Debutante Committee.
- C. In addition, debutante's presentation responsibilities also include:
 - 1. Purchasing or acquiring a floor-length, pure white gown. Dresses should provide for adequate frontal coverage and have a full skirt to allow for a graceful bow. The dress must be registered with the Debutante Committee.
 - 2. Arranging for presentation by her father (or other adult male).
 - 3. Attending presentation bow practices and rehearsals.
 - 4. Providing a formal Ball portrait that meets Debutante Committee guidelines.
 - 5. Completing all financial obligations prior to presentation.
 - 6. Maintaining active membership through the end of the second year to act as mentors for the next class of debutantes.
- D. The Debutante Committee shall review any debutante's failure to comply with these duties, and appropriate action shall be taken.

ARTICLE IV

Parent's Responsibilities

Section 1: Volunteer services

- A. Each debutante's parents must :
 - Serve on at least one Debutante Ball committee and attend the meetings regularly.
 - Participate in fundraising events as defined by the Debutante Committee.
 - Attend Plano Symphony Season concerts for each year of the debutante's term.
- B. Each debutante's parents must :

- Be responsible for all financial obligations as set forth in the orientation documents and these standing rules, including but not limited to the financial contribution, two season subscriptions to the Plano Symphony for each year of the debutante's term, purchase two tickets to the Presentation Ball during the first year (current year exempt due to COVID-19), and purchase a table at the Presentation Ball during the second year.
- C. Parent or legal Guardian shall sign a Waiver and Release and Indemnity Agreement for their daughter. This shall also cover each underage guest(s) they invite to attend the Presentation Ball where alcohol will be served.

ARTICLE V

Services Provided

The Plano Symphony Orchestra shall provide the following or similar services to the debutantes. Frequency of occurrence for each activity may vary based on the number of debutantes participating in any given year. (Activities/schedules are subject to change.)

- Orientation
- Plano Symphony Concerts
- Etiquette lesson(s)
- Volunteer opportunities
- Fashion event(s)
- Educational event(s)
- Special events
- Dance instruction (for Fathers and Debutantes)
- Bow practice

ARTICLE VI

Amendments

The Debutante Committee may approve a proposed amendment. To become effective, the amendment must be approved by the Executive Board of Directors of the Plano Symphony Orchestra Association.

ARTICLE VII

Plano Symphony Presentation Ball

Section 1: Presentation

- A. All parents who are in good standing shall have their debutantes who are in good standing presented at the Plano Symphony 2021 Presentation Ball.
- B. The presentation of the debutantes at the 2021 Ball shall be the responsibility of the Plano Symphony Debutante Committee and shall be under the direction of the Plano Symphony Debutante Ball Chair and/or co-chair(s), the Director of the Plano Symphony Debutante Program, and the Executive Director of the Plano Symphony Orchestra Association.

ARTICLE VIII

Recognition

Section 1: Second-Year Recognition

- A. All parents who are in good standing shall have their debutantes who are in good standing presented at the Plano Symphony 2021 Presentation Ball to be held in November of their junior or senior year.
- B. Formal Debutante portraits will be included in the Debutante Presentation Ball program book.

- C. Debutante's name and headshot will be listed in Plano Symphony Orchestra concert program books.

Section 2: First-Year Recognition

- A. All parents who are in good standing shall have their debutantes who are in good standing introduced at a Plano Symphony Orchestra event.
- B. Debutante's name will be listed in Plano Symphony Orchestra concert program books.

STANDING RULES

In order to be presented at the Plano Symphony Presentation Ball, debutantes shall have met all volunteer service and financial requirements prior to the Ball.

The illegal use of alcohol or drugs by debutantes will not be tolerated. Any observance of the use of such substances during or prior to any Plano Symphony event, or the verified report of any debutante's use of alcohol or drugs reported to the Debutante Committee will result in the immediate dismissal from the program, **and any monies paid will not be refunded.**

Parent or legal Guardian shall sign a Waiver and Release and Indemnity Agreement for their daughter. This shall also cover each underage guest(s) they invite to attend the Presentation Ball where alcohol will be served.

The Plano Symphony Orchestra Association shall handle all monies raised by the Debutante Program.

A parent, grandparent, guardian or sponsor may not serve as a Guild Executive Committee member while their daughter is in the Debutante Program.

PLANO SYMPHONY DEBUTANTE PROGRAM SELECTION

Parents must propose their daughter or granddaughter for the debutante program during applicant's freshman or sophomore year of high school. ***We recognize this timing is delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Parents will be subscribers to the Plano Symphony Orchestra during the two-year period of their daughter or granddaughter's term. The season subscription is nonrefundable.

Priority will be given to young ladies meeting the requirements whose family has previously demonstrated strong support of the Plano Symphony.

The Plano Symphony Guild Debutante Committee will make the final selection of young women meeting these requirements.