

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR YOUTH PARTICIPATING IN NPM CONVENTIONS

The National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) welcomes your participation in the NPM Convention. We have expectations of you as a youth participant. You represent NPM as well as your diocese, parish and family. You also are a witness for our church and association to those who attend our convention or meet us as we travel to and from events around the city. We know that you will represent us well during our time together. We expect you to project an image of Christian consideration, sensitivity, and respect to everyone and to the property around you. We are confident you will display the maturity, responsibility and character that are trademarks of Catholic youth. Thank you!

This *Code of Conduct* is a general list of rules and regulations for NPM Conventions. Some of these may not be applicable at all events. When in doubt, check with your parent or chaperone.

1. NPM does not tolerate the possession of weapons of any kind. Failure to comply with this rule will result in immediate dismissal from the convention.
2. The use of alcohol and drugs is strictly prohibited. NPM does not tolerate the purchase, possession or consumption of beer, wine, or other alcoholic beverages by any minor or the possession or use of illegal drugs by any individual. Failure to comply with this rule will result in immediate dismissal from the convention.
3. Clothing should be appropriate. By this we mean short shorts, tank tops, and any reference to tobacco or alcoholic products, including insignias or advertisements, is prohibited. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a first request to change clothing. The need for a second request will result in immediate dismissal from the convention.
4. Participants are expected to respect the rights and property of others. Neither vandalism nor stealing will be tolerated. Financial obligations that result from such behavior will be the sole responsibility of the youth and her/his family.
5. Participants under the age of 18 may not smoke. Public policies regarding smoking or non-smoking areas are to be respected by all registrants, regardless of age. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a first request to surrender cigarettes. The need for a second request will result in immediate dismissal from the convention.
6. No participants are permitted to leave the premises without the expressed permission of a parent or chaperone.
7. NPM expects all youth participants to be in their assigned hotel rooms by midnight. Only a parent or the youth's chaperone may alter this curfew and only to facilitate travel, evening prayer, or a convention activity that goes beyond the announced curfew.
8. Socializing with members of the opposite sex should be done in public areas. No visiting is permitted in hotel rooms occupied by members of the opposite sex without permission from your parent or chaperone.
9. Any kind of sexual activity between youth or adults and youth, is prohibited. Failure to comply with this rule will result in immediate dismissal from the convention. Failure to comply with this rule could also result in legal charges.
10. Be aware of noise levels in lobbies, hallways, and sleeping areas, especially after 11:00 pm. This guarantees the right to privacy and quiet time for other convention participants and other hotel guests.

11. Sleeping room changes may only be made with the expressed permission of your parent or chaperone. If a room change is necessary, only a parent or chaperone is designated to coordinate this change with the hotel.
12. NPM discourages the sharing of sleeping rooms with members of the opposite sex or youth sharing sleeping rooms with adults.
13. NPM encourages that youth and chaperones follow the their respective diocesan policies on abuse prevention.

I have read this *Code of Conduct* and understand it and will abide by it. In addition, I will abide by all directions given me by adult chaperones. I also understand and agree that my parents or guardians will be notified at the time of any infraction requiring my dismissal from the convention and that I will be sent home at the expense of my parents or guardians.

Signature of Participant _____ Date _____

I agree that my child is expected to abide by all rules and regulations as outlines in the *Code of Conduct*. I agree that if my child fails to abide by this code or engages in any infraction that is deemed to be inappropriate, she/he will be dismissed from the convention and sent home at my expense with no right of reimbursement.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ **Date** _____

CODE OF CONDUCT AND SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR CHAPERONES AND PARENTS ACTING AS CHAPERONES AT NPM CONVENTIONS

Chaperones and parents acting as chaperones (hereafter included in the term “chaperones”) set an example for the young people whom they companion during NPM Conventions. NPM defines a chaperone as an adult (over 21 years of age) with responsibility for supervising young people (under 18 years of age) throughout NPM conventions. The following is what NPM requires of NPM chaperones:

1. NPM does not tolerate the possession or use of illegal drugs by any individual.
2. NPM does not tolerate the possession of weapons of any kind.
3. Chaperones are expected to refrain from drinking alcoholic beverages for the duration of the convention, as well as during their travels to and from the convention. Chaperones should not go anywhere during the convention that youth may not enter with them (i.e. cocktail lounges, bars, etc.)
4. Chaperones are responsible for helping to enforce the *Code of Conduct for Youth Participants in NPM Conventions* (“Code”) and should use the Code as a guide for their own behavior. Chaperones should review the Code and related guidelines with the youth they companion.
5. Chaperones are responsible for enforcing curfew and for keeping noise to a minimum in hotels. NPM expects all youth participants to be in their rooms by midnight. The chaperone may extend curfew to accommodate travel time, night prayer or late night events.
6. If a chaperone must enter a youth sleeping room, another adult must be present.
7. Chaperones should check rooms periodically after curfew to make sure the young people remain in their rooms. Hotel security personnel may question youth present in the hotel corridors, especially after curfew, as well as noise coming from youths being used by convention participants.
8. Chaperones should let the youth that they accompany know how to reach them throughout the convention and feel free to monitor the activities of any youth participant.
9. Chaperones should make arrangements to check in with the youth they accompany each day. This gives the chaperone the opportunity to hear from the youth what they have learned, answer questions, and be available should any concerns arise.
10. Chaperones must be at least 21 years old.
11. NPM discourages the sharing of sleeping rooms with members of the opposite sex or youth sharing sleeping rooms with adults.
12. NPM encourages that youth and chaperones follow their respective diocesan policies on abuse prevention.

I have read the foregoing and understand the *Code of Conduct for Chaperones and Parents Acting as Chaperones* and will abide by it. I agree that if a youth in my company fails to abide by this code or engages in any infraction that is deemed inappropriate, I will also be held responsible. Should NPM have a question about my or a youth in my company’s conduct we will abide by any decision made for the safety of youth and the protection of the Association.

Signature of Chaperone _____

Date _____

PARENTAL OR GUARDIAN PERMISSION FORM AND RELEASE

<i>Name of Youth</i>	<i>Home Phone</i>
<i>Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) Name</i>	<i>Work Phone</i>
<i>Address</i>	<i>Other number where parent/guardian can be reached</i>
<i>City/State/Zip</i>	
<i>Youth's Date of Birth</i>	<i>Youth's Gender: (Circle One)</i> <i>Male Female</i>

In consideration of the learning, formational and recreational experience in which my son/daughter will participate, I as parent/guardian do hereby agree to allow my child to participate in the upcoming NPM Convention.

City: _____ **Date:** _____

I/we acknowledge the receipt of the attached *Codes of Conduct*. Yes No

In consideration of the opportunity this affords my child, I agree to **release and hold harmless and indemnify** the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM), the Roman Catholic Bishops of the Convention host Diocese and their successors, a Corporate Sole, and all their agents, servants, and employees from any liability, claims, demands and causes of action arising out of or relating to any loss, damage or injury sustained in connection with or arising out of my children's participation in the Convention.

I hereby grant permission to any staff person to obtain medical care from a licensed physician, hospital or medical clinic for my child in the event I cannot be reached.

(Check one of the following):

- I am covered by hospitalization and medical insurance under policy # _____ with (name of company) _____
- I do not have medical coverage and assume responsibility for the cost of hospitalization and medical care for my child.

I hereby grant permission to any staff person to provide the following over-the-counter drugs to my child if requested by my child. *(Check all that apply):*

- Tylenol Benadryl Advil Sudafed Midol Kaopectate Neosporin

ADD any other medical information concerning medications, allergies, illness, etc.: _____

ADD any dietary restrictions: _____

Parents/guardians of participants are advised that the photographs or videotape of participants may be used in publications, websites or other materials produced from time to time by NPM. (Participants would not be identified, however, without specific written consent). Parents/guardians who do not wish their child(ren) to be photographed or filmed should so notify NPM in writing. Please note that NPM has no control over the use of photographs or film taken by media that may be covering the event in which your child(ren) participates.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____