

Stairway to Stardom

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What if I'm going on vacation/to camp/to a family reunion for two weeks this summer? Can I still participate in the program?

A: Participation in *Stairway to Stardom* requires a commitment to rehearse at least once a week for eight consecutive weeks leading up to the final concert. If you miss one rehearsal, you not only deny yourself valuable rehearsal time, but you deny your band mates the opportunity to rehearse as a complete group. If you can't make the commitment, then this program might not be for you.

Q: My summer schedule is not very flexible, and I'm only available to rehearse on Wednesdays from noon to 3pm. Will that be a problem?

A: Possibly. The more availability you have, the better your chances are of being placed in a band with those who have similar musical interests. If your availability is limited, we may not be able to place you.

Q: I've been in the *Stairway to Stardom* program before. Do I still need to audition?

A: Yes. Everyone must audition for *Stairway to Stardom*. Previous participation doesn't exempt you from the evaluation process, nor does not guarantee you a spot in a band.

Q: My friend plays drums and I play guitar. Can we be in the same band together?

A: Assuming that you and your friend both successfully pass through the audition process, and that scheduling allows, yes. You may participate in the program with ONE friend.

Q: I only want to play reggae music, and I live in Roseville. Can you guarantee that I'll be in a band with other people who like the same music I do who live in my neighborhood?

A: The evaluation panel does its best to place all participants in bands that fit their individual musical tastes, but there are no absolute guarantees because there are never an equal number of guitarists, vocalists, drummers and bass players who all like the same music who audition for the program. Flexibility and open mindedness are necessary for participation in *Stairway to Stardom*. Also, there is no guarantee that your band mates will live anywhere near you, as participants come from all over Northern California to participate in this award-winning program.

Q: What if I decide that I don't want to be in the *Stairway to Stardom* program after I meet my band? Can I get a refund?

A: No. One of the best things about the *Stairway to Stardom* program is the opportunity to meet and work with new and interesting people. First impressions are not always accurate, so it's important that all participants keep an open mind when they meet their band mates for the first time. Once a participant is placed in a band, there are NO refunds.

Q: At home, I play through a special guitar amp and lots of rack-mounted effects. Can I bring my own amp setup for *Stairway to Stardom*?

A: No, because *Stairway to Stardom* is sponsored by leading industry manufacturers and all of the backline gear is generously donated. For the sake of consistency and familiarity, with the exception of your own guitar or bass, for in-store rehearsals you will use the provided gear, which is the same as what will be used on concert day.

Q: What if I'm not placed in a band this year? Does that mean that I'm not cut out for *Stairway to Stardom*?

A: Not at all. There are several factors that account for why someone might not be placed in a band: scheduling conflicts, a limited number of available bands, and individual skill level are among these. If you don't make it into the program this year, any tuition that you paid will be refunded, and we invite you to attend all clinics and seminars for FREE as a guest of Skip's Music for the duration of the summer. We also encourage you to come back and audition for *Stairway to Stardom* next year!