

Orchestra I Disclosure 2021-22

Course Description: In Orchestra I class, students will learn to play or continue to learn to play a string instrument in a group setting. This class is for beginning and intermediate students, where they can play the violin, viola, cello, or bass. Students will also continue to learn how to read music and rhythms and learn musical terms, and most importantly, to rehearse and perform as a group. Becoming a better musician is the main goal.

Course Goals: 1) The students will learn to hold their instrument and bow properly, to produce a quality sound and how to use basic to intermediate bowing techniques. Students will improve from their personal skill level. All students will reinforce previous skills as well as learn how to become more musical while playing with a group and how to play with quality intonation, balance, and blend.

2) The students will learn how to read and use musical notation. They will be expected to learn their lines and spaces, note values, and how to read notes on all strings. They will also learn musical terms and symbols, such as dynamics, tempo and articulations and how to express them.

3) The students will learn to play and perform as a group. They will learn about balance and blend, intonation, as well as keeping tempo and watching a conductor.

They are required to participate in two school concerts.. Please mark all dates on your calendar. These are very important to any performing ensemble.

Course Materials: All written class materials will be provided by the teacher. Each student must have a folder to put their music, book and worksheets in. It is their responsibility to replace any lost music. Sheet music is \$2.00 per piece, and the book is \$9.00 to replace. **Students are expected to bring their folder, instrument and pencil to every class.**

Procedures: Orchestra class is an experience-based class. This means that students need to participate in class rehearsals in order to earn a grade. Students will learn new ideas in every class, which need to be **practiced at home** in order to participate fully in the next class. **All students must practice at least 3-4 days per week for a total minimum of 60 per week at home.** Unprepared students will not be able to fully participate, and may only make up 70% of participation points with a written assignment. . Late students who miss instruction will lose participation points for that day. There will be at least two school concerts per year.

Grading policies on back

Orchestra I Grading: Students will be graded on the following:

Participation (30%)– Demonstrating effort in class by being prepared with their instrument, folder with music and book, and pencil for class, as well as participating in class activities and school concerts. Students without instruments will be required to complete a written assignment that day for partial (70%) participation credit. Parents will be notified after 2 times, and will be expected to help their child be prepared for classes. Unexcused absences also impact participation. They will miss instruction and valuable rehearsal time, and will need to make up for their absences with a written assignment about our current pieces to receive partial participation credit.

Improvement and written assignments (40%)– Demonstration of regular progress of course goals throughout the semester with playing tests on Canvas and group playing in class as observed and assessed by the teacher. Students who are not making regular progress may be asked to play more often for the teacher. The teacher will also contact parents about home practice habits.. Written work will be done in class to work on notation skills and will be turned in for a grade on a regular basis.

Concerts (30%) -Grade based on attendance, preparation and participation. Students must attend school concerts. The culmination of our hard work together is performing. If a student needs to miss *one* concert for an *unavoidable and important conflict*, written notice must be given to the teacher at least 2 weeks prior to the concert. A written project and performance will need to be completed to receive partial concert credit. Illness can be made up with a project, so please communicate with Mrs. Misco.

Mrs. Misco is best e-mailed at michelle.misco@slcschools.org You may also call Hillside and leave a message, but I travel to 4 schools.

My website can be visited at: Hillsideorchestra.weebly.com (please bookmark this now)

This webpage will include all concert dates, important information, video tutorials, concert videos and resources. Concerts will also be on the Hillside calendar.

Concert policies: (Orchestra I)

The Hillside Winter and Spring Orchestra concerts are **MANDATORY**. All concerts begin at 7:00pm, with call time at Hillside at **6:30pm**. All Orchestra students are expected to participate as part of their grade. **Attendance is vital to the success of the group**. Students may not make up an unexcused absence from a concert. Illness may be made up, contact Mrs. Misco

Dates: (put these in your calendar today)

December 14th - Winter Concert at Hillside 7:00pm (concert black)

May 12th - Spring Concert at Hillside 7:00pm (concert black)

Night Concert dress code:

Just like in sports or dance, we wear a uniform. We want the audience to focus on the entire group, so we want a uniform appearance.

Concert black: (or black and white)

Option 1 white or black button up shirt or polo shirt or plain all black long sleeved shirt (no logos or patterns) black or dark grey pants (or SOLID black jeans, not faded) and dark dress shoes. Ties are optional, but look great. NO logo shirts, or anything that does not meet school dress code. Shirts should be tucked in and not sleeveless.

Option 2 black or white sweater or dress top (not t-shirt or tank top) and black pants or skirt (knee length or longer) or a black knee length or longer dress. Dark colored dress shoes. No midriff baring, very short or strappy dresses or shirts, must follow school dress code.

******If you need any concert attire, please email Mrs. Misco as soon as possible. We have a large collection of gently used concert clothing that has been donated for students at Hillside. We are happy to help!**

Attendance is expected from all students at concerts. If a student must miss one performance for an unavoidable conflict of great importance, Mrs. Misco must receive written notice at least 2 weeks before the concert to receive a make-up project. There may be a few other school day assemblies at Hillside, which will be announced at least 2 weeks prior to the performance.

TURN IN BY FRIDAY



Signature Page for Orchestra I class- Mrs. Misco

Keep the other pages for the important concert dates and information. Please put the dates on your calendar now! I try not to send too many paper notes home to conserve paper. I will send email and reminders, but get the dates on your calendar!

Student Name _____ (first and last)

*We have read and agree to the Orchestra I disclosure and grading policies. We support practicing at home, being prepared for class, and being at every class rehearsal possible. Class rehearsal time is **incredibly important**, and there is no way to completely make up a missed rehearsal. Students will need to submit regular recordings on Canvas. We have also read the **Concert Dates and Policies** and will plan on the concerts ahead of time and follow the policies.*

*IMPORTANT-We will bookmark **Hillsideorchestra.weebly.com** as this web page contains all concert dates, important class information, videos and other announcements.*

Student Signature _____

Parent or Guardian Signature _____

Parent name and e-mail address or phone _____