

MS SYMPHONIC ORCHESTRA

2014-2015 School Year
Friday Period 5 / Room 306

Instructors: Mr. Ouellet
Email: jouellet@oakarts.org
Department: Instrumental Music
Class Time: 11:55am – 12:45pm

Course Description

The OSA Symphonic Chamber Orchestra is the largest classical music group at OSA. This course is open to all classical and jazz instrumentalists excluding piano and guitar. Students are encouraged to take this course regardless of level; however, an audition is required for chair placement in the beginning of the year. Literature rehearsed and performed consists primarily of intermediate music from the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic eras. We will supplement our repertoire with other styles including Jazz, Popular, and Multicultural works.

Course Objectives

This course provides students the opportunity to:

- Play with correct intonation
- Demonstrate appropriate music reading ability
- Play with proper instrumental technique
- Understand and demonstrate proper balance within an ensemble
- Play with rhythmic precision
- Demonstrate understanding of correct articulation and technique for a given style or genre appropriate to the selected repertoire
- Perform on stage with a professional demeanor and poise

Required Materials

- Instrument
- Any emergency supplies specific to the student's instrument (extra strings, picks, drum sticks, reeds, valve oil, etc).
- All printed music that is being covered in class must be organized in a DEDICATED binder. I recommend plastic sheet protectors. Students will lose points every time that they request a replacement copy of their sheet music. Loose sheets piled into a folder are not acceptable as a method of organization. Students should be able to find and reference any piece that we have worked on during the entire year. I am happy to help guide the process of refining a student music notebook to best suit the student's needs and organization preferences.

Grading

- Daily Participation (15 points per day): This includes punctuality, a positive attitude, willingness to adopt new techniques, etc.
- Recital Workshops (50 points): All students are expected to play in our monthly recital workshops. This means having the music sufficiently prepared and rehearsed in the case of ensemble pieces.
- Practice Logs (20 points each)

- OSA Concerts (100 points each): Students must have all music prepared well enough to perform. In addition, students must arrive to all performance call times in a punctual manner with all required materials (instrument, extra strings, printed music, etc). Concert dress is mandatory for all performances. For boys: White dress shirt, black pants, and black dress shoes with black socks. For girls: Black dress, or black skirt/pants with white blouse, and black shoes. Students arriving out of concert dress may not be allowed to perform, and will not receive credit.
- Community Outreach Performances (50 points): The Chamber Orchestra will perform three additional performances per year outside of OSA. Each student is required to attend these.

NOTE: Missing a scheduled performance without a valid excuse, will earn a student a zero for that grade. (Remember: some performances are worth 50 points and some are worth 100 points, missing one performance can drop your final grade by a whole letter) Valid excuses will be accepted no later than one week in advance from a parent or guardian. Of course emergencies occur, in case of an emergency please inform Mr. Ouellet ASAP.

OSA Concerts (performance times TBA)

- October 23rd “Open Rehearsal at Sweets Ballroom”
- December 18th “Winter Showcase at Sweets Ballroom”
- March 22nd “Spring Classical Concert at Sweets Ballroom”

Community Outreach Performances (performance times TBA)

- TBA
- TBA
- TBA

Community outreach performances will be determined as the academic year proceeds. These performances will be announced approximately two months in advance to allow for ample planning.

We look forward to working with your children and helping them grow as musicians!

Student Name (Print) and Signature

Parent name (Print) and Signature

Parent email and current contact number

Student Email

This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with or without advanced notice