



## **String Orchestra Exit Requirements**

### **Instrumental Objectives:**

1. Develop and expand knowledge of specific instrumental techniques, including unified bowing and violin positions.
2. Develop an understanding of the care and handling of the various stringed instruments.
3. Develop and expand knowledge of music reading, and of musical concepts such as pitch, rhythm and meter.
4. Develop and expand knowledge of music interpretation, style, and history of music and musical instruments.
5. Develop responsibility, self-discipline and musicianship through individual and ensemble play.
6. Develop a good sense of pitch for tuning and playing in tune.

### **Grade 6 – Beginning Orchestra**

Students who have been recruited into orchestra will begin with an hour and a half A/B rotating schedule seeing each other every other day. Students will study from the String Basics Book 1, supplemented by sheet music at the beginning level. String ensemble music is practiced during orchestra time.

#### Technique and Performance

Demonstrate good posture and playing position.

Learn proper care and handling of instruments and bow.

Learn basic right-hand technique

Bowing – legato and staccato

Pizzicato

Learn basic left-hand technique

Violin and Viola – first position, and upper and lower extensions

Cello – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and half position, upper and lower extensions

Bass – 1<sup>st</sup>, half position, upper and lower extensions

Perform with attention to intonation.

Understand basic principles of good tone production.

Learn selected major scales (D, G, C).

Learn procedures for tuning the instruments with ear training and the use of electric tuners

### Music Fundamentals

Develop skills in reading basic music notation.

Develop an understanding of basic meter signatures and rhythm patterns. 4 3 2  
using whole, half, quarter, eighth, and dotted notes and their rests. 4 4 4

Learn to sing basic melodic intervals.

Recognize expressive and bow markings.

Recognize the value of individual practice.

### Musical Interpretation

Learn a vocabulary of terms to discuss and describe music.

Attend music concerts (particularly orchestra and strings) whenever possible

### Musical Activities

Winter Concert (Pre-LGPE concert) in late February

Spring Concert in May

## **7th Grade – Intermediate Orchestra**

Students who have been recruited into orchestra will begin with an hour and a half A/B rotating schedule seeing each other every other day. Students will study from the String Basics Book 2, supplemented by sheet music at the beginning level. String ensemble music is practiced during orchestra time.

Orchestra literature consists both of classical type music from Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods and of contemporary string orchestra music.

### Technique and Performance

Study a progressive plan of materials for individual growth on own instrument.

Expand left hand technique

Violin and viola – 1/2 and third positions

Cello – 1/2 and third position

Bass- second and third positions

Expand right hand with new bowing techniques

Tremolo, ponticello, hook

Continue procedures for tuning the instruments with ear training and the use of electric tuners

Match pitches and play a melodic line in tune

Perform a variety of bowing styles appropriate to different styles of music

Recognize and play rhythm and tonal patterns at sight (Habits Book)

Demonstrate core tone production and resonance; understand how to achieve this at various dynamics

Learn how to approach sight-reading for LGPE performance

Begin learning embellishments; trills, grace notes, etc.

Perform in small chamber ensembles

Demonstrate correct rehearsal and concert etiquette

Demonstrate proper posture and stage presence

### Music Fundamentals

Use a systematic counting method (1+ 2+ 3+ 4e+a)

Perform Major and minor scales two octaves with arpeggios (MAJ- D, G, C, F, Bb, Eb. min- b, e, a)

Know the keys and key signatures of major scales (circle of 5ths)

Recognize key changes within a piece of music

Understand the following meters: 4 3 2 2 3 6 9 12  
4 4 4 2 8 8 8 8

Understand the terms; common and cut time

Recognize and demonstrate basic conducting patterns of 2, 3, and 4

Recognize and understand expressive bow markings

Define musical symbols and abbreviations

Recognize the value of individual practices and individual instruction

Recognize the need for listening to recorded orchestra music

### Musical Interpretation

Know composers and style of music studied

Study the expressive qualities inherent in music

Attend orchestra, string ensemble, and string solo concerts

### Musical Activities

Celebrate the Arts in December

Winter Concert (Pre-LGPE concert) in late February

LGPE (if in Chamber Ensemble)

Spring Concert in May

Solo and Ensemble (enrichment activity)

Audition for All-State (enrichment activity)

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Intermediate/Advanced Orchestra**

Students who have been recruited into orchestra will begin with an hour and a half A/B rotating schedule seeing each other every other day. Students will move beyond a method book and work more serious musical literature supplemented by “Habits of a Successful Middle Level String Musician.” String ensemble music is practiced during orchestra time.

Orchestra literature consists both of classical type music from Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods and of contemporary string orchestra music.

### Technique and Performance

Study a progressive plan of materials for individual growth on own instrument.

Expand left hand technique

Violin and viola – 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> positions

Cello – 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> positions

Bass- 5<sup>th</sup>

Demonstrate a full understanding of finger patterns

Expand right hand with new bowing techniques  
Spiccato

Continue procedures for tuning the instruments with ear training and the use of electric tuners

Play with good intonation and have an understanding of the vertical structure of chords and how to adjust

Understanding of pure and just tuning

Define and use in performance: notation, dynamics, bow markings, musical symbols, and terms

Perform a variety of bowing styles appropriate to different styles of music

Recognize and play rhythm and tonal patterns at sight (Habits Book)

Demonstrate core tone production and resonance; understand how to achieve this at various dynamics

Approach sight-reading for LGPE performance

Continue mastering learning embellishments, trills, grace notes, etc.

Demonstrate an understanding of vibrato

Perform in small chamber ensembles

Demonstrate correct rehearsal and concert etiquette

Demonstrate proper posture and stage presence

### Music Fundamentals

Use a systematic counting method (1+ 2+ 3+ 4e+a)

Perform Major and minor scales two/three octaves with arpeggios (MAJ- E, A, D, G, C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab min- b, e, a, d, g)

Know the keys and key signatures of major scales (circle of 5ths)

Recognize key changes within a piece of music

Understand the following meters: 4 3 2 2 3 6 9 12  
4 4 4 2 8 8 8 8

Understand the terms common and cut time

Recognize and demonstrate basic conducting patterns of 2, 3, and 4

Recognize and understand expressive bow markings

Define musical symbols and abbreviations

Recognize the value of individual practices and individual instruction

Recognize the need for listening to recorded orchestra music

### Musical Interpretation

Know the composers and styles of music studied

Study the expressive qualities inherent in music

Attend orchestra, string ensemble, and string solo concerts

Evaluate individual and group performances

Identify and define characteristics of different large forms of music

Explore types of musical careers and music-related careers

Demonstrate knowledge of various types of music

Discuss and evaluate concert and clinic performances

### Musical Activities

Celebrate the Arts in December

Winter Concert (Pre-LGPE concert) in late February

LGPE (if in Chamber Ensemble)

Spring Concert in May

Solo and Ensemble (enrichment activity)

Audition for All-State (enrichment activity)