

Orchestra Handbook 2017-2018

Lincoln-Way East High School
Mr. Johnson, LWE Music Dept. Chair
Mrs. Freeland, Orchestra Director
www.lwemusic.org

Contact Information

Mrs. Freeland, 815-464-4297, mfreeland@lw210.org
Office Hours: by appointment
www.lwemusic.org.

Course Description

The String/Symphony Orchestra is a performance-based ensemble and this course offers training in the intermediate and advanced skills of performing in a string and full orchestra ensemble. Technically challenging repertoire and solo performance opportunities will be teamed with audio assessment and individual enrichment assignments. Public performances will highlight the course.

School Instrument Rental and Method Book Purchase

- **There is a \$150 (\$75 per semester) rental fee for the use of one school instrument, \$25 for each additional instrument (marching/wind ensemble). This is a department wide policy and the fee helps cover maintenance and repair of school instruments.**
- IBA funds can be used, otherwise checks are to be made payable to LW High School District 210.
- If you wish to bring your own violin/viola to school lockers/storage will be provided.
- Exciting! We are implementing a new curricular method book this year in orchestra district-wide. We may choose to have students purchase them in the near future for a very small fee.

Required Concert/Event Attendance (as of August 17, 2017)

Details of required call times will be given as each concert approaches

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| Thursday, September 28 | Fall Orchestra/Band Concert @ 7PM |
| Tuesday/Wednesday, December 12/13 | Kaleidoscope Rehearsal |
| Thursday, December 14 | Kaleidoscope Concert 7 PM |
| Monday, February 12 (4pm call time) | String Extravaganza 7 PM |
| February | College Orchestra Festival TBD |
| Tuesday, March 13 | All-District Festival Orchestra Concert 7 PM LWC |
| Mondays: April 9, 30, May 7, 14 | Full Orchestra Rehearsals 7:30-9 PM |
| Thursday, May 15 | Spring Orchestra Concert 7PM |

Additional Required Events

We are currently looking into a College Orchestra Festival to attend, as well as an outside performance/fieldtrip opportunity. Stay tuned!!!

Additional Performance Opportunities

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| Gigs | Various dates and locations |
| Madrigal Instrumentalists | September/October |
| IMEA Auditions | October 11 Carl Sandburg H.S. Orland Park |
| IMEA Festival | November 18 Elmhurst College |
| Kaleidoscope Solo/Chamber Auditions | TBD |
| ILMEA All-State Festival | January 24-27 |
| Musical Pit | Information coming this winter |
| Music Honors Night (non-performance) | TBD |

Trips

It is my belief that students can have rich educational experiences through attending concerts, participating in music festivals, and visiting universities. District Orchestra trips and LWE Music Department trips are offered every 2 to 4 years. This is a non-travel year...stayed tuned for upcoming trip opportunities.

Concert Attire

All students will be fitted for a department gown or tuxedo that is to be worn at all concerts. There is a small fee for cleaning the uniform, and boys must purchase their tux shirt/bowtie.

Required Performance Conflicts

Conflicts happen, but must be submitted in writing using the LWE conflict form and signed by a parent/guardian. The conflict form must state the specific nature of the conflict (“a previous commitment” is not acceptable), when the conflict is, and when this commitment was made. Only forms submitted before the performance will be eligible to be excused. Please submit athletic/school conflicts as well. Work will never be eligible to be excused. For unavoidable absences due to extreme circumstances, an 8-10 page research paper make-up assignment will be given along with a playing exam on the music performed.

Grading

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|-------------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Semester grades:</i> | <i>40% 1st Quarter Average</i> | <i>Quarter Grades:</i> | <i>30% Performances</i> |
| | <i>40% 2nd Quarter Average</i> | | <i>35% Playing Assessments</i> |
| | <i>20% Final Exam</i> | | <i>35% Written Assessments</i> |

Performances:

- ♪ **Concert/Festival/Performance 100 points each.** “Performance” is defined as any event in which the director has required your attendance. Orchestra is a co-curricular class, and you will be obligated to attend functions after school and on weekends. A list of known “required for grade” attendance events is located in this handbook.
- ♪ **Concert/Festival/Performance Reflection Various points each.** Every required performance will include an in-class reflection assignment. This reflection will include self-assessment, information on the pieces performed, and any additional information appropriate for each given performance situation.
- ♪ **Peer/Section Assessment 25 points each.** Every member of an ensemble must be aware of not only their contribution to the team, but also how their own and other sections are contributing to the success of the ensemble. These assessments will provide the students an opportunity to develop their critical listening skills to evaluate other sections and make constructive suggestions for improvement.
- ♪ **Concert Reviews 30 points each.** Once a semester students will be required to do a 1 page double spaced written concert review of a live instrumental concert. Concerts must be high school level or above. Multiple performances are available every semester, including orchestra, band, percussion concerts by any L-W ensemble, Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra concerts (which are free for L-W students), and neighboring school districts and youth orchestras. Students have the entire semester to complete this assignment. Upcoming performances will be advertised in class.

Playing Assessments: Various points

- ♪ **Playing Exams** will be administered by the director over selected repertoire from the current concert cycle. Scales and rhythms may be included. Students must perform assessments when assigned—no make-ups for ill-prepared assessments.
- ♪ **Box of Destiny** assessments are in class playing assignments where a group of students are selected to perform a known excerpt of their upcoming concert repertoire in class.

Written Assessments: Various Points

- ♪ **In Class Written Work** will include music theory, vocabulary, and musical concepts that review material from the previous day(s) and/or introduce new material for the upcoming lesson.
- ♪ **Self-Assessments** will be completed each day and will be turned in on the final day of the week. Thorough, reflective work is expected.
- ♪ **Quizzes** will be given throughout the year on music theory, music vocabulary, and music history that is relevant to the techniques and music being studied.
- ♪ **Manila Folder** Every student will have a folder to keep written work, self-assessments, etc. It is the student’s responsibility to get any missed material from the instructor.
- ♪ **Final Exam: 100 pts**

Handbook Acknowledgement Form

Lincoln-Way East High School Orchestra

The entire handbook is available online at www.lwemusic.org
By signing this form you are acknowledging that you read the full handbook.
Thank you for supporting our effort to be green!

1. Agreement

After reading the orchestra handbook in its entirety, please detach, complete, and **return this page and the attached medical form by Wednesday, August 23**. Students must have this completed page on file with their director before being allowed to participate in a concert.

I have read the Orchestra Handbook in its entirety, agree to be responsible for the information contained within, and I understand and will do my best to fulfill the expectations and responsibilities of orchestra.

Student: _____ Parent Name: _____

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

2. Instrumental Rental

_____ Yes, I wish to rent a school instrument for the year (circle): Violin Viola Cello Bass

_____ I have attached a check # _____ for \$150 for the year, made payable to L-W District 210

_____ I will use IBA funds to pay the school instrument rental fee.

3. Contact Information

Everyone should have received an email about signing up in Charms to receive music department weekly emails and other updates. I also prefer to have the information in hard copy below for my own records. If you have not signed-up in Charms, please do so ASAP. Thank you!

Student E-mail Address (print neatly): _____

Parent E-mail Address (print neatly): _____

Preferred phone: _____