

L-W East High School Orchestra Handbook 2021-2022

Mrs. Freeland, Orchestra Director

Mr. Johnson, LWE Music Dept. Chair

www.lwemusic.org

All music students must set-up a Charms account. Important department/music booster/orchestra information is communicated with Charms. Visit the website above to login/set-up an account.

I will be emailing all curricular class communications through Skyward. Make sure your family email is correct in Skyward. All students should be checking their school email regularly.

Contact Information

Mrs. Freeland, 815-464-4297, mfreeland@lw210.org

Office Hours: by appointment

www.lwemusic.org.

Course Descriptions

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. Full Symphonic Orchestral literature will be part of our curricular instruction and performed at our December and May Concerts!

The **String/Symphony Orchestra – Honors Credit** is an extension of the regular orchestra class. Students in their 3rd or 4th year of the program at L-W are eligible. Honors students will complete additional assignments and additional performance opportunities when available.

Extracurricular

The **Symphony Strings** is an extracurricular string orchestra that will rehearse on Tuesday evenings. More information to come! Students who participate will be prepared for additional performance opportunities some of which include community gigs, madrigals, musical, etc.

School Instrument Rental

- **There will be a rental fee of \$150 for the use of one school instrument, and a significantly smaller fee for each additional instrument (marching/wind ensemble). This is a department wide policy and the fee helps cover maintenance and repair of school instruments.**
- IFA funds can be used.
- Every student is billed through Charms.
- If you wish to bring your own violin/viola to school, locked locker storage will be provided in the orchestra/band room. L-W is not liable for instruments left unattended after school hours.

Required Concert/Event Attendance (as of August 16, 2021)

Fall Orchestra Concert	10/26
Department-wide Winter Concert	12/9
Strings Extravaganza	2/14
LWE Fish Fry Fundraisers	3/4, 3/11, 4/8, 4/15 - We will be performing on ONE of these dates.
Kaleidoscope Spring Concert	5/19

Additional Opportunities

ILMEA Auditions – Virtual this fall

ILMEA Festival

Concerto Competition

Madrigal Dinners

ILMEA All-State Festival

Musical Pit (When applicable)

Kaleidoscope Solo/Chamber Auditions

Friday, October 8th submission deadline - Virtual auditions

Saturday, November 20th – Elmhurst College

Late Fall

December 2-5

January 26-29

April 22-24

TBD Spring Semester

Field 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. Available fieldtrips for this school year will be announced if and when they are possible.

Music Boosters

Have you officially joined the music boosters? The money collected for membership goes to a scholarship fund that is distributed to deserving senior music students at the end of the year, funds classroom and extracurricular needs, plus membership allows free entry into home games. If you would like to purchase a membership, log into your skyward account and click on “fee management” to add the membership and pay. All families are encouraged to join the LWE Music Boosters. The website with more information to join is:

www.lwemusicboosters.org

Charms

Charms is the online system that the music boosters/music department uses to send out weekly calendar updates, organize individual fundraising accounts (IFA), communicate fundraisers, booster’s events, uniforms, etc. **If you are new this year, you’ll want to learn how to log into your Charms account.** This is the place you can check the balance of your IFA (Individual Family Account), sign up to volunteer, purchase items in the online store and more. If it’s your first time logging into charms, go to www.lwemusic.org and follow the link on the home page to sign-up.

Concert Attire

If all goes as planned: All students will be fitted for a department gown or tuxedo that is to be worn at all concerts. When students will be fitted will be announced in class. There is a small fee for cleaning the uniform, and boys must purchase their tuxedo shirt/bowtie. This fee will be billed online to your Charms account

Required Performance Conflicts

Performance conflicts do not happen. However, extreme circumstances may mean that an unavoidable conflict due to a family death, illness, accident, or the more positive athletic conflict could occur. Conflicts are approved on a case by case basis, and must be submitted in writing. 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. A job or homework will never be eligible to be excused.

Grading

*Semester grades: 80% Semester Work Average
20% Final Exam*

*Semester Work: 30% Performances
25% Playing Assessments: Live or digital
25% Written/Digital Assessments
20% Work Skills*

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 has been listed on the front side of this document.
- ♪ **Concert/Festival/Performance Reflections 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.

Work Skills:

- ♪ **Instrument:** Each student is expected to have their instrument daily
- ♪ **Pencil:** Everyone must have a pencil at their stand daily
- ♪ **Set-Up and Tear Down of Rehearsal:** Students will responsibility set-up and tear down our rehearsal space daily, treating all school equipment with respect.
- ♪ **Tuning Etiquette:** One of my largest goals is to give my students the skills to succeed in an orchestra in college, and in the community beyond high school. Proper tuning expectations will be taught
- ♪ **Participation/Effort:** Students are expected to actively participate in orchestra daily. A written medical note can excuse a student due to injury or illness. Please let me know as quickly as possible if a change medical/participation needs arises.

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. Assessments can be in person or digital.
- ♪ **Smart Music** may be utilized this year to facilitate practice at home when applicable. Smart Music is an online music program purchased by the district that allows for home practice and assessment.

Written/Digital Assessments: Various Points

- ♪ **In Class or Online 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.
- ♪ **Breezin/ Thru Theory** is the online music theory program used by the curricular bands, choirs, and orchestras at LWE. Students will be expected to complete online graded assignments regularly.
- ♪ **Self-Assessments** will be completed as benchmarks throughout each concert cycle. 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.
- ♪ **Final Exam**

