



Weaver Orchestra Handbook

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Check out our orchestra website at <http://www.hilliardschools.org/music/>

Welcome to an exciting year of orchestra at Weaver Middle School! I am looking forward to a fun and productive year of music making. In this class, I hope you will learn many new things, enjoy playing your instrument more, and make new friends in the process. We have an exciting year planned! Through our hard work, dedication, and teamwork, the orchestra will reach its fullest potential. Together, we can achieve great things!



Course Philosophy

It is the philosophy of this course that each student has the opportunity to explore instrumental music performance in a supportive, caring, and encouraging environment that holds its participants to high standards of performance achievement. Orchestra students at the middle school level are exposed to a variety of new skills, techniques and music that will enable them to grow in their music making abilities.

Course Goals

- To further the student's musicianship and playing skills through a variety of performance opportunities and literature.
- To provide greater performance opportunities through a variety of ensembles.
- To prepare the student for successful participation in future orchestras.

Course Objectives

To further develop the student's:

- Right hand (bowing) skills
- Left hand (fingering) skills
- Ear-training (aural) skills
- Rhythmic skills
- Overall musicianship skills (understanding of dynamics, phrasing, and style)
- Sense of responsibility to a performing group

Class Expectations

- 1) Please be prepared to participate daily.
- 2) Bring all necessary equipment to class everyday. This includes your instrument, music, pencil, Ipad and positive attitude.
- 3) Be on time to class everyday. Promptness to class and rehearsals is very important. Students are to expected to be in the rehearsal room when the bell rings. You will have three minutes to get out your instrument and music and be seated.
- 4) Leave all gum, drinks, and food outside of the classroom and concert stages.
- 5) Be a good citizen by practicing:
 - Respect for yourself, peers, teachers, and musical property
 - Attentiveness
 - Consistent effort and positive attitude
 - Willingness to ask questions when clarification or additional help from the teacher is needed
- 6) Take your instrument home regularly and practice in order to improve your performance skills and the group's performing ability.

**Required Materials**

The following are required class materials for all orchestra students:

- 1) Good quality instrument, bow, and case
- 2) Rosin and cleaning cloth
- 3) Extra set of strings (violin and viola)
- 4) Shoulder rest (vln/vla) and Rock stop (cello/bass)
- 5) 1" Binder with 2 pocket folders
- 6) Music and pencil
- 7) Ipad

The following are required home materials for all orchestra students:

- 1) Folding metal music stand (for practicing)

**GRADES**

Orchestra members will be evaluated each 9 weeks in five major areas:

- Daily Rehearsal Grade (40%)
- Performances (25%)
- Playing & Written Evaluations (20%)
- Practice records (10%)
- Homework (5%)

PLAYING / WRITTEN EVALUATIONS

Students will be required to periodically turn in recordings and complete quizzes to evaluate technical and musical progress. Playing tests will also be used to determine seating for orchestra.

PRACTICE LOGS

Practice is the key to improvement! Students are required to maintain a record of consistent daily practice. A new practice record will be distributed at the beginning of each nine weeks. Students should practice a minimum of 90 minutes over at least 3 days per week in order to receive full credit. Practice records should be signed weekly by a parent or guardian.

I PAD APPS

Please download these apps on your Ipad and put them in a folder titled "Orchestra." These are free apps that we will be using for class. Students may be asked to add other apps throughout the school year.

insTuner

Metronome: Tempo Lite

Music Glossary



PERFORMANCES

BECAUSE WE ARE A TEAM,
IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL MEMBERS
ATTEND SCHEDULED PERFORMANCES.

ONLY ILLNESS OR EMERGENCY
SITUATIONS WILL EXCUSE A STUDENT
FROM A PERFORMANCE. IN CASE OF AN
ILLNESS OR EMERGENCY, A NOTE OR
EMAIL MUST BE SENT TO THE DIRECTOR
THE DAY AFTER THE CONCERT OR AS
SOON AS THE STUDENT RETURNS TO
SCHOOL.

* AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE WILL
RESULT IN THE LOWERING OF THE NINE-
WEEKS GRADE.

*POINTS LOST THROUGH AN
EXCUSED ABSENCE CAN BE MADE UP
THROUGH AN ASSIGNMENT GIVEN BY THE
DIRECTOR. (STUDENTS NEED TO BE IN
SCHOOL FOR AT LEAST 1/2 DAY ON THE
DAY OF A CONCERT IN ORDER TO
ATTEND.)

Concert Dress

All performances listed in the calendar
require our Weaver Orchestra in "concert
dress" so that we will appear uniform and
professional.

Everyone: White dress shirt/blouse, black
pants/appropriate length skirt (no jeans)
dress shoes. No tennis shoes or printed
materials, please.

Instrument Storage

Students will be issued a locker in the music
room for storage of their instruments during the
school day. In some cases, it will be
necessary to share a locker. A school lock will
be issued during the first week of class. Lost
or missing locks are the student's
responsibility. Students will be responsible for
replacing any lost locks.

Private Lessons

It is highly recommended that each
student take advantage of the wonderful
opportunities that private lessons have
to offer. Nothing can take the place of
this kind of one-on-one instruction.
There are many very qualified teachers
in the Hilliard/Columbus area. Please fill
out the private lessons form if you are
interested.



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: Helpful Websites for supplies:
: www.sharmusic.com
: www.discountstrings.com
: www.swstrings.com
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Weaver Orchestra Calendar 2023-2024

All performances are required unless otherwise indicated.

*Students typically arrive about 45 minutes before the performance time.

Cadet Orchestra Fall Concert (Not involving Concert Orchestra 2 or 1.)

Date: Monday, October 9, 2023

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: Hilliard Davidson High School PAC

Concert Orchestra 2 & Concert Orchestra 1 Fall Concert (Not involving Cadet Orchestra.)

Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: Hilliard Davidson High School PAC

Holiday Concert (All orchestras)

Date: Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: Hilliard Davidson High School PAC

Concert Orchestra 2 Mid-Winter Concert (Not involving Cadet Orchestra or Concert Orchestra 1.)

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2024

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: Hilliard Davidson High School PAC

Central Ohio String Festival (Concert Orchestra 1 only)

Date: Friday, March 1st or Saturday, March 2nd

Time: TBA

Place: Upper Arlington High School

Cadet Orchestra & Weaver Choir Mid-Winter Concert (Not involving Concert Orchestra 2 or 1.)

Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: Weaver MS Commons

OMEA Solo & Ensemble Adjudicated Event

Date: Saturday, March 23, 2024

Time: Times TBA

Place: Weaver MS

*This event is for those who want to play a solo or participate in an ensemble.

It is not a required performance for all orchestra students. More information to come in January.

Spring Concert & Awards (All orchestras)

Date: Thursday, May 16, 2023

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: Hilliard Davidson High School PAC

**Please mark these dates on your family calendar. Thanks for your cooperation and support!

**Davidson HS Orchestra Concert Dates (not required attendance, but they're great to see!)

Holiday Concert - Thursday, December 7th 7:00 P.M. Davidson PAC

Mid-Winter Concert –Tuesday, March 5th 7:00 P.M. Davidson PAC

Spring Pops Concert –Wednesday, May 8th 7:00 P.M. Davidson PAC



Hilliard Weaver Orchestras

Weaver Orchestra Contract

Please go to our Orchestra Handbook module on Canvas and read through the Weaver Orchestra Handbook with your parent or guardian. After reading the handbook, putting all pertinent dates on your family calendar, and downloading the required apps to your Ipad, please sign and return this contract to Mrs. Faulkner no later than:

Friday, September 1st, 2023

We have read the Weaver Orchestra Handbook and understand the classroom expectations, performance expectations and grading policy. We have recorded the scheduled performance dates on the family calendar. We understand that concert dates take precedence over other activities that arise after the signing of this contract.

Student name (PRINT): _____

Student signature: _____

Parent signature: _____

Private Music Lessons Please check the appropriate boxes below regarding private lessons for the fall. If you would like to begin lessons at this time, a list of teachers to contact will be sent home within the first few weeks of school.

_____ Yes, I would like to start lessons this fall.

_____ I am currently studying privately with _____.

_____ I am not interested in lessons at this time.