

# ORCHESTRA MUSIC COURSES

## **Beginning Orchestra**

Course Code: 275004 Grades 9-12 Credit: 1 Prerequisite: None

This class is open to students who wish to learn how to play an orchestral string instrument but have no previous musical experience. Attention is focused on the development and understanding of fundamental string techniques including proper tone production, bow hold, hand positions, and aural and notation reading skills. Students are expected to supply their own instruments.

**Expected Hours of Homework: 2 hours per week**

**A successful student** is willing to work on beginning level technique and skill outside of class and is interested in playing a variety of music in class.

## **Intermediate Orchestra**

Course Code: 275003 Grades 9-12. Credit: 1 Prerequisite: Successful completion of LCPS middle school orchestra program, high school level Beginning Orchestra, or teacher recommendation.

Students in the Intermediate Orchestra continue to develop proper tone production, style, playing technique, and appropriate ensemble skills while preparing musical selections for performance. As a co-curricular ensemble, performances outside regular school hours are a requirement.

**Expected Hours of Homework: 2 hours per week**

**A successful student** is willing to work on Intermediate level technique and skill outside of class and is interested in playing a variety of music in class.

## **Advanced Orchestra**

Course Code: 275002 Grades 9-12 Credit: 1 Prerequisite: Successful completion of HS Intermediate level or teacher recommendation.

Technical and expressive skills increase in difficulty as students demonstrate mastery of a variety of articulations, bowings, positions, required scales, and arpeggios. Students at the advanced level perform, discuss, and critically evaluate characteristics of more elaborate musical compositions. This is a performance-oriented class, and students are active in numerous concerts and events. As a co-curricular ensemble, performances outside regular school hours are a requirement.

**Expected Hours of Homework: 2 hours per week**

**A successful student** is becoming more self-motivated with regards to practicing and skill development and is interested in being challenged on a daily basis with music and exercises at a more advanced level.

**Artist Orchestra**

Course Code: 275001 Grades 9-12 Credit: 1 Prerequisite: Successful completion of HS Advanced level or teacher recommendation.

Students who perform at the Artist level have built upon and mastered the previous high school skill levels of Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Orchestra. The Artist Orchestra student demonstrates exceptional skill level and is able to perform, discuss, analyze, and critically evaluate characteristics of more elaborate music compositions from a variety of styles, cultures, and historical periods. The ensemble is performance oriented and is involved in concert appearances and county, regional, and state events. As a co-curricular ensemble, performances outside regular school hours are a requirement.

**Expected Hours of Homework: 2 hours per week at a minimum**

**A successful student** is very self-motivated in music and is willing to push themselves constantly to improve their skill level with both solo and full ensemble music literature.