

GRIMSLEY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
ORCHESTRA HANDBOOK

2017-2018



Dear Orchestra Parents,

Welcome to the Grimsley Orchestra and the 2017-2018 school year! We have a very exciting year planned with lots of performances and musical opportunities.

I know many of you will have questions regarding our program and what is planned for this school year. Students will receive an orchestra handbook for your review in the first few days of school.

All students will need (in addition to their instrument) by Wednesday, August 30:

- instrument/bow
- pencils
- rosin (\$2-\$5)
- cellists/bassists → rock stop (\$10-\$20) **we have approximately 10 at school
- violinists/violists → shoulder sponge (\$2) or shoulder rest (\$15-\$25)
- extra strings (except basses)

All of these items are available at these listed stores:

- Moore Music- 615 W Market Street Greensboro
- Artley Inc- 213 Burlington Ave Gibsonville
- Music and Arts -2609 Lawndale Drive Greensboro

•There are more if you need me to share, just ask. If you know of any that you prefer, feel free to go there!

If you need any assistance in obtaining any supplies, ***please reply and I will be happy to help!*** We do not want any student dropping orchestra because they are unable to obtain an instrument or supplies.

Also, we have an avid orchestra boosters club called Friends of the GHS Orchestra. We hope you will consider joining us. Currently, we need officers. If you know you are able to help in any capacity, please, please reply and I will be happy to speak with you!

I will be sharing more about orchestra in the weeks to come! Once again, I look forward to seeing everyone soon and starting the year!

Yours Truly,

Britany Green Stimpson
Director of Orchestras
National Board Certified Teacher
Grimsley High School
Kiser Middle School
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Grading Policy

GHS Orchestra Students will be graded on the following items:

Participation (including performance attendance)
Playing Quizzes/ Assignments
Class Preparation
Practice

Participation- Each day you are expected to play in class, using 100% of your musical ability at all times. You are expected to engage in what we are doing in class throughout the entire period. This means that completing homework for other classes during orchestra class will NOT be tolerated. You will get a daily grade in participation. Each instance you are not participating in class you will receive a "0" for that day. After FOUR "0's", your grade will be lowered one letter grade. Please understand that **not attending orchestra concerts for unexcused reasons will result in a failing grade** for that quarter. All rehearsals are mandatory unless otherwise stated, and **failure to attend rehearsals will result in a failing grade.**

Playing Quizzes/ Assignments- Anytime we have a playing quiz, students will be graded on several concepts. Such include posture, playing position, tonality, and note accuracy. Playing quizzes are announces, and students are expected to practice for these beforehand. Assignments must be turned in on their due date. Any assignment that is late will be marked down one letter grade for each day it is not turned in.

Class Preparation- Each day, orchestra students are expected to come prepared to class. This includes having his or her instrument in class (not someone else's instrument), a pencil, music, music folder rosin, strings, and any other materials requested for that day. You will get a daily grade for class preparation. Each instance you are not prepared for class you will receive a "0" for that day. After FOUR "0's", your grade will be lowered one letter grade.

Practice- Students of the GHS Orchestra are expected to practice a minimum of 120 minutes per week. Practice will be monitored through practice charts that will be turned in each Friday at the beginning of the class period, and also through playing quizzes and daily rehearsal. A student who is not properly progressing in his or her performance will be properly identified. After-school tutoring is available weekly. Please take advantage of this opportunity.

PRACTICE CHARTS

Students will need to practice at least 120 minutes or more a week. More practice is always better. Students will record the amount of time practiced into their practice charts and then initialed by a parent indicating completion. These practice charts are due on Fridays for the numerical grade of "100." Late practice charts will be accepted on Mondays for the numerical grade of "80." Practice charts will not be accepted after Monday, and the numerical grade will be a "0." Students will not be penalized for practice charts due to repair, illness, absence, or other extenuating circumstances. However, students are given opportunities to remove 2 missing practice chart grades per quarter through enrichment activities (extra performances, concert critiques, etc. that is approved by director.)

Students who play large school-owned instruments will have to make arrangements with the director to practice before or after school and/or take instruments home over the weekends.

RESTROOM

The restroom use during class is reserved for emergencies. Students should be using restroom and water fountain in between classes. Class is only 54 minutes, and when you spend 15 minutes in restroom during class, you miss almost 25% of class period. Excessive use of restroom during class time is considered to be more than 3 times per quarter. After the 3rd time per quarter, your grade will go down in participation as you are not fully participating in class. See grading policy on participation.

Kiser/Grimsley Orchestras Performance Dress Code

Ladies:

Black slacks (no leggings, jeans, yoga pants, or skin tight pants. No shorts or skirts. Nothing with rips or embellishments.)

Black dress shirt/blouse (no polos, tank tops, crop tops, t-shirts, or spaghetti straps. Collared shirt not required as long as the blouse is nice and professional.)

Black dress shoes (ballet flats, low heels, strappy dress shoes are acceptable. No flip flops, sneakers, boots, or slippers are acceptable. Bring a change of shoes if you are not used to walking all day in your fancy dress shoes/heels.)

Black socks/stockings optional (if you choose to wear, they must be black!)

Gentlemen:

White button-down long sleeved dress shirt (no polos, t-shirts, or sweaters. Shirts must have a collar, buttons, and long sleeves.)

Black dress slacks (no jeans or shorts)

Black belt (required)

Black socks

Black dress shoes (no sneakers or flip flops. Bring a change of shoes if you are not used to walking all day.)

Tie or Bow Tie of Your Choice

Black Suit Jacket optional

****If you are not able to obtain any of these items, you must ask Mrs. Green at least ONE WEEK before the performance and she will help you purchase them.*

GHS Performing Arts Calendar of Events 2017-2018

All GHS Concert and Theater Events Begin at 7:00 PM
All Performances and Events are located in Chance-Cousins Auditorium (CCA)
or the Hazelman Music Building (MB) Unless Otherwise Noted

2017

8/1-5	Show Choir Camp	GDS
8/8-12	Drumline Camp, Jazz Band Camp & Madrigal Camp	MB
8/12	9 th Grade Band Orientation	MB
8/14-18	Band Camp	MB
8/24	Whirlie Nation Celebration	Grove
8/26	NC Honor's Chorus Workshop	UNCG
9/8	Tri-M Applications Due	MB
9/26	Tri-M Induction	CCA
9/29	NC Honor's Chorus Auditions	UNCG
10/14	2 nd Annual Mattress Sale	GYM
10/18-19	GSO Orchestra Education Concerts (9:45 & 11:00 AM)	CCA
10/20-21	GCS All-County Chorus	Page HS
10/26-28	Fall Theater Production	CCA
10/28	Madrigals to Renaissance Festival	Concord
11/10-12	NCMEA Honors Orchestra and Chorus	Winston Salem
11/15-18	Fall Playmasters Show	CCA
11/17-18	GCS All-County Orchestra Clinic	SWGHS
11/27-28	All County Band	CCA
11/30	Winter Orchestra Concert	CCA
12/5	Winter Band Concert	CCA
12/8	Open Mic Night	MB
12/14	Winter Choral Concert	CCA

2018

1/6	All District Band Auditions	Off Campus
1/13	Western Regional All State Orchestra Auditions	Hough High School
1/26-27	All District Band Clinic	Off Campus
1/TBD	Southeast Strings Festival	UNCG
1/25	Concerto Night Auditions	MB
2/TBD	Show Choir Dance Auditions	CCA
2/23-25	Western Regional All-State Orchestra Clinic	ASU
3/1-4	Spring Theater Production	CCA
3/16-19	Vocal Music Spring Tour	Orlando
3/13	Spring Band Concert	CCA
3/22	Spring Orchestra Concert	CCA
3/23-25	Thespian Festival	CCA
3/26-29	GSO Orchestra Education Concerts	CCA
4/TBD	All-County Jazz Band Clinic	Off Campus
4/10-11	Madrigal Auditions	MB
4/19	Concerto Night	CCA
4/26-27	Spring Choral Concert	CCA
4/TBD	NC Show Choir Final	Charlotte
5/18	Masters in the Hall	OLG
5/3	Kiser Band Concert	CCA
5/4	Film Festival	CCA
6/TBD	GRADUATION	Coliseum

**Additional events may be added throughout the year

Description of Orchestra Events and Performances

All County Orchestra Any student enrolled in his/her orchestra program is eligible to audition for the CCS All County Orchestra Clinic. Students will prepare an assigned solo, scales, and arpeggios for a panel of judges. If a student has a successful audition, He/she will be invited to participate in the All County Orchestra Clinic held in November at Southwest High School. It is a two-day clinic. If a student accepts his/her place in the clinic, he/she is expected to participate in both days of the clinic for all rehearsals and concert. Transportation is provided by the students' parents/guardians for this event. The audition is a required activity for all students receiving honors credit.

Grimsley High School Orchestra Concerts every student who is enrolled in the Grimsley repertory orchestra and the Grimsley honors orchestra is required to participate in all orchestra concerts. This is a part of each student's participation/preparation grade. Only approved absences will excuse a student from this event. Approved absences include illness, death/emergency in the family, religious observances, and injury that inhibits student performance.

Contest Festival (Western Region Music Performance Adjudication) this is a mandatory field trip/performance for all students enrolled in repertory and honors orchestras. Each year, the GHS orchestras compete out of town for an adjudication (ranking or grade). Our results are published in a state music educator's journal. This is an important festival for us as it allows us to receive invaluable feedback and assessment from music professors and clinicians throughout the Southeast United States. We travel via charter bus and a bus fee is charged to students for this field trip. Financial assistance is available and provided through an application process.

Concerto Night this event is an audition-based performance for students who are interested in performing solo concerto literature with full orchestra accompaniment. There is an audition process for any student enrolled in orchestra, band, or chorus who is interested. The combined honors orchestra/wind ensemble accompanies the soloists and approximately 3-4 concertos will be chosen to be performed. Repertoire selection must be approved by the music department faculty. This is a mandatory performance for all students receiving honors or IB orchestra credit.

Recital Night this event is an audition-based performance opportunity for any student who is interested in performing solo, duet, or small ensemble literature in a chamber music setting, and is enrolled in orchestra, band, chorus, and IB music perspectives. Students interested must select, prepare, and audition his/her piece before being put on the program. If students are working together in a duet, small ensemble, or with an accompanist, they must find time to work with one another and have their piece performance-ready by audition time in order to be considered.

Western Region All State Orchestra Clinic Any student enrolled in his/her orchestra program is eligible to audition for this event. Students will prepare an assigned solo, scales, arpeggios, and sight-reading for a panel of judges. Parents must provide their own transportation for their children to auditions. If a student has a successful audition, He/she will be invited to participate in the clinic held in February at Appalachian State University in Boone, NC. It is a three-day, overnight clinic. If a student accepts his/her place in the clinic, he/she is expected to participate in all days of the clinic for all rehearsals and concert. The audition is a required activity for all students receiving honors or IB credit if they did not participate in the All County Auditions.

NC Honors Orchestra Clinic Based on a student's chair audition at the Western Region All State Orchestra Clinic in Boone, NC, he or she may be invited to participate in the NC Honors All State Orchestra in November.

2017-2018 All-County Orchestra Audition Requirements

- Auditions:** Tuesday, October 10, 2017 starting at 4:30PM
Northern Guilford High School, Sandra Rathbone, Host
- Clinic:** Friday, November 17, 2017 from 8:30AM AM to 3:00 PM
Saturday, November 18, 2017 from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM
Southwest HS, Joel Wenger, Host
- Concert:** Saturday, November 18, 2017 starting at 3:30 PM
Southwest HS, Joel Wenger, Host

Middle School Requirements

Scale & Arpeggio: G Major, 2 octaves. Play as sixteenth notes, quarter note = 50 MM
Violin, Viola, Cello: Scale: slur 4 notes per bow. Arpeggio: slur 3 notes per bow
Bass: Scale: slur 2 notes per bow. Arpeggio: separate bows

Solo (all instruments): Petite Bourree by de Prose- from Solo Time for Strings Book 4.
GCS All County Audition excerpt: measures 1-16

High School Requirements

All Scales/Arpeggios: Play as sixteenth notes, quarter note = 50 MM
Violin, Viola, Cello: Scale: slur 4 notes per bow, arpeggio: slur 3 notes per bow
Bass: scale: slur 2 notes per bow, arpeggio: separate bows

Violin: G Major – 3 octave scale and arpeggio
Solo: Viotti Concerto No. 23 in G Major, 1st mvt, solo entrance to first tutti
Excerpt for GCS ACO: mm. 84 (beg. of the solo)-118

Viola: G Major – 3 octave scale and arpeggio
Solo: Telemann *Viola Concerto*, 1st and 2nd mvts, The edition used must include the treble clef orchestral tutti passage at the end of the 2nd mvt.
Excerpt for GCS ACO: mm.57-end

Cello: G Major – 3 octave scale and arpeggio
Solo: J.S. Bach *Unaccompanied Cello Suite No. 1, Courante*
Excerpt for GCS ACO: mm. 19-end (the second repeat section)

Bass: G Major – 2 octave scale and arpeggio
Solo: Simandl, Etude No. 17, from *30 Etudes for the String Bass Player*
Excerpt for GCS ACO: mm. 1-32

Wind and Percussion: Tapes are due October TBA to Mr. Oldham at Ragsdale High School

*The above listed solo repertoire excerpts are taken from our NC Western Region Solo Repertoire for 2017-2018.

*The above listed scales are taken from our NC Western Region Scale/Arpeggio list

***Students at ECG, Early College at Guilford, are not eligible to audition for ACO. Only students registered in a GCS Orchestra/Band program at their school. If there is no program, they cannot audition.