

Clint Small Middle School Orchestras 2017-2018



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Items Needed

- *1. Black Three Ring Binder - To hold music
- *2. Pencil (NO INK PENS!) - To mark music and theory worksheets
- *3. Shoulder Rest (Violin and Viola Players)
(Used every time you play.)
- *4. Agenda- To write assignments and due dates in, and contains section that is used for hallway passes.

*Items 1-4 are required in class every day.

- 5. Rock-Stop (Cello and Bass Players)
(For home and concerts)
- 6. Rosin
- 7. Label or Name Tag for Instrument Case
- 8. Essential Elements 2000 String Book 1
(Beginners only)



2017-18 Orchestra Events

August 28	Austin Youth Orchestra auditions	www.austinyouthorchestra.com
September 16	Orchestra Social	Dick Nichols Park or Orchestra Room, 11:30 am- 2:00 pm
Sept. 26-Oct. 10	Orchestra Fundraiser	
September 26	All-City Orchestra Rehearsal (5 students)	Austin PAC, 6:30-8:30 pm
September 28	All-City Orchestra Rehearsal and Concert	Austin PAC, 2:00-7:00 pm/ 7:30 pm
October 14	Region Auditions (http://region18orch.weebly.com)	McCallum HS
October 19	Monster Concert Rehearsal with Vertical Team	Austin HS, 10:00am-1:00pm
October 21	Monster Concert	Austin HS, 4:45 pm
November 7	Beginner String Festival	Zilker Park Hillside Theater, 9:00 am-1:30 pm
November 16	All-Region Clinic/Rehearsal	Austin HS, 7:00-9:00 pm
November 17	All-Region Clinic/Rehearsal	Austin ISD PAC, 7:00-9:30 pm
November 18	All-Region Rehearsal/Concert	Austin ISD PAC, 9 am Rehearsal/ 4 pm Concert
December 6	Winter Concert with Vertical Team (Sinfonietta, Philharmonic, and Chamber)	Austin HS
December 9	Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser	Longhorn Steakhouse, Sunset Valley
December 14	Beginning Orchestra Winter Concert w/ Vertical Team	O. Henry MS, 6:30 pm
Feb. 15-March 1	Orchestra Fundraiser- Popcorn	
February 6	Ice Cream Social Concert (Beginning Orchestra)	Small MS, 6:30 pm
February 7-8	Pre-UIL Concert	Austin ISD PAC
February 13	Austin HS Pre-UIL	Austin HS
Feb. 28-March 2	UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest (MS String)	Austin ISD PAC
April 7	Beginning Solo and Ensemble	Austin HS, 9:00 am-1:00 pm
April 28	AISD Solo and Ensemble Festival	McCallum HS
April 20-21	7 th and 8 th grade Orchestra Spring Trip	Dallas, TX
May 4	Pride of Texas Music Festival	Seguin, TX
May 10	Spring Orchestra Concert	Small MS, 6:30 pm

*Fundraiser dates may change slightly. [Events for Beginners Only are highlighted in Blue.](#)

*** Concerts may have to be added or deleted ***

Grading System

PRACTICE RECORDS - 25%

Practicing 150 minutes a week earns a grade of 100.

Proper posture, correct bow hold and correct left hand position are essential when practicing! Remember to always include scales when warming up.

PREPARATION AND PARTICIPATION - 25%

Must have proper equipment (instrument and bow in proper playing condition, rosin, extra set of strings, rock stop (for cello and bass)).

Must be prepared for class each day by having a pencil, music, and agenda.

Must show participation in class.

PLAYING AND WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS/ CONCERTS – 50%

There will be several playing tests during the six weeks period. If a playing test is missed, the student must make it up before the end of the six weeks.

Tests can be made up before or after school.

There will be occasional written theory tests. Theory tutoring is offered after school.

Extra rehearsal and sectional attendance involve morning, afternoon, or any additional rehearsal session scheduled by the director.

A calendar of performances and/or events for the entire year is available on the Orchestra website and on page 3 of this handbook. Performances may have to be added or deleted with sufficient notification by the director.

If a conflict other than illness or extreme emergency occurs, notification and a request for permission to miss the event must be submitted in writing by the parents to the director at least one week in advance of the scheduled performance (to be approved).

Students who are absent because of illness or emergency should make every attempt to notify the director prior to the performance.

If a student misses a major performance without prior approval, the final six weeks grade will be lowered 25%.

Extra credit can be earned as follows:

Attending approved concerts, Tryout for Austin Youth or Region Orchestra

Being a member of Austin Youth or Region Orchestra

Participate in Solo/Ensemble Contest

Major performance attendance is taken into account because the work that is missed cannot be made up. Once that performance is missed, it is missed forever.

Classroom Rules

1. Students must have their instrument, all required music (in a black binder), Agenda, and a pencil at every orchestra class.
 2. Students should never play or touch other students' instruments.
 3. No gum, food, or drinks are allowed in the orchestra room.
 4. You must be in the orchestra room before the tardy bell rings.
 5. No talking or individual playing is allowed while the teacher is instructing.
 6. Instruments must be taken home every night for individual practice.
- * A 30-MINUTE DETENTION MAY BE ASSIGNED FOR FAILURE TO FOLLOW RULES 1-6. Detention must be served after school.
7. Only orchestra students are allowed in the orchestra room.
 8. Any music or class papers that are lost will cost 10 cents per sheet to replace. (Originals replacement price.)



Instrument Care

FROM THE AMATI VIOLIN SHOP, Houston, TX

THE OBSERVANCE OF THE FOLLOWING RULES WILL KEEP YOUR INSTRUMENT OUT OF THE REPAIR SHOP, SAVE TIME AND MONEY, AND ADD YEARS OF TROUBLE FREE USE.

1. Keep your instrument and bow in the case and in a safe place when they are not in use.
2. Keep them free of rosin dust and finger prints by wiping carefully with a soft cloth.
3. Handle violin or viola carefully by the neck and chinrest in order to prevent accidental damage and to avoid needless deterioration of the varnish.
4. Protect your instrument from extreme heat and cold and from sudden changes of temperature.
5. Cover the instrument with a soft cloth when placing it in the case, especially if it does not fit snugly.
6. Make sure the case is closed securely before picking it up by the handle.
7. Inspect the bridge often to be sure it is in the correct position. It should tilt very slightly toward the tailpiece (The bridge is held in place only by the pressure of the strings... it is not glued onto the top.). If not in place, please have it looked at by your teacher.
8. Never release tension of more than a string at a time, as the bridge and sound post may fall or get out of place.
9. Inspect the tuners often to prevent the screws from causing damage to the top of the instrument.
10. Use strings of good quality.



Practicing

Dear Parents,

As adults, we understand that progress and achievement are the results of effort. Students need to learn this as well, and it is, in fact, one of the most important principles to learn and will help them throughout life. Helping string students to practice on a regular basis at home will not only help them become better musicians, but better citizens as well.

Students need continued encouragement to practice, because practicing takes discipline and effort. Help your child establish a regular time and place for practicing that works in your family's schedule. Monitor your child's practice on a regular basis to ensure that it is getting done. Talk with your child about the need for practice, and set up mutually agreed upon goals and rewards. The goals should be clear and attainable. The rewards should be something valuable and enjoyable to the child.

Frequently ask your child to perform for you, demonstrating the skills, knowledge, and new music learned while practicing at home. Praise your child's practice efforts regularly in front of family members and their peers. It will make them feel good about their efforts and about themselves. It will also encourage them to continue practicing and help deepen their relationship with you.

Point out to your child the progress they have made on their instrument, and how many more notes and pieces they can now play compared to when they started, for example. Encourage your child to make up their own music as directed by their teacher. Help your child to remember their past successes as motivators to work toward future successes.

Practicing takes effort, and encouraging students to practice regularly takes effort. However, practice is essential for learning, and it helps develop students' work habits that they can take with them throughout life. Please do not hesitate to contact me for additional suggestions (841-6729).

Sincerely,

Carrie Miller



Private Lessons

The individual attention that a student receives in private instruction helps develop their unique maximum potential as a player and member of our orchestra. In addition, private instruction offers students the opportunity to explore the extensive wealth of solo literature available for their instrument. All of the world's greatest composers have written masterpieces for each of the string instruments, and private lessons give students the opportunity to explore and experience them. Private lessons also help a child prepare auditions for Region Orchestra or the Austin Youth Orchestra.

Attached is a list of private teachers. If their studio is full ask for a recommendation. They are working toward the same goals of the orchestra program and understand how to motivate and teach your child to be able to reach their special talent on a string instrument. Please contact the private teacher of your choice for further details.

Giving students private lessons is one very effective way to enrich a child's string experience. Many of the most outstanding players in our orchestra program study privately and have become our leaders. Please consider offering private lessons to your child. Please call me at school if you have any questions.

Violin/Viola

Jeni Martens	293-7514
Sara Driver	922-3803
Eva Sheie	206-370-9095
Rebekah Blackner	801-641-3851
Deidra Hoxie	924-8381
Diane Dickson	458-1495
Marcia Ehlers	447-5354
Robert Brocket	371-7753
Martha Carapetyan	476-2174
Strelsa Burks	280-2965
Paula Bird	847-2509
Gilles Bonneau	442-3237
Shawn Somerville	577-3341

Cello

James Burch	912-441-1073
Abigail Hammond	801-891-2094
John Walters	447-7195
Hector Moreno	369-9534
Jennifer Mulhern	917-7216
Margaret Coltman	585-8563
Betsy Sanders	249-0551
Michael Werst	282-0701
Beverly Harris	892-8728
Daryl Lewis	505-1206

Bass

Billy Satterwhite	713-291-7090
George Fahlund	762-8003
Anna Macias	480-0874
Jessica Valls	476-5936

There are other resources for private lessons. Please contact me for other places to call.

Uniform for Concerts

Beginning Orchestra

Clint Small Orchestra T-Shirt \$5.00
(informal concerts, yearbook pictures, fieldtrips)

Beginner String Festival T-Shirt \$5.00
(Nov. 7)

Purchased on your own:

Nice Dress Clothes (any color) for Formal Concerts

Nice Dress Shoes (any color) for Formal Concerts



Chamber and Sinfonietta Orchestras

Clint Small Orchestra T-Shirt \$5.00
(informal concerts, yearbook pictures, fieldtrips)

BOYS:

Fitted and purchased at school:

Black Tuxedo Shirt \$20.00

Purchased on your own:

Black Dress Pants, Black Dress Socks, Black Dress Shoes

GIRLS:

Fitted and purchased at school:

Formal Black Dress \$30.00 Rental – (Sizes are limited to current Inventory)
\$65.00 Purchase New Dress

Purchased on your own:

Black Dress Shoes (no flip-flops)