

The Clark High School Orchestras 2019-2020



Excellence, Determination, Art

The Clark High School Orchestra is devoted to creating a positive musical experience for each and every student. The musical experience consists of participation in group activities ranging from traditional concerts to community outreach programs as well as the development of self-discipline and the satisfaction achieved through independently meeting personal technical goals via a consistent regimen of individual practice.

Course Objectives

- 1. To develop performance skills necessary for independence as a string player.*
- 2. To develop performance skills necessary to create an ensemble sound.*
- 3. To identify and respond appropriately to musical notation.*
- 4. To recognize and understand form in music.*
- 5. To identify and authentically perform musical styles with regard to historical context.*
- 6. To develop the skills of listening to music with regard to the quality of a composition and the quality of a performance.*
- 7. To develop attitudes that encourages musical participation throughout life.*

Course Requirements

- 1. Participate in all concerts*
- 2. Practice independently*
- 3. Participate in the district solo/ensemble festival as a performer or volunteer. You may choose to participate as a soloist, as a member of a small ensemble or both. As a soloist you will need a piano accompanist. You may find your own or you may use the pianist provided by the orchestra. The fee for the orchestra accompanist is \$15.00 and includes one rehearsal and performance at festival.*
- 4. ALL orchestra students are required to be enrolled in the orchestra REMIND account .This enables the directors to pass along important and most up-to-date information regarding concerts, extra performances, classroom materials, event details, etc.*

Nevada Standards for Arts Education

The Nevada Standards for Arts Education empower Nevada's schools to achieve artistic standards which are consistent with the best that can be envisioned for our children and our society. These artistic standards have been proven to equip children with the tools needed to attain high academic standards in all subject areas as well as to develop a lifelong love for learning.

Content Standards:

- 1. Singing, alone, and with others, a varied repertoire of music.*
- 2. Performing on instruments, alone, and with others, a varied repertoire of music.*
- 3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments.*
- 4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.*
- 5. Reading and notating music.*
- 6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.*
- 7. Evaluating music and music performances.*
- 8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.*
- 9. Understanding music in relation to history and culture.*

Orchestra Contact Information:

During school hours: 702-799-5800 ex. 4063

Or via email:

Dr. Cushinery: cushicw@nv.ccsd.net

Mr. Maine: maineea@nv.ccsd.net

Orchestra News:

<http://clarkorchestra.com>

Remind:

Remind is a free service that allows students and parents to receive text updates with important Clark Orchestra news. Download the Remind app and use the class code @clarkorch. To receive Remind messages via text, text the number 81010 with the message @clarkorch. If 81010 does not work try using the number (702) 487-8515 instead. You may also choose to receive updates via email by sending an email to clarkorch@mail.remind.com.

On Facebook:

Current orchestra members can also join the Clark Orchestra Facebook page if they are allowed to use social media. Ask to join the group "Clark Orchestra" (the one with a little guitar logo).

On Twitter:

Follow us on twitter: @clarkorch for updates, pictures, and to see what our Orchestra is up to throughout the year.

ORCHESTRA CALENDAR

Dates and times may be added or changed as need and circumstance dictates

- August** 20, 2019 – **Chamber Auditions**, Time 4-6, Place: Orchestra Room
20 & 27, 2019 – **Chamber/Midwest Rehearsals-TBA**, Time 4-6, Place: Orchestra Room
23, 2019 – **Clark Open House**
- September** 3, 10, 17, & 24, 2019 – **Chamber/Midwest Rehearsals-TBA**, Time 4-6, Place: Orchestra Room
28, 2019 – **Honors Orchestra Auditions** Time: TBA Place: Clark H.S.
- October** 1, 2019 – **Fall Concert**, Call Time: 5:00p.m., Concert Starts @ 6:00 p.m. Place: Big Theater
1, 8, 15, 22, & 29, 2019 – **Chamber/Midwest Rehearsals-TBA**, Time 4-6, Place: Orchestra Room
13, 2019 – **Little Black Dress Ceremony**, Select Students, Details TBA Place: TBA
14, 2019 – **Berklee College of Music Visit @ Clark HS**
15, 2019 – **Dr. Mark Laycock Visit- Midwest**, Select Students, Time 4-6, Place: Orchestra Room
25 & 26, 2019 – **Baha'i Ceremony Rehearsal/Concert**, Select Students, Details TBA Place: Big Theater
22 & 29, 2019 – **Honors Orchestra Rehearsal**, Time 6-8, Place: Clark H.S.
- November** 5, 12 & 19, 2019 – **Chamber/Midwest Rehearsal-TBA**, Time 4-6:00, Place: Orchestra Room
5 & 7 2019 – **Honors Orchestra Rehearsals** Times: 6-8, Place: Clark HS
8-9, 2019 – **Honors Orchestra Day & Concert** UNLV, Ham Hall
17, 2019 – **Anthem Veteran's Day Celebration Concert**, Chamber Orchestra, Anthem
- December** 5, 2019 – **Magnet Open House** Times: TBA; Place: Cafeteria
3, & 17, 2019 – **Chamber/Midwest Rehearsal-TBA**, Time 4-6:00, Place: Orchestra Room
10-12, 2019 – **Winter Concerts**, Call Time: 5:00 (Dress Rehearsal TBA), Concert starts @6:00p.m. Place: Gym
16, 2019 – **Midwest Send-off Concert**, Concert @6:00 p.m., Place: Big Theater
17-20, 2019 – **Midwest Band & Orchestra Clinic Trip**, Chicago, IL.
- January** 14, 21, & 28, 2020 – **Chamber Rehearsals**, Time 4-6:00, Place: Orchestra Room
25, 2020– **Bass Workshop** Time: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Liberty H.S.
29, 2020 – **All-State Auditions** Times: TBA; Place: Clark H.S.
- February** 1, 2020 – **MS Solo/Ensemble Festival** Times: TBA at Clark High School
7-8, 2020 – **HS Solo/Ensemble Festival** Times: TBA at Clark High School
4, 11, 18, & 25, 2020 – **Chamber Rehearsals**, Time 4-6:00, Place: Orchestra Room
22, 2020– **Violin Day** Time: 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Place: Centennial H.S.
27-29, 2020– **Spring L.A. Trip** in Los Angeles, CA
29, 2020– **Viola Fest** Time: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Place: Valley H.S.
- March** 2-3, 2020– **CCSD HS Orchestra Festival** Time: TBA, Place: Ham Hall
3 & 10, 2020 – **Chamber Rehearsals**, Time 4-6:00, Place: Orchestra Room
7, 2020 – **Cello Day** Time: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Basic HS
17, 2020 – **All State Orchestra Area Rehearsal** Time: TBA, Clark HS
12-15, 2020 – **NV ASTA Music Festival** Time: TBA, Place: Clark HS
- April** 14, 2020– **Magnet Schools of America**, Times: TBA, Place: Clark HS
2 –4, 2020 - **All State** Las Vegas, NV
29, 2020 – **Senior Awards**
- May** 5, 2020 - **Clark Spring Concerts** Call Time: 5:00p.m., Concert starts @6:00p.m., Place: Big Theater
15, 2020 - **Orchestra Banquet** 6:00, Clark Gym
- April- May - Awards Events:** Dates and Times TBA

From time to time the Clark High School Orchestra is called upon to perform for special functions. Students will be given as much notice of these events as possible but must be willing to adjust their conflicts to accommodate the orchestra schedule. Not all students are required to play these events but those who are asked are expected to participate.

Latest calendar updates can be found at www.clarkorchestra.com

Course Materials Required:

- 1 - 12" square of flannel material (old pj's work well)
- 2 - Sharp pencils
- 1 - Shoulder rest (for violins and violas) or End-Pin Stop (for cellos and basses)
- 1- Music folder with copies of all current music, with marked parts.
- 1 - Rosin

Students are strongly encouraged to provide privately owned instruments for use in rehearsals, home practice and performance. Good quality instruments are available for rent or purchase at several area music stores.

Required Rehearsals:

Daytime Orchestras - Daily during assigned period and extra, after-school rehearsals, as called by the director. Every attempt will be made to give two weeks' notice for after school rehearsals.

Chamber Orchestra – This year Chamber Orchestra will meet on Tuesday or Wednesday nights, depending on conflicts with other events. Chamber meets 4:00 – 7:30 for rehearsals. Events will be posted as they are finalized.

Required Concert Dress:

Women - Orchestra Dress, black hose, black dress shoes

Men - Tuxedo, black socks and black dress shoes

Please note - Orchestra dresses and tuxedos cost money. You may pay for these items as an individual or participate in extra fundraising to help defray the cost.

Class Fees:

Course Fee	\$25.00 per year, due within the first two weeks of school
Broken Strings	Teacher's Cost or replacement
Broken Instruments	District Repair Cost
Lost Instrument	Replacement Cost (Approximately - Violin \$800, Viola \$950, Cello \$1450, String Bass - \$3500)
Orchestra Dress	\$70.00
Tuxedo	\$10-\$125 – Black Pants, Black Coat, Black Bow Tie, Pleated White Shirt

Student Classroom Expectations

1. No food or drink are allowed in the classroom
2. Students must come to class prepared to learn with all required materials
3. No student may play another student's instrument at anytime
4. Each student is responsible for the day to day maintenance of his/her own instrument and instrument storage area
5. No abusive language or violence will be tolerated at anytime
6. A class disturbance caused by a student will result in lost grade points AND disciplinary action

Disciplinary action is:

1. 3 verbal warnings
 2. Detention- detention involves routine maintenance tasks in the orchestra room
 3. After the 3rd detention, student is referred to the dean for disciplinary action
7. Students must participate in the solo/ensemble festival or perform an approved solo selection for a jury of the director and selected guests
 8. Students are expected to participate in all orchestra fund raising activities
 9. Fingernails will be kept short

Consequences:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Rule #1 | -20 pts. Each occurrence and a detention may be assessed |
| Rule #2 | 0 pts. for the day |
| Rule #3 | -100 pts. |
| Rule #4 | -20 pts. |
| Rule #9 | -20 pts. Per day |

Students Bill of Rights

Each student has the right to a safe, productive learning environment

Each student has the right to demonstrate his/her performance abilities in a non-judgmental, supportive environment

Teachers Bill of Rights

The teacher has the right to teach in a safe, productive learning environment

The teacher has the right to expect students to be attentive, to perform all work requested, and to allow all in the classroom to learn

Room Maintenance/ Concert Set up-Tear down:

Orchestra students are required to perform one week of room maintenance duty per year. Room maintenance includes but is not limited to – cleaning, organizing, moving and adjusting spaces and items used during the instructional day. Room maintenance is conducted every day immediately before and immediately after school. A checklist of required duties will be provided weekly.

Orchestra students are also required to assist set up and tear down for one concert per year, in addition to the Winter Concert. (Can include other musical events at Clark)

Sheet Music Policy:

Students will be given practice copies of all music. This music is to be kept in the provided portfolio and returned at the end of the concert season. Classroom copies are not to be removed from the rehearsal area without permission.

The student is required to have his/her portfolio at every rehearsal and performance.

Tardy Policy - READ THIS SECTION CAREFULLY

Students must be in the classroom when the tardy bell rings. Students have 5 minutes from the tardy bell to be in their seats with instruments tuned, music on the stand, ready to play. This privilege may be revoked at the director's discretion.

Absence Policy - READ THIS SECTION CAREFULLY

If a student is absent from class, for any reason, he/she is required to write a three paragraph essay on anything concerning music for each missed class or produce a sheet signed by a parent or guardian indicating 1 hour of independent practice for each missed class period. Make-up work must be completed within three school days of the absence.

Performance/Rehearsal Conflicts - Put it in writing!!

Conflicts With Other Events - READ THIS

School Sanctioned Activities - Most orchestra events are announced well in advance and are listed on the master activities calendar. If an orchestra event conflicts with another school sanctioned activity the orchestra follows CCSD policy. In short, practices that conflict - the student may choose which they prefer to attend. Concerts or Competitions that conflict with practices - the student must attend the concert or competition. If, in the rare case, a concert or competition conflict, it is the student's responsibility to bring the conflict to each event's advisor for a negotiated resolution. This process must be completed at least five full days before the date of the conflicting events. Failure to provide written notice of this conflict to the orchestra will result in loss of grade points.

Non-School Sanctioned Activities: (Including non-emergency medical & dental appointments and outside clubs and activities). School sanctioned orchestra activities take precedent over all other clubs and extracurricular activities. Please do not schedule routine doctor visits that conflict with orchestra events including regularly scheduled Chamber Orchestra rehearsals. In the event that a conflict with a rehearsal cannot be avoided, written notice must be received one week in advance of the conflicted date. Attendance at ALL CONCERTS is mandatory and no non-emergency excuses will be accepted. Missed concerts will require a make-up essay completed and within 5 calendar days of the missed event. Essays are scored at a maximum of 25 points per page.

DO NOT overbook yourself. Do not participate in too many activities. It is better to do a few things well than many things poorly.

Seating Policy

Seating policy will be on a rotating basis for each concert. Challenges are allowed. Section leaders are assigned by the director based on multiple factors including but not limited to technical ability, experience, expressed desire for the opportunity and availability of the position.

Orchestra Council

The orchestra council is elected on the first school day in May and serves for one year. The council is responsible for fundraising, planning extracurricular orchestra activities and to act as student liaison with the director.

There are ten governing members, listed in order of hierarchy:

President, Assistant President, Vice-President, Assistant Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Historian and Assistant Historian. The pairs function as a unit, sharing duties. Details of each office are discussed at the first meeting.

Lockers

Lockers are assigned during the first week of school. No food or drink may be kept in instrument lockers. Lockers are assigned on a seniority basis.

School Instruments

Clark High School has a very limited number of instruments available for student use. These instruments will be assigned to students on an as need basis. If you own an instrument, it is best to bring it every day. School instruments may be shared by several students who are all responsible for the maintenance, well-being and security of the instrument.

Privately Owned Musical Instruments

Clearly label your instrument!! It is inexpensive to list your instrument on a home-owners insurance policy - do it. Clark High School and the Clark County School District are not responsible for lost or damaged instruments.

Fundraising

The orchestra is constantly engaged in fundraising activities. Not all of these activities will work for every student. It is expected that each student will participate in every fund raising activity sponsored by the orchestra council.

The funds generated from these activities create opportunities for orchestra members. These opportunities range from participation in workshops, attending concerts, bringing in guest clinicians and, of course, post-concert celebrations.

Some fundraisers are used to benefit specific participants, some fundraisers benefit the orchestra as a whole and some fundraisers are split between the two.

Optional Expenses:

Periodically during the year special events arise - concerts, seminars, etc. These events are not mandatory. They are made available to enhance the music experience.

PENDING TRAVEL:

- *Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic Trip, Chicago, IL*
- *Intermediate Festival Tour to Southern California in Spring of 2020 (3 day trip)*

Grading Policy

1. DAILY CLASSROOM PARTICIPATION 20 points per day

Which is:

Being attentive in class

Being ON TIME and ready to perform on bell

Bringing required materials to class

2. PERFORMANCE TESTS 200 points

Performance tests during class check independent practice. Small group tests are given every Friday. It is the responsibility of the group to schedule a make-up test if the test is delayed by absence. Make-up tests must be completed within four school days of the original. Test groups will be assigned at the beginning of the semester.

Independent practice is on the honor system.

MINIMUM DAILY PRACTICE IS 15 minutes for beginners and 30 minutes for intermediate and advanced students.

The director may institute a traveling practice sheet requiring parental signature if the student fails to maintain positive progress.

3. WRITTEN EXAMS 100 points

Short written exams on important musical concepts

Quarterly exams on all class materials covered - technical and historical

4. CONCERTS 600 points per concert

CONCERT ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY

Failure to attend concerts, arriving late or leaving early will result in a reduction of grade points.

DRESS REHEARSALS 400 points per rehearsal

DRESS REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY

Failure to attend extra rehearsals will result in loss of grade points.

Concerts missed due to illness or a death in the family will be credited at 80% with a valid letter from parent or guardian and the completion of a 300 word essay on any musical subject due 1 week after the missed concert.

5. FINAL EXAM 10% of semester grade

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- *A written final exam is worth 100 points and a performed final exam is worth 300 points.*
 - *Total available points per quarter vary. Quarterly grade is based on a percentage of possible points available per quarter.*
 - *The final grade is based on an average of all available points.*

90-100% = A 80%-89% = B
70%-79% = C 60%-69% = D
59% or below = F

EXTRA CREDIT can be earned after all required work is completed to the best of the students' abilities. Extra Credit projects can include essays on any musical topic, attendance at extra concerts, helping set up for concerts, administrative assistance for the orchestra, confirmed extra independent practice and any other reasonable project approved by the director.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT LETTER REQUIREMENTS

All Orchestra members can earn a letter for each year in orchestra

The letters are awarded in the following sequence:

1st Award - Small Letter

2nd Award - Major Letter

3rd Award - Bar

4th Award - Bar

*The Clark HS Orchestra program awards academic/activity letters based on the point system outlined below. Students must fulfill the letter requirements and earn a minimum of 12 points to be awarded a letter. Points accumulate over one year, they do not “roll over” into the next year. **It is the responsibility of the student to keep track of his or her individual point accumulation. The Letter Application Form is due no later than May 1st. This form may be obtained from the Orchestra Director.***

Letter Requirements:

1. Perfect attendance at all required performances and extra rehearsals called by the director. (*Exceptions are granted for conflicts with other school sanctioned events, pre-arranged extra-school activities or documented emergencies.*)
2. Successive completion of at least two semesters of any music class in one school year.
3. GPA of 3.5 or better in music classes
4. Citizenship grade in music classes never below “Excellent” for the letter year.
5. Audition for the Clark County Honors Orchestra

Point Awards:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| <i>5 points</i> | <i>Participation in Chamber Orchestra</i> |
| <i>4 points</i> | <i>Participation in more than one event at solo/ensemble</i> |
| <i>4 points</i> | <i>Taking private lessons for the given school year. Students must have regularly scheduled weekly lessons for a minimum of one semester. Students must complete a minimum of twelve lessons and provide written verification from their private teacher.</i> |
| <i>4 points</i> | <i>Volunteer to tutor students in the Cashman Middle School or the Hyde Park Middle School Orchestra programs on a consistent (weekly) basis. This requires prior approval of both the Clark HS Orchestra Director and the Middle School director.</i> |
| <i>2 points</i> | <i>Achieving a rating of I or II at solo/ensemble</i> |
| <i>2 points</i> | <i>Achieving a rating of I or II at the All-State Solo/Ensemble</i> |
| <i>2 points</i> | <i>Successfully participate in the Clark County Honors Orchestra</i> |
| <i>2 points</i> | <i>Successfully participate in the Nevada All-State Orchestra</i> |
| <i>2 points</i> | <i>Participation in an extracurricular performing ensemble (LVYSO, CCSN, UNLV)</i> |
| <i>1 point</i> | <i>Accompany another performer at Solo/Ensemble.</i> |