

Mustang Orchestra Program Course Descriptions for 2017-2018

BEGINNING ORCHESTRA

Beginning Orchestra is intended for students with little to no experience on string instruments. This class is open to all MIHS students with approval from their counselor and the orchestra director. Students perform in multiple concerts throughout the year and are required to conduct themselves with a high level of maturity. Upon completion of the class, students will be able to read music and play violin, viola, cello, or upright bass at an intermediate level, and are prepared to move on in the learning of their instrument at more advanced levels.

CONCERT ORCHESTRA

Concert Orchestra is intended for those students that have either successfully completed MIHS Beginning Orchestra, or have at least one year of experience playing at the middle school level on the violin, viola, cello, or upright bass. Students perform in multiple concerts and contests throughout the year and are required to perform as well as conduct themselves with a high level of maturity. Concert Orchestra is the training ground for our pre-honors and honors ensembles, Sinfonietta Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra. Students must demonstrate a high level of commitment and enthusiasm, plus complete the required pre-requisites in order to advance.

PRE-REQUISITE: Earned an A or B in MIHS Beginning Orchestra or in their subsequent middle school orchestra program. New students must audition for the orchestra director for correct placement.

SINFONIETTA ORCHESTRA

Sinfonietta Orchestra is a pre-honors orchestra course and is the training ground for students to advance to Chamber Orchestra. Students will focus on advancing pedagogy and applying those skills to more sophisticated high school literature. In addition to Sinfonietta, students are expected to perform in Full Orchestra where students will earn Brightfuture hours for their time. Sinfonietta Orchestra students perform in multiple concerts, contests, and other events throughout the year and are required to perform as well as conduct themselves with a high level of maturity. All students have several years of playing experience before entering into this class.

PRE-REQUISITE: Earned an A in MIHS Concert Orchestra or in their advanced middle school orchestra ensemble. New students must audition for the orchestra director for correct placement.

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Chamber Orchestra is an honors orchestra course and is the premier ensemble in the MIHS Orchestra Program. Students will focus on even more advanced pedagogy and applying those skills to challenging literature. In addition to Chamber, students are expected to perform in Full Orchestra where students will earn Brightfuture hours for their time. Chamber Orchestra students perform in multiple concerts, contests, and other events throughout the year and are required to perform as well as conduct themselves with a high level of maturity. All students have several years of playing experience before entering into this class.

PRE-REQUISITE: Ability to play two-octave major and minor scales in a variety of bow styles. Demonstration of high level of professionalism and musical maturity. No unexcused absences for required events in previous orchestra classes. Student must receive approval from their guidance counselor and audition with the orchestra director.