

# Beginning Elementary Orchestra

Days 2, 4, 6 11:20-11:55

Miss Bigelow

cbigelow@ridgeviewclassical.com

494-4620 x140

Ridgeview Classical Schools Beginning Elementary Orchestra class will offer an introduction to musical development as a beginner level performing organization. The focus for this class will be to learn the fundamentals of the student's instrument and to study and perform music literature from all style periods. Students will work to improve their skills in all areas of music including rehearsal, performance, theory, history, sight-reading, analysis, evaluation, and listening. Performances will be given in both solo (if chosen) and ensemble settings. Concerts and other ensemble performances will be scheduled outside the regular school day.

**Rehearsals:** Equipment will consist of the following items: student, instrument, bow, shoulder rest, rosin, mute, pencil, music, books, cassette tape for recording at home (optional)

**Required texts that need to be purchased:** Essential Elements 2000 Book 1 for Strings with CD/DVD; My Practice Record (book)

**Required items that need to be purchased (some may come with the instrument):** Rosin, mute, pencil shoulder rest (violin/viola), extra set of strings (violin/viola) --> they do not have to be new

**Suggested items to be purchased, but not required:** Tuner/Metronome, solo books, tape recorder and tape to record on

**Concert Attire: Gentlemen:** Black pants, black or white shirt, black dress shoes, black socks.

**Ladies:** Mid-calf (or longer) length black dress w/ sleeves (long or short) or black dress slacks with black or white blouse, or black mid-calf (or longer) length skirt w/ black or white blouse, black closed toe dress shoes.

**Performances:** All performances with the Ridgeview Classical Schools Orchestra are mandatory, and are worth 25% of the grade. Since the performances are live, there is no equitable way to 'make-up' a performance. Absences will be excused on an individual basis by Miss Bigelow and an alternative assignment will be given for excused absences. Any unavoidable conflicts should be brought to Miss Bigelow's attention several weeks in advance. Unexcused absences will earn a zero in the gradebook, and an alternate assignment will not be given. Mandatory concerts are listed on the back of this syllabus.

Students will be expected to attend (and be on time to) all rehearsals. These rehearsals will be in school and outside of school time. Any unavoidable conflicts should be brought to Miss Bigelow's attention several weeks in advance.

**Grading:** The orchestra grade will be a combination of the following categories: Quizzes = 25% Concerts = 25%; Class Participation = 25%; Practice Records = 25%. Quiz Grades consist of playing and written quizzes and tests completed during the school day. Concerts grades are comprised of the student's individual performance, attitude, behavior, dress, and for arriving on time and staying until the end of the concert. These mandatory concerts are listed on the back of the syllabus. The Class Participation grade will consist of the student's preparation on a daily basis, having all equipment as listed above every day, taking their instrument and music home, and behavior in class. Practice Record Grades consist of weekly grades that are signed by the parent/guardian that state how many minutes the student has practiced in a seven day week. The student is required to practice a minimum of 20 minutes a day with one day off for a total of 120 minutes per week for an A.

Please review the back of the syllabus and sign and return to Miss. Bigelow.

**2007-2008  
Beginning Elementary Orchestra Calendar**

**October**

October 5 <sup>th</sup>	Music Faculty Recital	7:00pm	PAC
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	Fall Orchestra Concert	7:00pm	PAC

**November**

**December**

December 13 <sup>th</sup>	Beginning Winter Concert	5:30pm	PAC
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**January**

**February**

February 28 <sup>th</sup>	Orchestra Spring Concert	7:00pm	PAC
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**March**

**April**

April 17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	Musical	varies	PAC
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**May**

May 16 <sup>th</sup>	Pops BBQ Concert	5:00pm	RCS Parking Lot
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Beginning Final Concert	5:30pm	PAC
May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Music Banquet	6:00pm	TBA
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Graduation	12:00pm	RCS

**TBA**

Core Knowledge Honors Festival (Mid-February)  
 All-State Solo & Ensemble Festival for selected students (February)  
 Solo & Ensemble Concert (March)  
 Leshar Solo & Ensemble Festival (March/April)

**All dates and times are subject to change. Notice of such changes will be given well in advance and will be announced in class. All conflicts should be brought to the Director's attention several weeks in advance.**

**Call Times for all concerts are 30 minutes before the scheduled start time.**

**Distributed on 9/5/06.**

**Overall Orchestra Philosophy**

Students have *chosen* to be participants in the orchestra program. The orchestra provides a variety of essential elements in the students' lives. Participation in such a large group involves musical talent, discipline, maturity, social skills, and responsibility. Weaving these elements together requires regular attendance, a high level of participation, and quality individual preparation. The overall group's success relies on these elements being attainable by each and every student. The individual's success and positive experience will come from a constant contribution of his/her talents!

Please return this syllabus signed and dated by both the student and parent/guardian stating that you have read the above and agree to meet all of the expectations for this class.

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 (Student's Printed Name)                      (Student's Signature)                      (Date)                      (Parent's Signature)                      (Date)

This syllabus signed by the student and parent is due on Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> for a test grade. Any syllabus returned after this date will receive a 50% or a 0% if not turned in.