



# Philharmonic Orchestra

## Course Description:

Students enrolling for Philharmonic Orchestra should have completed a minimum of a three year middle school orchestra program and pass the audition for Philharmonic Orchestra. Students will be expected to have a solid basic music foundation and willingness to expand their technique and musicianship.

The following learning targets represent the major concepts studied and assessed in this course.

## Semester 1:

### Unit 1: Fall Performance

- Students will be reviewing rhythms and notes from previous classes and expanding to more complex notes and rhythms.
- Students will refine anatomical needs of playing string instruments.
- Students will refine listening and evaluation skills.
- Students will review care and maintenance of their instruments.
- Students will refine tuning with pegs and fine tuners.
- Students will understand ensemble and orchestra expectations and necessary materials.

### Unit 2: Winter Performance

- Students will be able to perform a variety of rhythms alone and together for their class at an age appropriate level.
- Students will be able to create their own rhythms and perform them for their class at an age appropriate level.
- Students will be able to perform their concert music alone and with others.
- Students will be able to identify, articulate, and discuss a variety of the elements of music at an age appropriate level.
- Students will understand the expectations and purpose of performance at an age appropriate level.

## Semester 2:

### Unit 3: Adjudicated Performance

- Students can analyze repertoire for technical considerations and can select repertoire based on personal choice at age appropriate level.
- Students will value and connect with the history, context and meaning of a piece of music at an age appropriate level.
- Students will refine and demonstrate collaboration, empathy, teamwork, responsibility and advocacy.
- Students will expand on their rhythms and note reading at an age appropriate level.
- Students will be able to perform their concert music alone and with others.

### Unit 4: Spring Performance

- Students will understand musical considerations within the “pop” genre.
- Students will prepare for expanding all skills for future years or post high school.
- Students will be able to reflect on skills attained and overall progress.
- Students will be able to perform their concert music alone and with others.

### Essential Questions for Each Semester

- How do musicians make creative decisions?
- How do musicians improve the quality of their creative work?
- When is creative work ready to share?
- How do performers select repertoire?
- How does understanding the structure and context of musical works inform performance?
- How do performers interpret musical works?
- How do musicians improve the quality of their performance?
- How do context and the manner in which musical work is presented influence audience response?