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**PERMIAN**

O R C H E S T R A

**2023 • 2024**  
**ORCHESTRA HANDBOOK**

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## **WELCOME, GOALS, DIRECTOR INFO**

**WELCOME AND HELLO** to all students and parents involved in the Permian High School Orchestra Program. **The Permian Orchestras** are a tight-knit family and are dependent upon the participation of the students and their parents. Please consider giving of yourself and your time to help build a strong, quality program of which we all can be proud. The administration, faculty and staff of Permian High School take pride in being able to offer a full and varied instrumental music program.

This handbook will serve as an outline to answer some of the most asked questions as well as provide guidelines. It is important that the students and parents read this handbook **COMPLETELY** and complete the online forms on the orchestra website: <http://www.permianorchestra.com/fill-out-your-online-forms-here/> This will indicate your notification and acceptance of the policies. Please bookmark the remainder of the handbook so that you may refer to it when necessary.

### **PHS Orchestra Program Goals**

- To create an atmosphere that will promote self-esteem in each student through a creative environment.
- To promote student involvement in extra-curricular activities by encouraging participation in voluntary auditions and performances such as All-Region, All-State, UIL Solo & Ensemble, UIL Concert & Sightreading and Community Performances.
- Musical excellence
- Dependability
- Responsible behavior
- Dedication

### **About the Director**

#### **Todd Berridge – Head Orchestra Director**



I am a 1990 Graduate of Permian High School and a 1996 Graduate of Texas Tech University with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. My main instrument is the viola. This is my 28<sup>th</sup> year in education and my 16<sup>th</sup> year teaching at PHS. I am married to a wonderful woman named Jessica. She is a graduate of Texas Tech, UTA, and Lamar University with a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education and a principal certification. She is the Assistant Principal and Reagan Elementary School. Finally, we have a daughter, Natalie, who is 22 years old and we have a son, Luke, who is just about to turn 18.

**How to reach me:**

**Office Phone:** (432) 456-2286

**E-Mail:** [todd.berridge@ectorcountysd.org](mailto:todd.berridge@ectorcountysd.org)

# PHILOSOPHY, ORCHESTRAS

## Philosophy

Music offers enough intrinsic values to demand its teaching. Additional skills that may be gained from a musical experience are teamwork, group belonging and self-confidence. All students have an aptitude for music, and some students have a higher aptitude for music than any other subject. Therefore, ALL students are equally important to a musical ensemble. It is the goal of the Orchestra Department at PHS to facilitate the individual needs of students in order to promote personal and ensemble achievement.

Students will develop the following skills and concepts:

- A high level of performance encompassing rhythm, intonation, dynamics, tone, and technique.
- Knowledge of a wide variety of orchestral and chamber literature.
- Functional knowledge of music history, theory, and terminology.

## Freshmen Orchestra (Sub Non-Varsity Strings)

The Permian High School Freshmen Orchestra meets each day. All Freshmen Orchestra students **are required** to perform at each concert and **encouraged** to prepare a solo or ensemble for the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest and audition for All Region. All members **are encouraged** to take private lessons. The Freshmen Orchestra will meet **2<sup>nd</sup> period**.

## Philharmonic Orchestra (Non-Varsity Strings)

The Permian High School Philharmonic Orchestra meets each day. All Philharmonic Orchestra students **are required** to perform at each concert and **encouraged** to prepare a solo or ensemble for the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest and audition for All Region. The Philharmonic Orchestra performs music from a variety of musical periods and styles. All members **are encouraged** to take private lessons. The Philharmonic Orchestra will meet **1<sup>st</sup> period**.

## Satin Strings (Auxiliary Ensemble & Varsity Strings)

The Satin Strings is an audition-only “strolling” ensemble that meets every day. The Satin Strings is world famous! The Satin Strings performs at public and private functions during the lunch hour or after school. Membership in the Satin Strings is very competitive, so there is a yearly audition for membership in the ensemble. The members of Satin Strings are also automatically in the Symphony Orchestra. Satin Strings will meet **5<sup>th</sup> period**.

## Symphony Orchestra (Varsity Full Orchestra)

The Permian High School Symphony Orchestra is an audition only ensemble and meets each day. The PHS Symphony Orchestra is one of the only Full Orchestras in the entire state of Texas that meets daily during the school day. This award-winning ensemble has won the prestigious TMEA Honor Orchestra twice (1980 & 1984) under Charles Nail. The Symphony was invited to perform at the world-renowned Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Illinois in 1985. Students in the Symphony Orchestra will need to place orchestra as a high priority and be willing to commit extra time and effort. Members of the Symphony Orchestra are **highly encouraged to audition** for the All-Region Orchestra and All-State and are **strongly recommended** to take private lessons on their instrument. All Symphony Orchestra students **are required** to perform at each concert and prepare a solo or ensemble for the UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest. Symphony will meet **6<sup>th</sup> period**.

# REHEARSALS, FACILITIES, MUSIC

## Rehearsals

- Be prepared AT ALL TIMES.
- Practice outside of rehearsal time. This is necessary for the overall success of this program.
- **Be on time. Students are expected to be in their seats with their instruments, music and pencil each day by the time the tardy bell rings!**
- Bring your instrument, orchestra folder, music, pencil and all required equipment.
- No talking or disruptions.
- Represent yourself and your school with pride.
- **PARTICIPATE FULLY.**

The orchestras rehearse daily during their scheduled class period. Occasionally, extra rehearsals are held before and after school hours. These extra rehearsals will be required for upcoming performance events and auditions. Sufficient advance notice will be given.

## Rehearsal Facilities

- Food, drinks, gum and candy are not allowed in the orchestra room, practice rooms, storage rooms or orchestra library at any time.
- Lunch is not allowed in the orchestra room, hallway, or practice rooms.
- Instrument lockers are to be kept clean at all times. Only music and instruments are allowed.
- Keep the rehearsal areas clean. If you see trash, PICK IT UP.
- Chairs and stands will be properly stored when not in use.
- Practice rooms are for MUSIC practice only.
- Only authorized students are allowed in the storage rooms, director's offices and the music library.
- Non-orchestra members are not allowed in the Orchestra Room UNLESS they have the consent of the directors.

## Music

- Music will be handed out at one time. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to pick it up outside of rehearsal time.
- Each student is allowed ONE FREE COPY. Each copy after that costs **\$.25**
- Only directors and student librarians are allowed to use the copier.
- All music needs to be at **every rehearsal** with its owner at all times. Do not leave your music at home and expect your stand partner to bring it. Assume they will be absent.
- Always write bowings, fingerings and so on in **pencil, not in pen or with highlighters.**
- Always write bowings, fingerings and so on in your music the second you get the information. DO NOT ASSUME you will remember.
- A black school folder will be issued for UIL C&SR ONLY. Replacement cost: **\$20**
- Missing or damaged originals must be replaced or you will pay a **\$5 fine.**
- All music is to be kept in the original condition in which it was handed out.

# EQUIPMENT, UNIFORMS

## Equipment

- All instruments are to be in good working condition. Proper maintenance is REQUIRED. You are responsible for all repairs. If an instrument needs repair during the school year, the student may use a school instrument, provided one is available, during class for a period of not more than 3 class days. If a longer time is needed, the directors must receive a note from the parent or repair person doing work on the student's instrument.
- Students will need to have their own BLACK school binder for music. These binders can be found at any office supply store, Target, Wal-Mart, etc.
- Students are expected to have mutes, shoulder pads (violins and violas), rock stops (cellos and basses), rosin, personal or rented locks, **MUSIC** and instrument at each rehearsal and performance (See *REQUIRED MATERIALS*).
- School instruments are available (see *SCHOOL INSTRUMENT USAGE*), but a home instrument is preferred.
- ALL students are expected to take their instruments home daily for home practice.

## Uniforms

The PHS Orchestra will have uniforms that will be used for various concerts and events. The **formal concert uniforms** will be issued to each individual student (EXCEPT Freshmen Boys) after the beginning of the year.

- **ALL LADIES**
  - This uniform will be a long black dress for women **ONLY**. We will measure for these at the Orchestra Registration Day event on **SATURDAY, AUG 19 2023**.
  - **Black hose & black shoes are not provided and are the responsibility of the student.**
- **SOPHOMORE, JUNIOR, & SENIOR BOYS**
  - This uniform is a black tuxedo coat, slacks and a black formal vest. These uniforms are issued for men **ONLY**. We will measure for these at the Orchestra Registration Day event on **SATURDAY, AUG 19 2023**.
  - **Black shoes, black ties and black dress shirt (Long Sleeved) are not provided and are the responsibility of the student.**
- **FRESHMEN BOYS**
  - **Black dress slacks, black dress shirt (Long Sleeved), black dress shoes & socks. Black shoes, black ties and black dress shirt**
  - **These items are not provided and are the responsibility of the student.**
- School-issued uniforms are to be kept clean and pressed. There will be a uniform check before every concert/event. An unkempt, wrinkled uniform will keep you from performing.
- You are allowed to alter the uniform to fit you. If the uniform is damaged or lost, the student will pay to replace the missing or damaged uniform.
- **Replacement Costs:**
  - **BOYS: \$106** (\$56 Jackets, \$25 Pants, \$25 Vests)
  - **GIRLS: \$70** (Dress)

# LETTERING, GRADING, ELIGIBILITY

## Lettering

All students in the Permian HS Orchestras have the opportunity to earn a letter award. To earn this letter, each student must be a member of the orchestra and achieve a certain number of points. For a letter, a student must accumulate **ten points in one school year**. Points **DO NOT** carry over and are awarded for the following:

<b>4 pts</b>	All-Region Orchestra	<b>3 pts</b>	All-Area Orchestra	<b>2 pts</b>	All-State Orchestra
<b>3 pts</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Division on a Class 1 Solo or Ensemble ( <i>No more than 6 points can be earned</i> )				
<b>2 pts</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Division on a Solo or Ensemble at State S&E ( <i>No more than 4 points can be earned</i> )				

## Grading

6 weeks grades are figured as follows:

Major Grades	<b>60%</b>	(Concerts, Solo & Ensemble, All-Region, UIL C&SR Contest, etc...)
Minor Grades	<b>35%</b>	(Chair tests, student participation, attitude, posture & playing position, knowledge of the music and the presence of proper equipment, etc...)
Participation	<b>5%</b>	(graded once a week)

- If a student missed a concert/chair test due to an absence, that test must be made up within five school days or a grade of "0" will be recorded and averaged into the final 6 weeks grade. A calendar is online and updated frequently. Therefore, it is the student's and parent's responsibility to notify the director of ANY conflicts immediately. Not all conflicts will be excused.
- All material must be mastered. Therefore, if a student fails any part of a test, he/she is given five school days to master that portion of the test and must retest in order to remove the failing grade. **It is the student's responsibility to arrange for re-testing.** A maximum grade of 70 may be achieved by any student on a make-up test.

## Eligibility

The NO PASS, NO PLAY rule has changed. This rule affects all Fine Arts classes, including orchestra for only "competition activities with a possibility of advancement". If a student fails any non-exempt course (69 or lower) or any AP, Pre AP, Honors course (59 or lower) in any given six weeks, they will NOT be eligible to participate in certain orchestral activities for the next three-week period. These participation-type activities include: All-Region/All-State auditions and/or performances, UIL Solo and Ensemble Contests, music festivals and spring trips held during the school year. **If the student fails, their participation in UIL and TMEA will not happen.**

# **ATTENDANCE POLICY, SECTIONALS, EXTRA REHEARSALS**

## **Attendance Policy**

Before-school/after-school sectionals and all evening rehearsals are REQUIRED. Student job commitments and 'select sports' are NOT a reason for an excused absence. Please take a copy of the sectional/rehearsal calendar to your employer and/or coach and clear all orchestra performances and rehearsals. 99% of employers are very understanding and are flexible if they know of orchestra commitments well in advance, and they understand that ALL orchestra events are required and a vital part of the course work. Work with employers to clear the evening rehearsals.

An excused absence/tardy will only be granted if the student has notified the orchestra director at least **TWO WEEKS** in advance. In the case of illness or a sudden emergency, a student should notify the orchestra director as soon as possible. Contact should be from the parent/guardian by e-mail or written note:

Mr. Berridge: [todd.berridge@ectorcountyisd.org](mailto:todd.berridge@ectorcountyisd.org)

**Telling another student/texting the director IS NOT proper notification.**

### **Examples of EXCUSED ABSENCES/TARDIES:**

- Medical emergency or personal sickness
- Death in the immediate family
- Religious holiday
- Approved school functions (UIL, TMEA, ETC.)
- Special circumstances that are pre-approved at least **2 weeks** in advance by email

### **Examples of UNEXCUSED ABSENCES/TARDIES:**

- Work
- Oversleeping
- Transportation not arranged
- Appointments, such as doctor, dentist, orthodontist (UNLESS unavoidable or necessary)
- Family trip
- Church functions
- Scouts
- Non-school athletic events
- Tutorials (Students are expected to use non-rehearsal days or times)
- Testing including SAT, ACT, etc. (UNLESS unavoidable)

### **Repercussions for UNEXCUSED ABSENCES/TARDIES:**

- Missed time must be made-up within 1 WEEK during other sectionals or the grade will suffer
- The director may reassign the chair of the student in the ensemble
- The student may be dropped from the orchestra ensemble
- The student may be removed from the orchestra program

**WORK IS NEVER AN EXCUSED ABSENCE FOR A REHEARSAL OR PERFORMANCE.**



# **SCHOOL INSTRUMENT USAGE, EXPENDITURES – ORCHESTRA FEE, PRIVATE LESSONS, ORCHESTRA OFFICERS**

## **School Instrument Usage**

Basses, cellos, bass & cello bows and a few violins and violas are available for student use. An instrument rental agreement must be signed, by both the parent and student, and returned to the director within one week of the day the instrument was issued. The ECISD requires this loan contract to be filled out COMPLETELY. By signing this contract, the parents/students agree to give the loaner instrument the best of care. The parents are also to assume the financial responsibility of repairing or replacing the instrument should it become damaged, lost or stolen (Even personal instruments). All orchestra students are not required to use school instruments but are required to have an instrument in class each day. In other words, students are encouraged to bring their instruments from home, but they are not to leave their instruments at school overnight.

## **Expenditures – Orchestra Fee**

Each student pays an "orchestra fee" at the beginning of every school year. **The 2023-2024 Fee is \$200. If this fee is paid by SEPT 15, the fee is discounted to \$150.** There is a breakdown of this fee on page 14.

This money is used for a variety of expenditures benefiting ALL members of the PHS Orchestra. Here is a partial list of what this "orchestra fee" is used for: food for after concerts, Orchestra Banquet, Orchestra t-shirt, meals for UIL Contest, snacks at clinics, payment for clinicians, and other musical expenses. We charge a blanket amount at the beginning of the year to avoid nickel and dime-ing you every other week when the kids have to bring a check for their t-shirt, then snacks at their UIL clinic...you get the idea. Even though not everyone will participate in ALL activities for which these fees are being collected, the amount of the orchestra fee considers those (otherwise, the amount would be higher). This fee MUST be paid before students can buy Spring Banquet tickets. Additionally, their grades will be held and promotion/graduation will be delayed.

## **Private Lessons**

Individual private lessons are highly encouraged for students of all levels. The individual attention you receive in private lessons cannot be duplicated in the classroom. Each private teacher gears the lesson to your individual abilities and allows you to experience all that can be offered in a one-on-one teaching environment. A list of recommended private lesson teachers in the area is attached to this handout.

## **Orchestra Officers**

Orchestra officers will be elected by the orchestra members and confirmed by the directors. Officers should set an example with their actions and assist with the planning and organization of the orchestra. They will assist the orchestra by helping to select fundraisers, planning social activities, aiding with uniform checkout and assisting the director and chaperones on trips. All officers are expected to be excellent leaders!

**ALL REGION AND ALL STATE ORCHESTRAS,  
UIL SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST,  
UIL STATE SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST**

**All Region (\$15 Entry Fee)**

It is strongly suggested that each member of the orchestra audition for the Region 6 All Region Orchestra. **However, it is NOT REQUIRED FOR MEMEBERSHIP IN THE PHS ORCHESTRAS.** These orchestras are comprised of students in the Odessa/Midland/San Angelo/Abilene/Wichita Falls area high schools who have been chosen to participate due to the competitive audition process. Participation in the Region 6 Orchestras is a wonderful musical experience for every student and provides the opportunity to perform in very high-caliber ensembles. You must be academically eligible to audition and perform at this clinic/concert.

**All State (\$25 Entry Fee)**

The Texas All-State Orchestra audition is available to all orchestra students who participate in the Region 6 Orchestra. These orchestras are comprised of the best high school orchestra students in Texas. Selection to one of these orchestras provides a free trip for the student to San Antonio where the All-State Orchestras perform each February. You must be academically eligible to audition and perform at this clinic/concert.

**UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest (\$10 Per Event Entry Fee)**

All students in the PHS Orchestra program are **encouraged** to participate in the Solo and Ensemble Contest each year. Symphony and Satin Strings members are **REQUIRED** to prepare a solo or ensemble. This opportunity allows students the chance to perform solo pieces and/or chamber music pieces for an adjudicator, who provide a performance rating as well as constructive feedback to better the individual performers' ability. You must be academically eligible to perform at this contest. Each entry is **\$10** per entry. **Accompanists are required for all solo pieces that have accompaniment parts available. The students are responsible for all finding and paying for accompanists and purchasing all original music needed for the contest.**

**UIL State Solo & Ensemble Contest (\$25 Per Event Entry Fee)**

Any students in the PHS Orchestra program who receives a Division 1 on their memorized Class 1 Solo and/or receives a Division 1 on their Class 1 Ensemble will advance to the UIL State Solo and Ensemble Contest in May. This contest is held over Memorial Day Weekend in Austin on the campus of The University of Texas. You must be academically eligible to perform at this contest. You and your parents are responsible for transportation to and from Austin. The director will enter the student online prior to the contest. Each entry is **\$25** per entry. **Accompanists are required for all solo pieces that have accompaniment parts available. The students are responsible for all finding and paying for accompanists and purchasing all original music needed for the contest.**

# **CHAIR TESTS, PROFICIENCY EXAMS**

## **Chair Tests**

Auditions for chair placement within a section are a part of the orchestral experience. These auditions can be both emotional and stressful to the student, parents and directors if it is not thoroughly understood. **Please read the information below:**

A chair test is when a student performs selected portions of music for the directors in front of the class. The students are given a grade and are then seated in each section according to the rank assigned by the directors. Please remember that every student is important to the success of the orchestra. Competition should be viewed as an isolated event, not an overall value judgment of the student as a person. A chair audition evaluates a student's performance at one specific time under one specific set of circumstances. Each student responds differently. Some perform easily under stress, others poorly. The directors have their own interpretation of how the student plays at any given moment. Therefore, competition must be viewed only as a part of the learning process and not an end in itself. Audition material will always include the literature currently being taught.

Please do not place a great deal of importance on the chair your student receives. Students who are well prepared and work hard sometimes move lower. This may happen because of a set of circumstances that day or it could be that others performed better at that particular time. The ranking order does not indicate the success or failure of a student.

The chair audition process is an important part of the development of the students as musicians. In addition, it prepares them for other situations in life where they must perform under pressure or "sell" themselves in a short amount of time and accept the results. They must learn how to handle both success and disappointment. If a chair audition is missed, the student has one week to make it up.

Chair tests will take place on a regularly hroughout the year in class. Most chair tests will be recorded LIVE in class. However, the public will not hear recordings of these tests. The recordings are for the directors' perusal ONLY.

## **Proficiency Exams**

Not everyone is guaranteed a spot in an orchestra that participates in UIL Concert & Sightreading Evaluation. In order to participate, you will need to be very proficient on your music and be at 100% of ALL rehearsals. Aside from normal chair tests, there will be proficiency exams on your music to see if you are properly understanding and performing your music at a high level. If you fail a proficiency exam, you will "sit out" of the competing orchestra until you pass. If a student fails their proficiency exam, they will have ONE opportunity to regain a passing status. This re-test will occur within 3 school days after the initial failed proficiency exam. The re-test will take place during class.

If a student misses more than THREE required rehearsals, they will not be allowed to perform.

# **SPRING TRIP, CALENDAR, WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA SITES**

## **Spring Trip**

Each year the orchestras will take a spring trip. The purpose of the trip is to enhance the students' educational experience by comparing our orchestra to other ensembles from around the state and nation. It is also a reward to the students for their hard work during the school year. All students are encouraged to attend this trip because every person is an important part of the team and is needed and wanted for the spring trip concert.

Each student is responsible for paying for their part of the spring trip. This includes all funds raised through fund raising, donations and personal payments. No refunds will be made once the monies have been spent. For this reason, the students must plan ahead to ensure that they are academically eligible to attend the spring trip. Students and parents are asked to sign a "STATEMENT OF INTENET" early in the year. This shows that the student is serious about going and the parents will support the student and uphold the bylaws set forth. If a student does not go on the trip or drops from the orchestra program, no money will be refunded. The students' orchestra account is not a bank account and as money is given for the trip, it is spent by the tour companies for deposits and travel.

## **Calendar**

The calendar provided is for your information and should be used in scheduling events throughout the school year. Conflicts should be avoided. If a conflict arises that cannot be resolved, please contact the director as soon as possible so we can work out a solution. *Please note* that there are dates and times that will change and disappear throughout the year. Times will be adjusted and concerts and added rehearsals will come out of thin air. **BE FLEXIBLE.**

The calendar will be updated on the website weekly. Please refer to this calendar for accurate information about concerts, rehearsals and special events: <http://www.permianorchestra.com/calendar/>

## **Orchestra Website and Orchestra Social Media**

The Permian Orchestra has a web page: [www.permianorchestra.com](http://www.permianorchestra.com) or [www.satinstrings.com](http://www.satinstrings.com) .

For more immediate and timely info, follow us on these social media sites:



We will monitor and adjust the website and social media daily. Only students who have parental permission to be on the web page will be allowed. Any offensive or disruptive posts or comments will be deleted.

# **RESPONSIBILITIES OF PRINCIPAL PLAYERS, SOCIAL MEDIA AND TEXTING, FUNDRAISING**

## **Responsibilities of Principal Players**

In each of the Permian High School orchestras, there are five principal players, or section leaders: Concertmaster/mistress, Principal Second, Principal Viola, Principal Cello, and Principal Bass.

There is a reason they are called principal players. They have been chosen by the directors to **lead** their sections. They are chosen for their musical ability as well as their leadership capabilities. It is the expectation of the directors that the principal players assume the role of the directors in helping to provide information during their own private sectionals away from class. It is the responsibility of the section leaders to call their own individual rehearsals, in addition to the ones required by the directors, in order to **fully** prepare their sections.

The director expects that during orchestra rehearsals the principal players conduct themselves responsibly and seriously as the student role models for their sections.

The directors will expect all students in the sections to respond in a favorable and positive manner and show respect toward their section leaders as the representative of the director. Conversely, it is the expectation of the directors that the section leaders will listen to suggestions provided by their sections, and **all** students will work in a **cooperative, team spirit**. Some of the types of technical assistance that the section leaders must provide to their sections are fingerings, bowings, dynamics, and repetitive work on difficult technical passages, rhythm and tempo problems, and any other item that will enable the sections to be better prepared for the next rehearsal.

## **Social Media and Texting**

In this day and age, our lives are lived out loud on social media sites and on our cell phones and tablets. These various technologies bring about wonderful creations and make communication very easy. On the flip side, however, it can also be a terrific way to damage relationships and destroy programs. PLEASE use self-control when commenting, liking, or texting your friends and classmates. A poorly chosen phrase or comment could cause a ripple effect that could lead to a very bad situation in class. If you can, DO NOT respond or comment. Remember: once you hit send, it is out on the web forever. Please act responsibly for the sake of the program and yourself.

## **Fundraising**

Each student will be asked to raise a certain amount of money each year they are in orchestra. This amount will be as small as necessary to incorporate items that enrich the students' experiences in orchestra. Monies raised will be used for social activities, to bring in clinicians and for spring trip. The fundraisers will be run by the Fundraising VP of the PHS Orchestra Booster Club. This person will set the dates and collect the money. Please adhere to these deadlines because they will be held responsible for any monies due, regardless of the circumstances.

# ORCHESTRA BOOSTER CLUB, FEES, SPONSORSHIP

## Permian Orchestra Booster Club

The mission of the Permian Orchestra Booster Club is to fully cooperate with the Ector County ISD Board of Trustees, the Superintendent, The PHS administration and the orchestra directors in supporting and furthering the interests and activities of the students in the PHS Orchestras. Anyone interested in supporting the orchestra program is invited to join! This organization assists the orchestra with office work, fundraising, chaperones, planning social events and any other area where assistance is needed.

## Fees

Everyone owes **\$200**. If you plan to attend all of the fall and spring meetings, then you only pay **\$150** by **Sept. 15, 2023**. (*the mandatory August meeting does not count*). If you haven't paid by 9/15 or do not attend any of the fall booster club meetings, then your fee is **\$200**. If you haven't paid your fee by December, then you accrue a late fee of **\$25.00**. The maximum orchestra fee is **\$225** – the minimum is **\$150**. All of your Orchestra Fees (Organization fee, All Region, S&E...) must be paid before you can buy tickets to our Spring Banquet. You can pay by credit card through Cognito Forms or send the check or money order to the school. Please sign the online parent/student agreement. Students can certainly fundraise for their fees. All fees are non-refundable at ANY time for ANY reason during the school year.

## Sponsorship

We hope you'll consider donating as a sponsor and/or supporting us in other ways throughout the year. The Permian Orchestra Booster Club is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All of your donations, no matter the amount, are tax deductible. Below are our individual and corporate sponsor rates:

- **MOJO SPONSOR - \$2,000 and up**
  - Certificate of Membership
  - Advertisement on website/wrapped wall
  - Full page advertisement in all printed programs
  - Announcement at all concerts
  - Free orchestra t-shirts and other related orchestra merchandise
- **PANTHER SPONSOR - \$1,500**
  - Certificate of Membership
  - Advertisement on website/wrapped wall
  - Half page advertisement in all printed programs
  - Announcement at all concerts
  - Free orchestra t-shirts
- **BLACK SPONSOR - \$750**
  - Certificate of Membership
  - 1/4-page advertisement in all printed programs
  - Announcement at all concerts
- **WHITE SPONSOR - \$500**
  - Certificate of Membership
  - Advertisement on website
  - Half page advertisement in the Spooktacular program
  - Announcement at all concerts
- **DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE SPONSOR - \$250**
  - Certificate of Membership
  - 1/4-page advertisement in the Spooktacular program
- **FRIEND SPONSOR - \$50 to \$150**
  - Certificate of Membership

Your membership will help us reach our financial goals! Membership also guarantees voting rights & name in the program:

## **ORCHESTRA REQUIRED MATERIALS LIST: 2023-2024**

Welcome to the Permian Orchestra! Below is a list of required materials you will need to be successful in orchestra. You will use them regularly. You must arrive in class EVERY DAY with these materials as part of your participation grade.

You must have all of these materials by **FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 2023**

The rubric is simple: you will receive credit for each required piece you have. If you have a financial concern about obtaining these materials, please let us know and we will work it out.

### **Required Materials:**

- Instrument (*either your own /rented / school owned*)
- Bow
- Shoulder Rest (*Violins & Violas*)
- Endpin Anchor Strap (*Cellos*) Rock Stop (*Basses*)
- Rosin
- Extra strings\*
  - Please purchase a whole set. The red and white brand Prelude is cheap and works fine. Dominant strings have a better sound quality but are slightly more expensive.
- Soft cloth or T-shirt (*to clean the rosin from your instrument*)
- Black Binder
- Tuner (*with clip*)\* - These can be checked out from the orchestra
- Metronome\*
- Lock for school violin & viola music locker

\* *These can be purchased at N-Tune.*

**If you have any questions on quality or need a second opinion BEFORE you purchase or rent, please call or email the directors. We will help assess and find the BEST INSTRUMENT for your student.**

# ORCHESTRAL REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE

## Rehearsal Etiquette

- Write in cues, bowings, or other notes before the first rehearsal OR when the Director/Clinician gives it to you, but do not make the part illegible for your stand-partner.
- If you are on the outside, put your fingerings on the top line. Inside players: below the line.
- Inside players (even chairs) turn pages, get music from folders and prepare the stand.
- Show up early to rehearsal to get your instruments together, and be warmed up at least 10 minutes before the “A” is given. **“If you are early, you are on time. If you are on time, YOU ARE LATE!”**
- Make sure all copies of the music have the correct bowings, fingerings.
- Have good hygiene, keep your shoes on, and wear appropriate clothing. Do not be a slob.
- Do not start complaining about *anything* to anybody or on Social Media!
- Practice only your own part before rehearsal starts... never play passages from another person’s part or excerpts from different music, and *especially* not your concerto!
- Avoid tapping, plucking, and playing *sul-tasto*. It is noisy, annoying to your colleagues, and lets everyone know you did not learn your part.
- If you are the concertmaster or a principal player, avoid demonstrating to your section if possible, unless asked for by the director/clinician. This usually carries more negative connotation than a spoken description and is embarrassing if you do not play it perfectly.
- Never ask questions about notes/rhythm during rehearsal – this wastes valuable rehearsal time. Check the score during breaks or after rehearsal.
- Your pencil is your best friend.... Do not make the same mistake twice because you “forgot.”
- When a conductor speaks to you, always acknowledge by making direct eye contact and possibly a nod “yes.”
- Be direct and friendly about fixing pitches or rhythm. Do not be manipulative or rude to the person to whom you are speaking.
- The only conversations during rehearsals should be about issues regarding the music, and only at the appropriate times.
- Do not pack up before the end of rehearsal! This is rude and lets the conductor know you would rather be somewhere else.
- Always double-check rehearsal/performance times, locations, and dress code.
- Keep perfume and cologne to a minimum – many will appreciate none at all.
- Have your mute ready. Do not make a lot of noise when putting it on.
- If you do not have a mute, make one with a dollar bill.
- Do not yawn audibly if you are tired.
- Your non-musical accessories (phone, keys, etc.) belong in your case/purse/backpack, not on the shelf of your stand.
- Do not cross your legs on stage in a rehearsal/concert.
- At the end of a piece, do not finish playing and put your instrument down before the conductor has concluded.



# ORCHESTRAL CONCERT ETIQUETTE

## What Is Good Concert Etiquette?

It is the behavior that is considered appropriate and polite while enjoying or performing a live musical performance. Good concert etiquette shows respect for the conductor, performers, other audience members, and the music that is being performed.

## What Should I Do As An Audience Member?

- Sit quietly and wait for the concert to begin. You may talk softly while you are waiting. Do not talk or make noises during the performance. It can be very distracting to the performers.
- Applaud after each full piece of music has been completed.
- Sit quietly during the performance. When a performing organization presents a concert, they are putting forth their best effort; and they should expect the same from those in the audience.
- Keep concert programs quiet during the performance.
- If you must get up to leave during a concert, do so only at the end of a groups' performance or between pieces. It is best if you stay for the entire concert.
- Cell phones **should be turned off** or muted. Watches set to beep on the hour **should also be turned off**. These high-pitched beeps are distracting to everyone. Listening to iPod or playing games during the performance is impolite to the performers.
- Please use discretion in taking photos. Flash photos during a performance are extremely distracting for all.
- Parents should keep small children seated with them and not allow them to move around during the concert. If very young children become restless and disrupt others' ability to listen, please take them from the performance area until they are quiet.
- Please remove all hats.
- Please dress appropriately. This is not a rock/country concert. Dressing up lends to the importance of the performance. Cut-off shorts and tank tops are NEVER acceptable.

## What Should I Do As A Performer?

- While on stage, act as professionally as possible. If mistakes are made make every attempt not to call attention to it.
- Dress appropriately. Know in advance what uniform is expected.
- Do not wave or talk to performers or audience members.
- Help others by setting a good example. Stay quiet. Keep focused.
- Sit quietly with hands and feet to yourself, listen and learn. Do not play with toys or other objects!
- Stay in one place without standing up.
- Show appreciation for the efforts of other groups. Be respectful.

## **ECISD APPROVED PRIVATE LESSON STAFF**

### **VIOLIN:**

Alex Reiff	(325) 829 – 4693
Sally Pool	(432) 889 – 9149
Kathy Hohstadt	(432) 363 – 0317
Renee Pelopero	(432) 352 – 2847
Johnathan Beck	(432) 967 – 8027

### **VIOLA:**

Gary McMillian	(432) 312 – 0282
Conrad Sclar	(720) 233 – 9482
Laura Peña	(561) 703 – 8575
Kathy Hohstadt	(432) 363 – 0317

### **CELLO:**

Su Kim	(213) 258 – 0706 (Lives in Lubbock)
Maia Bruce	<a href="mailto:maiabruce@music@gmail.com">maiabruce@music@gmail.com</a>
Libby Dirks	(432) 528 – 1219 (limited number)

### **STRING BASS:**

Caleb Williams	(432) 456 – 2608
Dr. Mark Morton (Texas Tech)	Via Zoom (contact the university)

### **Having a private teacher is a privilege.**

#### **Here is how to KEEP a private teacher:**

1. You pay for THEIR services. Do not treat them like hired help. They are professional musicians and should be treated as such. Give them 100% and benefit from their knowledge and experience.
2. Be on time, pay on time, pay the proper amounts and PLEASE inform them if you cannot be at a lesson. If you miss or skip a lesson without informing them, YOU STILL OWE for that lesson!
3. Practice in-between lessons. Your progress is dependent on your practice.
4. Be prepared & have all your materials for the lesson.
5. Your private teacher does not know your school/orchestra schedule. Inform them ASAP.
6. Please communicate! Life happens and lesson times/schedules change...YOU must be in contact!