

Arroyo Seco Junior High School **Advanced Orchestra Syllabus 2023/2024**

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Welcome to a new year in our wonderful Arroyo Seco Orchestra Program. I am looking forward to a superior year and am ready to provide a quality experience for all instrumental music students.

This syllabus is extremely important. Many questions that are asked throughout the year are answered in this handbook itself. PARENTS AND STUDENTS SHOULD READ THE ENTIRE HANDBOOK, DISCUSS IT, AND KEEP IT FOR REFERENCE FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR.

Course Description

The Advanced Orchestra at Arroyo Seco Jr. High is viewed as “the premier instrumental ensemble” at Arroyo Seco Junior High School. Advanced Orchestra offers students the opportunity to extend beyond the beginning levels of instrumental performance and participate in a performing concert ensemble. Given the reputation and the talent level of the advanced music programs at Seco, students are held to higher expectations. The instructional emphasis is on both individual performance technique and the principles of ensemble performance. The Advanced Orchestra performs at school and community events and participates in professionally adjudicated festivals. Participation in these performances outside the school day is a necessary opportunity to grow as musicians, performers, and young adults. Members of the Advanced Orchestra are encouraged to seek private lessons and grow individually through solo performances and auditioned ensembles.

Only when every member of our orchestra puts forth a 100% effort, can an orchestra attain its goals in musical achievement and service to the school and community. You are embarking on a lifetime of musical enjoyment. The more you invest in yourself, the more you will be rewarded. Together we will make this year better than the last. I am excited for the 2023/24 school year to get started and I look forward to working with every one of you!

Course Content

Students will learn/ develop:

1. Extended range and greater technical facility on their instrument.
2. A better understanding of world cultures, history, and other forms of art through music.
3. More advanced concepts of musical expressions such as dynamics, phrasing, and articulation.
4. Orchestral literature in a variety of styles and difficulty.
5. Sight-reading skills.



Student Expectations

Standards for Music Rehearsals:

1. Always show respect for each member of our ensemble, including the director or other adult leaders.
2. Raise your hand and wait for permission to speak. You miss out on what is being taught and so do the people around you if you are talking during class and/or rehearsal time.
3. Gum, food, and sugary drinks are not to be consumed during class time for both instrument and performer safety.
4. Use appropriate language.
5. Do NOT play your instrument without permission. It is a distraction for you and those around you.
6. Be in your seat with your instrument and materials no more than three minutes after the bell rings.
7. Make sure that you ALWAYS have your materials for rehearsal and/or class. This include your instrument, music, method book, folder, pencil, reeds, valve/slide oil, rosin, and a good attitude. If you are in need of something, let the Director know as soon as possible.
8. Always check the board for important assignments or announcements.
9. Participate fully in class.
10. Take care of the music room. Keep it clean and orderly.
11. Do NOT touch instruments or materials that do not belong to you.
12. You must bring your instrument to school every day you have rehearsals.
13. Be prepared to play the day's music. You must practice at home to make consistent progress. We are as strong as our weakest player. When one person does not practice, it hurts the entire ensemble's progress. Don't let others down! Do your part to always play your best.

The Daily Participation category of a student's grade will be determined by compliance with the rehearsal standards

Consequences

If any of the classroom rules or expectations are violated, the following consequences will occur:

- 1st Offense- Verbal warning
- 2nd Offense- Student conference with Mr. Fulleman
- 3rd Offense- Referral and phone call/email sent to the parents
- 4th Offense- Student/ Parent/ Teacher Conference will be scheduled
- 5th Offense- Student will be sent to the office for escalated consequences



Tardy Policy

In order for students to be marked on time, the student must meet the following expectations:

1. Students are expected to have their instrument, folder/sheet music, and music stand set up three minutes after the bell has rung. If the previously listed items are not set up by the end of the three minute timer, the student will be marked tardy.

Assignments

Students are responsible for the 5 types of assignments that constitute their grade in the class:

1. Weekly Training Log: (10 points each): Students are expected to train *for a minimum of 120 minutes per week*. The training chart must be turned in every Monday for full credit. One point will be subtracted every day that the sheet is turned in late. **Only practice charts with a parent signature will be accepted.** Any extra time spent practicing over 120 minutes will be given extra credit. Students also have the opportunity to practice during nutrition, lunch, or even afterschool to earn time. In order to count this time, have Mr. Fulleman sign you out. Extra copies of the practice plan can be found online on the Arroyo Seco music website <arroyosecomusic.weebly.com>
2. Playing Tests: (20 points each): Students will be required to perform short tunes or exercises in class as a part of their grade. They will be evaluated on posture, position, tone quality, intonation, rhythmic and melodic accuracy. All playing tests will be given advance notice for appropriate time to prepare.
3. Daily Participation: (5 points per week): Participation begins with being prepared. Students will receive 1 point for participation each day if the student has **ALL** the items necessary to succeed while following the standards of rehearsal listed above.
4. Concert Performance: (40 points) Every student in the music program will have fun and exciting opportunities to perform various concerts throughout the year. **Attendance is mandatory for all performances.** Included in the course syllabus is a schedule of this year's performance calendar. Please review the days, mark them in your calendar, and notify Mr. Fulleman immediately if you foresee a scheduling conflict. Concert performances are considered **Final Exams**.
**We understand that life happens and there are unforeseen accidents, and so if a family, medical, or personal emergency arises, please contact Mr. Fulleman as soon as possible to discuss possible solutions.*
5. Other Assignments and Tests: Students will receive in-class music assignments, journal entries, and music theory tests occasionally. These assignments will need to be completed as homework if it is not completed in class.

Extra Credit Opportunities

Students may earn extra credit by doing the following:

1. Attend a professional or college-level concert that showcases their classroom instrument such as a recital, concerto performance, or a free master class. 15 points of extra credit will be given to the student upon writing a reflection of the performance with proof of attendance such as a ticket stub or a program. Mr. Fulleman may guide you with finding events to attend and can help if there are any financial restraints.

Late Work Policy

All assignments turned in after the due date will drop one letter grade. For example, an "A-" becomes a "B-." If a student misses a day that the assignment is due, no penalty will apply but the assignment will be expected upon return to receive full credit. If an assignment was given during the student's absence,

the student will be given the same amount of class days as their absence to complete the work. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain and complete all materials given in the days absent from class.

Grade Scale

The cumulative grade of the student will be based on the following point system:

A+ 97-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	
A 93-96	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
A- 90-92	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	F 0-59



Cell Phone and Electronic Devices

Our classroom will adhere to the no electronic device policy that has been established at our school. Please see those rules for specifics. At times, cell phones and technology may be used to enhance classroom learning only when directed by Mr. Fulleman.

Instrumental and Financial Responsibility

Students in the Advanced Orchestra will play the instrument that the student has had previous playing experience whether it be in Beginning Orchestra or private lessons. Once a school instrument has been “checked out” to a student, *students and parents assume financial responsibility for damage, loss, or any repair needed of school instruments due to misuse.* All 8th grade and non-returning students will turn in their instruments at the end of the school year. The instrument will be checked for dents, broken parts, and condition at this time.

Students are expected to bring their school instrument home to practice and bring the instrument back to class the next day.

Renting Your Own Instrument

The benefits of renting your own instrument are as follows:

1. Your rented instrument will be newer than a school instrument.
2. The rented instrument will, in most cases, be of better quality than school instruments.
3. A rent-to-purchase plan can be used to purchase the instrument to use in high school.
4. Repairs are usually covered through the insurance policy.
5. Students are guaranteed a fully functional instrument to give the student the best chance to succeed.

Before purchasing any instrument, it is recommended that you please contact Mr. Fulleman so that he can assist in finding a proper instrument for your student that they will be successful on.

MATERIALS

Students will be required to keep a well organized ½ inch 3 ring spiral binder for all paper supplies. Sheet protectors for music are also required. Students needing assistance in acquiring these materials, please speak to Mr. Fulleman for help.

Having the right equipment can make a big difference in the success or failure of a music student. In some cases, having the necessary supplies can affect the life or death of a musical instrument! Protect your investment. The following is a list of accessories that students will need for their instrument. These items will help prolong the life of all instruments, school or privately owned. The items can be

found at local music stores, see below for a list of music stores surrounding our school area. Financial assistance will be available for students who need it and will be allocated on a case per case basis.

**Students needing financial assistance to provide the necessary supplies to be successful in class are encouraged to ask Mr. Fulleman.*

Instrument Storage

A safe space will be provided for the student to keep their instrument during the school day so that they do not need to carry the instrument from class to class. Instruments are to be stored before school and picked up after school.

IMPORTANT SUPPLIES:

Violin/Viola: rosin, shoulder rest, cleaning cloth

Cello: rosin, stop rock, cleaning cloth

Bass: rosin, cleaning cloth

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: metronome, tuner, wire music stand

For instrument supplies, rentals, and purchasing go to:

Bertrand's Music
2618 Burbank Blvd
Burbank, CA 91505
(818) 848-9665
Hours: Tues-Fri 2pm-6pm
Sat 11am-3pm

Nick Rail Music
25868 McBean Pkwy, Valencia, 91355
(661) 288-2345
Hours: Monday- Friday 11:00 AM- 7:00 PM
Saturday 10:00 AM- 5:00 PM

Concert Performance Attire

To match the high performance standard, musicians in the Advanced Orchestra are encouraged to wear semi-formal attire for all performances. Students are asked to dress as stated below:

Option 1- Black long-sleeved button up dress shirt, black dress pants, black dress shoes, black socks, and a black belt. Ties are encouraged.

Option 2- A black dress (must be all black, no white, grey, or any other color) and black dress shoes. Students may also wear black pants and a dressy black or white blouse, or a white long sleeve dress shirt.



***Tennis shoes, jeans, and t-shirts are not appropriate.**

Student Help/Parent Consultation

It is the goal of Mr. Fulleman to provide the highest education possible for all students. Mr. Fulleman is excited to collaborate with students and parents to achieve success for each student. Prior arrangements can be made to meet before school, nutrition, lunch, and after school to achieve the goals of the student. The best way to contact Mr. Fulleman is via email at kfulleman@hartdistrict.org.

Important Dates

Advanced Orchestra 2023-2024

Fall Semester 2023			
Activity	Date	Time	Location
Back to School Night Performance	August 31, 2023	5:30-6:30PM	Arroyo Seco Amphitheater
Start of Jazz Band Rehearsals	September 12, 2023	2:30-3:30 PM Tuesdays and Thursdays	Arroyo Seco Band Room
Fall Mini Concert w/ Choir	October 27, 2023	Call time: 6:30 PM Performance: 7:00 PM	Arroyo Seco Knutson Hall
Orchestra Winter Concert	December 5, 2023	Call time: 6:30 PM Performance: 7:00 PM	Arroyo Seco Knutson Hall
Band Winter Concert	December 6, 2023	7:00PM	Arroyo Seco Knutson Hall
Spring Semester 2024			
Activity	Date	Time	Location
District Honor Band Auditions (String Bass Only)	January 19/20, 2024	Varies by Instrument	Valencia HS
District Honor Band Concert	March 2, 2024	6:30 PM	Hart HS Auditorium
Collaboration Festival Concert with Saugus HS	March 15, 2024	Call time: 6:15 PM Performance: 7:00 PM	Saugus HS
SCSBOA Band Festival Performance	March 26, 2024	10:30-5:00 PM	West Ranch HS
Open House Jazz Band Performance	March 28, 2024	Call time: 5:30 PM Performance: 6:00 PM	Arroyo Seco Amphitheater
Disneyland Trip	April 12-13, 2024	7:00 AM- 10:30 PM	Disneyland Resort
6th Grade Family Night Performance	TBD (April 18?)	TBD	Arroyo Seco Amphitheater
Incoming Saugus Student Informational Meeting	TBD (May)	TBD	Saugus HS Band Room
Band and Orchestra Spring Concert	May 22, 2024	Call time: 5:45 PM Performance: 6:30 PM	Arroyo Seco Amphitheater
Band and Orchestra Banquet	May 24, 2024	5:00-8:00 PM	Arroyo Seco Amphitheater

Bolded events are mandatory concerts that are part of the student performance curriculum.

**Event times and dates are subject to change with as much notice as possible given.*

Follow us at @arroyosecomusic on Instagram!



Donations

Students have the privilege of using Arroyo Seco instruments and services for free. According to the law, students are entitled to a “free and public education”; however, the cost of maintaining a high quality program is tremendous! Without the financial support of Arroyo Seco families, services and necessities like instrument repair, sheet music purchases, festival fees, transportation, and replacing old and damaged instruments would not be possible. **A donation of \$50 or more would be greatly appreciated to keep the music program successful.** The amount of donations determines the grandeur of the program. **Donations directly benefit the students in the program.** Please help keep music at Arroyo Seco triumphant by making a payable check to Arroyo Seco ASB or a cash donation. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

** It is important to note that no student will be excluded from any activity based on whether they contribute.*

**Please return this page to Mr. Fulleman by
Friday, August 11th**

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the rules, expectations, and performance dates as outlined in this syllabus agreement. I also agree to respect and take care of all school property. I will come prepared and ready to contribute to class and expect nothing less than excellence of myself every day.

Student Name (Printed) _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Name (Printed) _____

Parent Signature _____