



ORCH

POWELL ELEMENTARY
ORCHESTRA

Orchestra Handbook 2016 - 2017





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Mission Statement

The orchestra program at Powell Elementary is dedicated to instilling musical and character values which will culminate in lifelong learning and curiosity in both music and in life.

Objectives

- To provide each member of the orchestra program with the knowledge of music so she or he can fully appreciate, participate, and enjoy the experience of listening and making music.
- To promote personal expression and creativity through playing and creating music.
- To provide each member of the orchestra program with the tools to become a well-rounded and curious learner.
- To broaden the musical interests of each member through the performance of fine yet diverse orchestral repertoire.

Rules and Regulations

Concert Attendance

Concert attendance is mandatory! All members are expected to play in all scheduled performances and dressed in proper concert attire. Students should arrive at the location of the concert at least forty-five minutes before the concert starts in order to tune and warm-up.

Concert attendance is worth 30% of the final grade. Concert dates for the 2016 - 17 school year are listed below. If there is a conflict (vacation dates, etc.) let me know within the first 30 days of school. If a conflict is not reported within this timeframe, the student will be expected to attend the concert. In the event of an emergency (death in the family, illness, etc.), I will need a written note from the parent as soon as possible. An alternative assignment will be given in place of the concert.



Concert Attire

Women:

- White Powell Orchestra T Shirt
- Black dress pants (no skirts, leggings, or yoga pants)
- Black dress shoes (no black sneakers)

Men:

- White Powell Orchestra T Shirt
- Black dress pants (no jeans)
- Black socks and black dress shoes (no black sneakers)

Student Expectations

1. **Respect:** Respect the property, others, the teacher, and yourself.
2. **Listen:** Listen to the teacher (doing tasks as told) AND listen to music.
3. **Learn:** Coming to class everyday prepared to learn. Open your minds and open your ears with a positive attitude everyday. Do your best everyday!
4. **Enjoy yourself:** Appreciate the opportunity to be part of a musical group. Make friends and have fun.

Grading Policy

35% - Playing Quizzes & Homework

35% - Rehearsal Skills and Classroom Participation

30% - Performance Grade

Concert Dates:

coming very soon

Student Supplies:

Instrument - school instruments are available, but if the student has an instrument of her or his own, please use that one. Information about rentals can be found on the Powell Orchestra website

Rosin - good rosin and can be purchased from Amazon or a local music store for \$4 to \$7. One should last the entire year.

Shoulder Rest (violins and violas) - some rentals come with shoulder rests. The school has a few shoulder rests, but if you are able to purchase one for your child, that would be greatly appreciated.

Cleaning Cloth and Pencil



Taking Care of Your String Instrument

THE BOW

- Always loosen the hair before putting the bow into the case.
- Never tap the bow against any object (music stands, floor, other bows, etc.) – it may ruin the bow by causing cracks or breakage.
- Avoid touching the hair with your fingers. The oils from your fingers will harm the bow hair. It will then make it hard to get a good, clear tone from the strings.
- Repair Bow once a year (every two years for young players). The work should be done by a professional repair person and will be free when needed if being rented.

THE INSTRUMENT

- Keep the instrument stored properly in its case when the instrument is not in use.
- Wipe the body of instrument before putting it in its case. This includes the rosin dust on the strings and the bow stick (avoid touching the hair). Use a soft, untreated cotton cloth for best results. Do NOT use furniture polish/cleaners as this damages the varnish.
- PLEASE don't attempt to repair an instrument at home. Its glue and varnish are of a different quality than those available at a hardware store. Any home repair (especially of cracks or varnish touch-ups) can result in destroying the instrument's value and tone quality permanently.
- NEVER leave an instrument unattended in a parked car. Extreme heat or cold can ruin the instrument's varnish and lead to melted glue or cracks. Humidity can also affect an instrument. If it is too dry, an instrument can crack, too humid and the pegs will be difficult to turn.

Parent Email

Parent Phone #

Student's T-Shirt Size

Parent Signature

Date