

# Stevenson High School Instrumental Music

Wind Ensemble

String Orchestra

Symphony Band

Concert Band



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Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to our exciting and rewarding music program. The Livonia Stevenson High School Instrumental Music program consists of four main components: Wind Ensemble, String Orchestra, Symphony Band, and Concert Band. In addition to the curricular ensembles we offer opportunities in Marching Band, Jazz Band, Pit Orchestra, and Chamber Ensembles.

The policies in this course syllabus have been established to continue the standard of excellence established by the Stevenson Instrumental Music Program. They are consistent with those that professional and amateur musicians adhere to and are instituted to help prepare you for a successful musical future.

Please keep in mind these policies pertain to each and every member of the program. For our music program to be truly successful, ensemble members should not expect to be excused from or an exception made to any of these expectations of all musicians.

Please feel free to contact me at any time. The fastest and easiest way is via e-mail.

Thank you for all your support. We have a tremendous year ahead of us with many exciting opportunities. Here's to a great year!

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Heather Wickman*

[hwickman@livoniapublicschools.org](mailto:hwickman@livoniapublicschools.org)

Music Website:  
[www.shsmusic.org](http://www.shsmusic.org)

Visit the website to sign-up for weekly email updates regarding the Instrumental Music Department.

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# COURSE INFORMATION

## Materials List for All Classes (Items with an \* are recommended but not required)

### All Students:

- Instrument in good working condition
- Rehearsal book, rehearsal literature, scale sheet
- Standard accessories (oil, reeds, rosin, rock stop, etc.)
- Metronome (several suitable apps available)
- Electronic tuner\* (several suitable apps available)
- Music stand for practice

### Brass Players:

- Straight mute
- Cup mute

### String players:

- Shoulder rest (violin and viola players).  
Do not use a sponge; it is not adequate for high school musicians.
- Fine tuners-all strings (violin, viola, cello)
- Mute

Please note that the school does not provide reeds, strings, oils, waxes, sticks, or any other standard care equipment. Students using a school instrument should provide their own mouthpiece, neck strap, and reeds. String players will be expected to replace strings as needed. In return, no maintenance fee is charged for the use of a school instrument.

### Percussionists:

- Snare drumsticks (concert sticks, i.e. Vic Firth SD1General)
- Yarn marimba mallets
- Hard plastic bell mallets
- T1 timpani mallets
- Pitch pipe (for tuning timpani)
- Stoessel triangle beater #2
- Stick bag (necessary at all rehearsals – equivalent to the wind player's instrument)
- Drum pad (single or double-sided rubber pad) and snare stand
- Snare /or bell kit for home practice\*

Percussion provided by the school: All instruments needed to perform class literature, bass drum beaters, gong mallets, chime mallets, and brake drum hammers. No other mallets or sticks will be provided! Your name must be written in permanent marker on your mallets. Your personal mallets and music need to be stored in the music lockers provided, *not* in the percussion cabinet. You must have all materials in class each day to receive credit.

**DO NOT LEAVE YOUR EQUIPMENT IN AN UNLOCKED LOCKER!**

## Grade Requirements

Your grade in band/orchestra is not given to you - you earn it. Your grade will reflect your level of assessment performance, preparation, group work, and improvement and is relates to your own ability, rehearsal discipline, and performance. Your grade will also reflect attendance at all rehearsals and performances as well as written assignments, and written assessments. Students will be evaluated through tests, performance, and theory/rhythm assignments. Assessments will be written, playing, or rhythmic interpretation. Grades are not rounded.

<u>Grade Categories</u>	
Assessments & Performance	60%
Assignments	30%
Card Marking Assessment (CSA)	10%

<u>Grading Scale</u>	
A	93
A-	90
B+	87
B	83
B-	80
C+	77
C	73
C-	70
D+	67
D	63
D-	60
E	0

} Lower cut-off %

## Category Descriptions

### Playing Assessments:

Playing assessments are performed on a regular basis. The test material is generally taken from the method books, repertoire, or scale sheets being worked on in class. When test schedules and measures are announced, students are expected to keep track of dates and come prepared on assessment days or upload performance videos to Google Classroom by the due date.

### Rhythm Studies and Theory Assignments:

In class rhythm studies and/or theory assignments are completed 2-5 times per week. Online theory and written assignments are assigned to reinforce concepts studied in class, or to act as a study guide for an exam. To complete online assignments, students must create a Google Classroom login with their school email. Directions to login can be found on the music website.

### Academic Misconduct

All cheating on assessments or copying of materials in classroom preparation will be dealt with in accordance with the Livonia Public Schools Code of Conduct.

## **TECHNOLOGY/CELL PHONE USE**

Technology use is only allowed in music classes with direct permission from Mrs. Wickman and/or guest teacher. Individuals need to turn off all devices and place them in their locked lockers before the start of class or place their device in their backpack which will be stored along the classroom wall during class. Due to the number of instruments in the room and the ability to move about the room safely, backpacks and school bags cannot be placed at an individual's chair.

Keep in mind that all music ensembles are a **TEAM**.

**T**ogether  
**E**veryone  
**A**chieves  
**M**ore!

# REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES

## ATTENDANCE

Performance class attendance policies are the same as other classes at Stevenson. Students are expected to be punctual to class with their instrument and materials prepared for rehearsal within two minutes of the bell. Failure to do so will result in a tardy even if the student is in the room. Students still assembling their instruments after the three-minute preparation period are considered tardy. Percussionists should be setting up their section for the rehearsal during this time. Students with excessive tardies and/or absences from class may not be recommended to move on the next higher ensemble the following year.

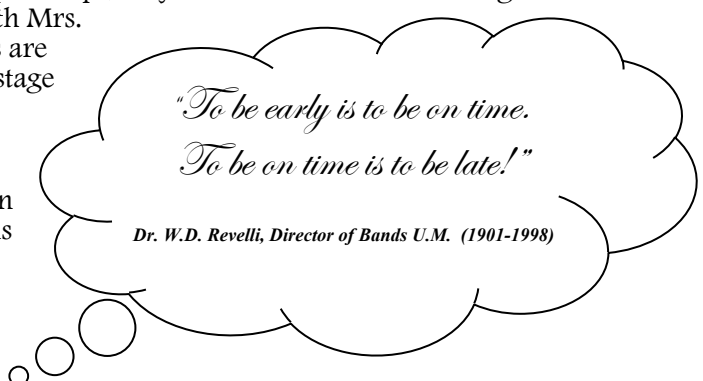
## CONCERTS

*Concert attendance is mandatory, not optional.* Since this is a performance class, and most concerts and performances occur in the evening or weekends, time outside the school day is required. By enrolling in band and/or orchestra, you have made a commitment to the organization and have a responsibility to be in attendance at every concert. The ensemble can only perform at its best when all members are present. Participation in performances is a requirement of the class. **DO NOT EXPECT TO BE EXCUSED FROM PERFORMANCES.** Missing a performance is a very serious offense in a music ensemble at any level. A concert/performance is like a test or final examination but cannot be made up.

In the event of an unavoidable conflict with a concert, an absence notification (sample pg. 17) must be submitted to the director at least **TWO WEEKS** before the concert. The notification does not excuse the student from the performance. A printable version of the Prearranged Absence Notification form can be downloaded from the music website. Emergencies and illness will be treated on an individual basis, but in general an illness notification must be presented to the director **WITHIN 24 HOURS** of the student's return to school. Since unexcused absences from performance situations cannot be tolerated, *a student's overall grade may be lowered by a maximum of TWO LETTER GRADES for a missed performance.*

Individuals absent from a concert for any reason must complete a concert assignment before the end of the quarter or the absence will be treated as an unexcused absence. Please note that under most circumstances the following items will not be considered an excused absence from a performance: driver's education, work, social functions, routine doctor, dentist, or hair appointments, and extracurricular activities like athletic practices, and athletic games (excluding play-offs or championships). If you need to arrive late to stage call because of an unavoidable conflict, make arrangements with Mrs. Wickman prior to the performance. Otherwise, all students are expected to be at the performance from stage call through stage strike. *Please carefully check your performance calendar before scheduling outside commitments!*

In order to receive an "A" for a concert, students must be on time, in the proper uniform, have all of the proper materials (instrument, reeds, music, etc.), and assist with clean up.



*"To be early is to be on time.*

*To be on time is to be late!"*

*Dr. W.D. Revelli, Director of Bands U.M. (1901-1998)*

## REHEARSAL PROCEDURES

The following procedures are to provide for a successful experience in the Stevenson instrumental music program and to ensure all members take responsibility and ownership. Above all, students have the right to learn and I have the right to teach. All members are expected to display the proper attitude for rehearsal, that is: come to class and rehearsal prepared, as do all good musicians. This means you must have all of the necessary equipment (i.e., instrument, music, pencil, reeds, oil, mutes, etc.), have your music practiced and prepared for rehearsal. It is also expected you will be punctual for class and seated with all talking and discussion ceased within two minutes of the class bell. Students are expected to be ready to tune at the director or concertmaster's direction. During rehearsal there should be no talking or discussion except by section leaders when important performance information needs to be relayed to the section. Questions should be directed to the director. Students having excused tardiness should make every attempt to be the least disruptive as possible when entering the room. Once rehearsal begins your full attention and energies should be focused on the music being rehearsed. During those periods in rehearsal when you are not playing, you should still be listening attentively and marking your music as necessary.

## HOW OFTEN DO YOU NEED TO PRACTICE?????

*“You only need to practice on the days you eat.....  
and only ‘till you get it right consistently!”*

PRACTICING occurs at home. REHEARSAL involves those tasks which you cannot accomplish yourself on your own time. Inappropriate rehearsal behavior is detracting from rehearsal, is a waste of time, and will not be tolerated. I expect that every musician is here to learn to make music - that's where your priorities should be during class.

### CHAIR PLACEMENT

Chair placement is determined through your audition in the spring or an assessment in September. Thereafter, a student may increase his or her chair placement by challenging the next chair. However, since each student brings individual strengths to the ensemble, the director will assign parts for some pieces to ensure the best balance for the ensemble.

#### To challenge:

- Fill out a challenge form and hand it to the person to be challenged. Individuals may only challenge one chair up at a time.
- Challenge music must be selected from your folder (if challenging a student on a higher part, the music of the higher part must be used). Each musician plays the same music and same part for the challenge.
- The challenged person signs the form, acknowledging the challenge, and hands it in to the director.
- The director will determine if any changes/additions need to be made to the challenge (material to be played, date, etc.) within 1 day of receiving the form.
- Challenges will be played on Monday or Thursday of the following week.
- No challenges two weeks before a concert or competition.
- If the challenger loses the challenge, he/she must wait one week to re-challenge. If the challengee loses the challenge he/she may re-challenge immediately if desired.

### EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

#### *Marching Band*

There is a separate Marching Band Handbook that outlines the policies and schedules of the Marching Band.

#### *Jazz Band*

Jazz Band will meet 1-2 days per week from 3-4:15 p.m. starting in November. Open positions will be filled through audition or director recommendation in the fall.

#### *Pit Orchestra*

String, woodwind, brass, and percussion students who are enrolled in band or orchestra have the opportunity to participate in the orchestra that accompanies the school musical. Because the pit is small, if there are more interested students than spots available, students will be selected based on their ensemble and chair placement. Students need to commit to all rehearsals to participate in Pit Orchestra.

#### *Chamber Ensembles*

Both student and teacher directed ensembles are offered at SHS. A number of chamber ensembles may run November –March with the option of performing at district and state Solo/Ensemble as well as various school concerts. Students are also encouraged to form their own ensembles early in preparation for Solo and Ensemble.

#### *Symphonic Orchestra*

The spring concerts often include selections for symphonic orchestra (strings plus winds and percussion). The wind players will be determined by ensemble, chair placement, and interest. There are usually 1-2 after school rehearsals and 1 rehearsal during the day (the band students will be school-bussed to rehearse with the orchestra). Students need to commit to all rehearsals to participate in Symphonic Orchestra.

## EXTRA REHEARSALS AND SECTIONALS

There may be an occasional extra rehearsal or sectional outside of the school day, especially before concerts and festivals. Your attendance at these rehearsals is mandatory. The scheduling of these rehearsals will be around other school activities as much as possible to avoid as many conflicts as possible. However, unavoidable conflicts will be dealt with on an individual basis, as the director deems fair to the student and the ensemble. You must communicate conflicts with as much advanced warning as possible. A minimum of one week is expected. Students who are absent from rehearsal without being excused will have their grade lowered.

In addition to sectionals to prepare for performance, students may make an appointment with the director to seek help before or after school.

## CLINICS

Throughout the year there will be clinicians coming to work with the various groups to prepare for competition and to help students refine and develop their skills on their instruments. The dates and times will be posted as they are scheduled. Please be advised that attendance for clinics is mandatory. Clinicians are brought in to benefit the students' music education and are respected professional musicians, many of whom are associated with universities. For this reason, attendance at the clinics is essential for each and every ensemble member.

## ATTITUDE

Attitude is defined as: **proper rehearsal behavior**

- personal responsibility for self and ensemble
- personal preparation
- and a sensitive and supportive concern for the skills and musical growth of yourself and your peers

Remember, be a leader, not a follower!  
★ Great things can be accomplished with a positive attitude. ★

If we are to continue in our pursuit of excellence, every student must possess a positive attitude about themselves, their peers and the ensemble. Rehearsals cannot be disrupted by talking, doing homework, or horseplay. Every musician must demonstrate responsibility by having all necessary materials (instrument in proper working condition, rosin, music, extra strings, mute, etc.) and being ON TIME to rehearsals. If every student gives 100% effort at every rehearsal and concert, the ensemble can begin to grow and perform to the highest level of musical sensitivity and refinement.

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

### INSTRUMENTS

You are personally held responsible for your instrument, whether school or privately owned. For safety purposes, keep a record of the serial number at home and consider listing a privately-owned instrument on your home insurance policy. Never leave an instrument unattended and take your instrument home as often as possible for safety reasons and for practicing. It is essential to the ensemble that you keep your instrument in good playing condition (slides greased, reeds in good playing condition, valves oiled, etc.); therefore, if your instrument is going to be in repair for more than one day, a parent notification will be needed.

### USE OF SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS: STORAGE and RESPONSIBILITY at HOME and at SCHOOL

All students using school owned instruments will be required to sign a **Stevenson Instrument Loan Agreement Form** and accept all financial responsibility while it is in your care for the duration of the school year/summer.

## STUDENT USE OF SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS IN SCHOOL

A limited number of instruments are available for check out through Stevenson. Students may check out an instrument on a first come, first serve basis. **Every student using a school owned instrument is expected to care for and maintain the equipment properly while in his/her possession.** It is advisable for parents to add this to their homeowner's insurance policy. **Any damages other than normal wear will be the financial responsibility of the student.** You may never use another student's school owned instrument unless specifically instructed to do so by the director. You will sign a loan agreement form and be responsible for cleaning and any and all scratches, dents, or wear and tear. **You must return it in the same condition it was issued or pay for the repairs and/or cleaning.**

## HOME USE OF SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

All students using a school owned instrument must have completed an Instrument Loan Agreement in order to use the instrument. It is recommended you add the instrument to your Home Insurance Policy to protect it from loss or damage.

## PRIVATELY OWNED STUDENT INSTRUMENTS

Students will be provided with a storage locker at school and a lock. Parents and students are reminded the lockers are for the convenience of students for storage of the instrument during school hours only. It is advised that students use the lockers for daily storage of their instrument and not leave their instrument in school at the end of the day. Livonia Public Schools is not responsible for the damage, loss or theft of student instruments while in the building. Do not leave your instrument at school overnight. Avoid being the student who learns this lesson the hard way.

## PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS

A large amount of expensive percussion instruments are stored in the music room. Only percussionists enrolled in a performance class are allowed to play them. The percussion section leader is expected to retrieve auxiliary instruments and mallets before class and return them afterward. Percussionists are also expected to move their own equipment to and from the stage before and after concerts. All percussionists need to help, not just the ones from the last group to perform. To ensure that everyone helps, percussionists need to check-out with Mrs. Wickman before going home after concerts. It is expected the drum captain/section leader will ensure marching percussion is put away after each practice and game; it is not to be left on the floor.

## LOCKERS

Students will receive a locker in the music area. In some cases, there are not enough lockers or one large enough for certain instruments. These students will either have to share a locker or will be given another area in which to store their instrument. The side of the room is not an area for "lazy students that don't feel like putting their instruments away." It is your responsibility to keep your instrument locked at all times. The replacement cost of the lock is \$10.00 due to the special keying of the locker system.

1. Lockers are assigned. If a student needs more space for additional instruments, he/she must see the director. Do not switch lockers without permission.
2. SHS is not responsible for lost or stolen items. ALWAYS lock lockers!
3. Students will not be allowed to retrieve items from their lockers/music room while another class is in session, do not expect to wander through the music facilities during 4<sup>th</sup> hour to get your lunch!
4. Any items found on the floor outside of the lockers will be taken to the school lost and found.
5. Any clothing items found hanging on locker doors will be taken to the school lost and found.
6. Students storing food, drink, wet swimsuits, or anything that smells or damages their locker can lose the privilege of having a music locker.
7. Do not put tape or anything permanent on any part of your locker.
8. Damage to your locker could result in repair fees, please take care of it!
9. Wet swimsuits and towels hanging on lockers will be thrown in the garbage.
10. **Lockers are not provided to store items for all your classes, just band or orchestra. Any "overflow" that spills over to the locker room floor will be thrown in the garbage.** If your locker is locked, items won't spill out.
11. The band room does not open until 7:15 a.m. and is locked after the last extra-curricular rehearsal of the day. The room will be open for about 30 minutes after school ends each day. Individuals who need to catch a bus at the end of the day can store their instruments in the Scheduling Office after class for easy pick-up at the end of the day.



## MUSIC and MUSIC FOLDERS

Much time, effort and expense is spent making sure each member of the organization has an individual folder of music. Every student is responsible for their folder and all music assigned to that folder. The music and the folder must be returned at the end of the school year or upon the request of the director. *Damaged or lost music and /or folders will be assessed at double the current rate of replacement to cover both the part, shipping and handling.* A librarian will be appointed to each ensemble to assist with paperwork. Please treat them with respect. In addition,

- When music is handed out, students must check to make sure they receive all parts for their section. They must notify Mrs. Wickman if they did not receive enough copies. **DO NOT SHARE MUSIC!** If a student is absent on distribution days, the section leader will hold the extra parts.
- When students trade music due to a challenge or a change of seating, it is expected that they check to make sure they have received all the music. If it is not all there, they must report it IMMEDIATELY because they are now responsible for that folder and will be charged for any music not accounted for when it is turned in. It is the student's responsibility to check their folder when changing parts!
- Percussionists must keep music in a music folder stored in their lockers.
- Students are to keep their own folders with only their music. **DO NOT SHARE FOLDERS OR MUSIC IN REHEARSAL.**
- Music picked up off the floor or stands after class will be stored and can be purchased back for \$1.

## PRACTICE ROOMS

Practice rooms are designed for practice use only. They should be left clean for the next person's use. All papers must be picked up. Students must sign in and out and record the time they used the facility. These rooms will be monitored and students using them will be held accountable for their condition. If you find any damage, you must report it immediately. Failure to adhere to these rules will result in revoked practice room privileges.

**"Practice makes perfect is not true.  
.....Perfect practice makes perfect is...."**  
Sunichi Suzuki, 1979



**NO FOOD, GUM, CANDY, BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED  
IN THE BAND, ORCHESTRA, CHOIR, or PRACTICE ROOMS!**





# CONCERT ATTIRE

## WIND ENSEMBLE

Black suit, white shirt, black dress shoes, black socks, black bow tie.

- OR** Black dress slacks or ankle length black skirt, black shirt or blouse, and black dress shoes. Do NOT wear above-the-knee skirts, or sleeveless blouses/dresses, or jeans!! Your goal should be to look professional and conservative. We aren't interested in seeing knees, shoulders, cleavage, or anything else that would distract from the reverence of a formal concert.

## STRING ORCHESTRA

Black slacks, black shirt, black dress shoes, black socks.

- OR** Black slacks or ankle length black skirt/dress, black shirt or blouse, black socks/hose, black shoes. Do NOT wear above-the-knee skirts, sleeveless blouses or jeans!! Your goal should be to look professional and conservative. We aren't interested in seeing knees, shoulders, cleavage, or anything else that would distract from the reverence of a formal concert.

## SYMPHONY BAND/CONCERT BAND

Black dress slacks, white dress shirt, long tie, black dress shoes, and black socks.

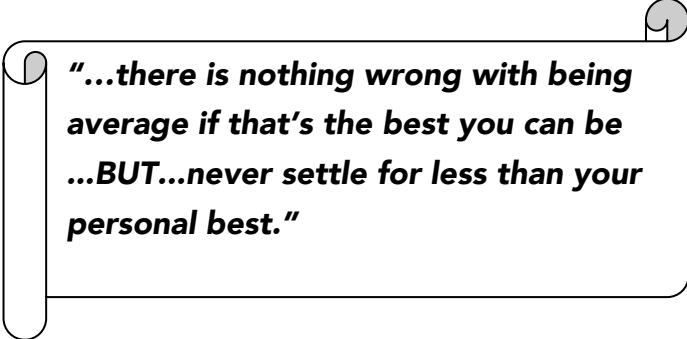
- OR** Black slacks or ankle length black skirt, white long-sleeved blouse, and black dress shoes. Do NOT wear above-the-knee skirts or sleeveless or spaghetti strap dresses/blouses! Your goal should be to look professional and conservative. We aren't interested in seeing knees, shoulders, cleavage, or anything else that would distract from the reverence of a formal concert.

## OFFICE and FACILITIES

The music facility is your facility and will provide for an excellent music experience for all. To that end, I know you will treat the facility like your own and help ensure that those who follow you will also benefit from this part of the building.

The music offices are a workplace, not a student lounge, nor are the office facilities for student use. Students and parents are asked to respect the privacy of the teacher. The desk, its contents, computer and phone are private spaces.

*THE COPY MACHINE and PHONE ARE NOT FOR STUDENT USE*



**"...there is nothing wrong with being average if that's the best you can be ...BUT...never settle for less than your personal best."**

# FESTIVAL OPPORTUNITIES

## **RATING SYSTEMS**

The Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (M.S.B.O.A.) sponsors all district and state festivals. The festivals give young musicians the opportunity to perform for professional music adjudicators. These adjudicators listen and comment verbally and in writing on adjudication sheets, which are returned to the students through their director. Students then have the opportunity to review their areas of strengths and weakness in performances. The performances are rated from a “I” or First Division through a “V” of Fifth Division. A division “I” rating represents a superior level of performance and musicianship for the event being judged. A division “V” rating represents an unsatisfactory performance. Medals are awarded for 1st and 2nd division ratings.

## **FESTIVALS and COMPETITIONS**

### **M.S.B.O.A. District Solo and Ensemble Festival**

**OPTIONAL**

All instrumentalists are encouraged to participate in Solo and Ensemble Festival as either as soloist or a member of an ensemble. By committing yourself to participate in this festival, you are accepting the challenge that you are a valuable performer who is willing to accept professional criticism and critique in order to further your musical growth. It is through this willingness to excel and challenge yourself that we will continue to grow as a musical organization. A student can enter as a member of up to two ensembles. An ensemble may have up to eight members. Students may perform up to two solos only if they perform on two different instruments. Students receiving a “I” at District Solo and Ensemble Festival are eligible for State Festival.

### **M.S.B.O.A. State Solo and Ensemble Festival**

**OPTIONAL**

Solos and ensembles who receive a “1” at district festival become eligible for State level. Here, soloists will be required to perform a solo, which counts as 50% of your final grade. You will also be expected to perform scales and sight-reading; each of which will contribute to 25% of your score. Piano, harp and percussion proficiencies also require a specific etude and have a slightly different scoring system. Ninth grade soloists and ensembles will only be required to perform their prepared piece; therefore, no scales or sight-reading are required for these events.

### **M.S.B.O.A. DISTRICT 12 BAND and ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL**

**MANDATORY**

Wind Ensemble, Symphony Band, and String Orchestra participate in MSBOA Band and Orchestra Festival. All students enrolled in these ensembles are required to participate in this festival on the designated Thursday, Friday, or Saturday in March. The performance requirements for Wind Ensemble and Symphony Band include a march, two concert pieces, and sight-reading. String Orchestras is required to perform three string selections and sight-read. This festival is usually a six-hour commitment, which includes transportation time, warm-up times, listening to other ensembles plus our own performance.

### **M.S.B.O.A. STATE BAND and ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL**

**MANDATORY**

Upon receiving a 1st division rating at District Festival, an ensemble is eligible for State level competition in late April or early May and may participate if the director chooses. The requirements for State are the same as District, but the competition is only open to groups who received a "1" at District. Wind Ensemble and/or String Orchestra usually enter State level competition unless there are severe conflicts that effect the instrumentation of the ensemble. This festival can take up to ten hours because of longer travel time distances.

### **M.S.B.O.A. STATE HONOR ENSEMBLES YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL**

**OPTIONAL**

If a student receives a 1st division at State competition and a recommendation from their adjudicator, the student may be nominated to participate in one of the State Honor ensembles. These ensembles involve intense rehearsals on a college campus and a concert presented in May during Michigan Youth Arts Festival.

### **M.S.B.O.A. STATE SOLO FINALISTS/YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL**

Each year, at State Solo and Ensemble Festival, approximately 100 students are identified as top soloists in the State. They will be invited to compete in late April for the honor of one of five positions in the State. The top five soloists will perform their solos with accompaniment at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival in May. One string, wind, brass, piano and vocalist will receive this State honor.

# AWARDS

## **CHENILLE BAND AND ORCHESTRA LETTER**

### **Band Letter in Marching Band**

To qualify for a band letter in Marching Band, the student must participate in the ensemble for two years and fulfill daily rehearsal expectations. In addition, attendance is expected at all scheduled performances. Each student must display a positive attitude toward the ensemble. Rehearsal preparation and superior citizenship will be given equal weight.

### **Co-Curricular Music Letter in Band or Orchestra (New 2010-11)**

Requirements: Music Letter Application can be found online at: <https://www.shsmusic.org/forms--documents1.html>

- Four Semesters enrolled in String Orchestra or Band
- For Band Members: Two semesters must be in Wind Ensemble
- No absences from a band or orchestra performance (including MSBOA Festival)
- Participation in at least one MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival
- 25 points of music participation outside of the school day chosen from the list below.

### Approved Music Participation Activities:

Activities to be *approved* and *verified* by the director prior to completion

#### *10 Points each*

- Participation in additional MSBOA District Solo and Ensemble Festival(s)
- Participation in MSBOA State Solo and Ensemble Festival
- Participation in MSBOA All-State Bands or Orchestra
- Participation in MYAF Band or Orchestra
- Participation in MYAF solo and/or chamber ensemble hour
- Jazz Band
- Pit Orchestra
- Director approved instrumental chamber ensembles

#### *5 Points each (per semester)*

- Symphony Orchestra (winds and percussion)
- Private lessons (minimum 10 lessons/semester; must have verification of dates and signature of private instructor-form available on music website)
- Participation in a community music group such MYB or Civic
- Performances for community and district events (board meetings, senior centers, etc.)

### Service to the Organization:

Service activities to be *approved* by the director with points awarded at the discretion of the director.

## **SOUSA AWARD**

A national award presented to a senior band student by the director of bands. This award is presented to an outstanding senior band member who demonstrates outstanding musicianship, merit, leadership, dependability, loyalty, cooperation, and positive qualities that contribute to the improvement and promotion of the band program. The student receives a lapel pin, certificate, and an engraved marble desk piece with medallion. The student's name is also placed on a plaque permanently displayed in the music room.

## **NATIONAL SCHOOL ORCHESTRA AWARD**

A national award presented to a string student by the director of orchestra. This award is presented to an outstanding orchestra member who demonstrates superior musicianship, merit, leadership, dependability, loyalty, cooperation, and positive qualities that contribute to the improvement and promotion of the orchestra. The student receives a lapel pin, certificate, and an engraved marble desk piece with medallion. The student's name is also placed on a plaque permanently displayed in the music room.

## **LOUIS ARMSTRONG AWARD**

A national award presented to a senior jazz band student by the Jazz Band director. This is presented in recognition of personal contributions, which ensure the continuing success of the Jazz Band through their active promotion, input and participation. The student receives a lapel pin, certificate, and an engraved marble desk piece with medallion. The student's name is also placed on a plaque permanently displayed in the music room.

## **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC AWARD NIGHT**

In May the Instrumental Music Department holds an award celebration. The evening includes an award presentation for music students and their families. In addition to the awards listed above, students will receive certificates, participation pins, and State Solo and Ensemble patches. Individuals who qualify for the State Solo and Ensemble patch will have the opportunity to order their patch in April. Patches will cost \$10.

### **LIVONIA STEVENSON MUSIC BOOSTERS (LSMB)**

All our band and orchestra parents are considered a part of the Music Boosters and are encouraged to attend general membership meetings. Meetings are held a minimum of two times a year in the evening. Meetings are presided over by the executive board. The Boosters provide support for our program by helping with activities that their sons and daughters are a part of, such as distributing programs at concerts, hospitality at concerts and festivals, being chaperones when we go to festivals and on trips and workshops, and various other activities. You are never required to do these things, but if a board member calls you, please realize that we can't provide all these opportunities for all the students without your individual help!

### **FUND RAISING and VARIOUS PROJECTS**

Each year, LSMB has several fundraisers to allow parents and students the opportunity to help the program raise funds to be used for competitions, transportation, clinicians, band/orchestra camps, instrument repairs/replacement and supplies. While individuals are not required to take part in fundraisers, please remember these events are planned to raise funds for ALL the students in the program. Since LSMB is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, financial donations can also be accepted.





**PREARRANGED**  
**Absence Notice for Instrumental Music**

Participation is the key to success in a performing group. Occasionally, there is an unavoidable absence that is known in advance such as a family wedding, confirmation or other religious ceremony, family trip planned in advance of the school calendar. The director and group can plan ahead by receiving this notice as far in advance as possible.

When absent, excused or unexcused, this form should be presented to the director. Emergencies will be handled on an individual basis. See our Performance Calendar and grading policy for further information. Participation and cooperation are very important factors in student evaluation.

Date of Absence \_\_\_\_\_

Date Notice Given \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Absence:

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Special assignments, individual performance of materials, etc. may be required to make up for missed rehearsals or sectional. Failure to participate in a performance may result in the lowering of the marking period grade a maximum of two letter grades (A to C, B to D, etc.).**

*Download the PREARRANGED ABSENCE form online at: <https://www.shsmusic.org/forms--documents1.html>*