

League City Intermediate Beginning Orchestra

Class Website: www.lcisorchestra.com

Also visit our Itslearning Page

Teacher: Sara Styskel

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Conference Period: 1st Per (8:50am-9:40am)

Teacher: Alice McCoy

Email: amccoy@ccisd.net

Conference Period: 1st Per (8:50am-9:40am)

School Phone: 281-284-3400

Orchestra Office Phone: 281-284-3494

The League City Beginning Orchestras (6th Grade) is open to students who are at the beginning level. The objective of this class is to develop basic fundamental skills in characteristic tone production, performance techniques, musical literacy and music appreciation and introduce the student to the orchestra program. Students are required to participate in activities, rehearsals and performances that extend beyond the regular school day.

Important Dates:

Winter Concert Tuesday December 8, 2020 at LCIS

PreUIL Concert Saturday March 6, 2021 at CFHS

Spring Concert Monday May 3, 2021 at LCIS

Orchestra Goals:

1. To participate in the actual performance of music and learn the skills of playing an instrument, which will result in the feeling of doing something well.
2. To attain a mastery of the instrument and feel the satisfaction of achieving something worthwhile through concentrated effort.
3. To awaken a sense of creativeness and provide an avenue for self-expression.
4. To develop performance skills necessary for independence as a string player.
5. To elevate students to achieve and surpass the National Music Standards and State Benchmarks set forth by the Music Educators National Conference and the State of Texas.
6. To identify and authentically perform the musical styles which developed throughout history.
7. To develop attitudes enabling one to continue participating in musical experiences throughout one's life.

Homework:

Every student enrolled in the League City Intermediate Orchestra program is expected to practice all lessons, skills, techniques, concepts and concert music taught in class. The minimum acceptable time every student should devote to at-home practice is fifteen to thirty minutes per day or about total of 2-5 hours per week. Of course more practice is always welcome! The skills every musician needs in order to be successful can only be presented in the classroom or in a private lesson. The individual then properly develops those skills by regular at-home practice. The musical success any performing ensemble achieves is directly related to the quality practice time the individual member brings to that ensemble. Home Practice Assignments & Recording checks will be discussed in detail on an additional handout.

Required Text:

Essential Elements 2000 (for your student's instrument) Book 1

Grade Calculations:

A student's nine weeks grade will be determined by a combination of points that they have earned during the grading period. Points will be given in the following four areas. Please note that each area is weighted differently.

More details on specifics can be found in our Orchestra Handbook

Major Grades – 45% Includes:

Playing Tests

Attendance at events beyond class time (such as required rehearsal)

Concerts & Performances * Concerts may be performed virtually this school year due to COVID-19

Written Tests

Long-Term Projects

Daily Grades: 50% Includes:

Supply Checks:

Home Practice Assignments

Written Assignments

Class Participation

Reading - 5% Includes:

-Literacy based assignments; vocabulary and other reading assignments.

General Scope of Course:

1st Nine Weeks:

- Instrument Care and Safety
- Parts of the Instrument
- Note names
- Musical Notation
- Basic pizzicato (or plucking)
- Instrument Position

2nd Nine Weeks:

- Note names
- Musical Notation
- Basic Rhythmic patterns
- Instrument Position
- Literature including arco (or bowing) exercises

3rd Nine Weeks:

- Concert and contest etiquette
- Fiddle Music & Solo performances
- Alternative Styles

4th Nine Weeks:

- Rock & Pop History
- Improvisation
- Pop Songs
- More complex rhythms