

# League City Intermediate Chamber Orchestra

Class Website: [www.lcisorchestra.com](http://www.lcisorchestra.com)

Also visit our Itslearning Page

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Conference Period: 1<sup>st</sup> Per (8:50am-9:40am)

**Teacher: Alice McCoy**

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Conference Period: 1<sup>st</sup> Per (8:50am-9:40am)

School Phone: 281-284-3400

Orchestra Office Phone: 281-284-3494

The League City Chamber Orchestra is a small elite group of advanced musicians who are looking for a challenge beyond the material required in Symphony Orchestra. Students enrolled in this course are required to take private lessons and participate in Region Orchestra auditions. The content of this course includes more advanced performance techniques and more in depth study of technical and musical skills through the study of a wide scope of string orchestra repertoire. Individual practice outside of class time is expected for successful mastery of performance standards in this course. Students will also be required at many outside of class rehearsals, community events, competitions and festivals at this level. Prerequisite: Audition only; previous orchestra experience or teacher recommendation.

## **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.

## **Recommended Text:**

Habits of a Successful Middle Level String Musician (for your instrument) by Christopher Selby

**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:

- Tuning Procedure
- Etudes and Exercises
- Aural Skills
- Sight Reading
- Flat Key Signatures
- Shifting Introduction

2nd Nine Weeks:

- 16th note rhythmic exercises
- 2nd/3rd position work
- Low 1st fingers review
- Continue tuning

3rd Nine Weeks:

- Concert and contest etiquette review
- Guest clinicians
- Musical history specifically related to literature performed
- UIL Festival

4th Nine Weeks:

- Circle of Fifths; Scales
- Pop/Rock Music and Techniques