



Congratulations! You have been accepted into the Brookwood High School Orchestra program for the 2019-2020 concert season. As a Brookwood orchestra member, you will have the opportunities to develop your musical skills, create long-lasting relationships with other musicians, earn your fine arts credit that is required for graduation, boost your college applications with your orchestra commitment, and, above all, have fun playing music!

As an incoming freshman, you will be enrolled in the Maroon and Gold Orchestra. If you wish to be considered for placement in an intermediate or advanced level orchestra, you must audition for the high school directors. Please understand that you will not be auditioning for a specific orchestra, however, your placement is determined based upon the instrumentation needs and abilities of each ensemble, as well as your performance in the actual audition. Placement in an upper-level orchestra is not guaranteed, as you will be competing against high school students also wishing to move up. It is the directors' goal that all students are placed in the orchestra that best suits their strengths while providing appropriate challenges for growing musicians. Descriptions of each orchestra are listed below. Audition materials are attached to this letter and should **be prepared by Monday, January 21, 2019**. Auditions will take place sometime that week. As we get closer to this date, your orchestra teachers will send home specific details about the audition days and times.

Orchestras at Brookwood High School are co-curricular classes with required after-school rehearsals and concerts which are graded. Our orchestra program is supported through annual fees collected by the Brookwood Orchestra Parent Association. If you have any questions or concerns about the Brookwood High School Orchestra program, or want to explore more information, please visit www.BrookwoodOrchestra.com or contact one of the directors:

Dr. Cathie Hudnall

Cathie_Hudnall@gwinnett.k12.ga.us

Mr. Philip Reesman

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Mrs. Megan Kendall

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Orchestra Class Offerings:

Maroon and Gold Orchestras

The Maroon-and-Gold Orchestra is designed to help freshmen with the transition from middle school to high school orchestra. We work on developing skills needed for further advancement. Regular practice is expected.

Concert Strings (Intermediate I)

Students in Concert Strings are continuing to learn effective use of proper technique and skills. Musical development is an ongoing process as we reinforce musical concepts. Regular practice is expected.

Symphonic Strings (Intermediate II)

Symphonic Strings is designed to prepare students for advanced musicianship as these ambitious students strive to improve their technique and reinforce musical concepts. Regular practice is expected.

Philharmonic Orchestra (Advanced)

Students work to achieve more advanced techniques and skills as facilitated through higher-level repertoire. This "Varsity-level" orchestra requires regular practice and private lessons are strongly encouraged.

Chamber Orchestra (Mastery)

Membership in the Brookwood Philharmonic Orchestra is by teacher recommendation, application, and audition only. Selected students are serious about their music education and are eager for advanced music to improve their overall skills as a musician. Regular practice is required and private lessons are strongly encouraged.