

Brookwood High School Chamber Orchestra - Letter of Intent

Course Description:

The Brookwood High School Chamber Orchestra is our school's premier string ensemble. Membership in this ensemble is by application and audition only. Students in this ensemble perform challenging music at a high quality, as proven through their dedication to outstanding practice habits and skills. Selected students are serious about their music education and are looking for advanced music and to improve their overall skills as a musician. Students in this class may or may not be aspiring to pursue music as a career, however, orchestra is a top priority while in high school. These students practice frequently and often participate in honor-level orchestras at the county, state, and national level (strongly encouraged, but not required). A mastery of musical concepts as well as advanced technique is necessary for this ensemble to perform GMEA level 6 repertoire. Students selected for membership in this group will be responsible for all dates on the calendar, and understand that there is a more intensive commitment to this orchestra as there are extra required performances and rehearsals. It is a goal of the directors to provide students in this ensemble with as many performance opportunities as possible, including but not limited to community performances, inter-departmental collaboration initiatives, recruitment activities, and, potentially, nationally recognized honors performances (e.g., GMEA or ASTA conference performance). Private lessons are strongly recommended for all students.

Expectations for all students:

1. Commitment to all rehearsals and concerts. Attendance and participation in rehearsals are prerequisites for participation in performances. There are no make-up rehearsals or performances.
2. Respect for instruments, peers, directors, rehearsal time, and the process of music-making.
3. Daily rehearsal effort, focus, and skills.
4. Sincere dedication to musical details and daily implementation.
5. Consistent at-home practice for rehearsal preparation and reinforcement of rehearsal instruction.

I, _____, intend to audition for the Brookwood High School Chamber Orchestra. Should I be accepted into this ensemble, I understand that there are additional orchestral commitments consisting of, but not limited to, more concerts, after-school rehearsals, potential invitational performances, and 8th grade recruitment responsibilities. I have reviewed and understand the proposed calendar for the concert season (upon availability). With a full concert calendar, I understand that I will be expected to uphold a consistent practice schedule.

I understand the expectations set forth by the orchestra directors and pledge to contribute positively to the ensemble. I understand the level of music performed by this ensemble requires a consistent practice regimen and a positive, focused attitude during daily rehearsal.

Student Printed Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Chamber Orchestra Application

Name: _____ Instrument: _____ Grade for SY19-20: _____

Previous school orchestras:

- Middle school:
- 9th grade:
- 10th grade:
- 11th grade:

Honor orchestras in high school - list auditions taken and acceptances:

Did you audition for All-State this year? YES NO

How often do you practice?

What are your musical goals?

How can Brookwood Orchestra better serve you?

Why do you think you deserve a spot in chamber orchestra?

What [musical] strengths do you have to contribute?

What is your favorite orchestra memory?