



A Closer Look at Our Orchestra Program

Symphonic Orchestra

A large, string orchestra comprised of students who play violin, viola, cello, or bass. All incoming freshmen begin in this group unless they choose to audition for Chamber Orchestra. This group performs a wide array of string orchestra literature, ranging from Baroque to contemporary. Symphonic Orchestra combines with members of the band and choir for their winter masterwork performance, and completes a Chamber Unit each year. Symphonic Orchestra attends the fall retreat, competes at regional festivals, performs at school concerts, and takes out-of-state trips. Seating and section leader auditions take place at the beginning of each school year.

Chamber Orchestra

An audition only chamber orchestra comprised of students who play violin, viola, cello, or bass. This is a highly selective and motivated group of string players. Chamber Orchestra performs a rigorous array of string orchestra literature ranging from Baroque to contemporary. Chamber Orchestra combines with members of the band and choir for their winter masterwork performance. Over the course of the year students will form small ensembles (trios, quartets, etc.) for various gig and performance opportunities. Chamber Orchestra attends the fall retreat, competes at regional festivals, performs at school concerts, and takes out-of-state trips. Seating and section leader auditions take place at the beginning of each school year.

Extracurricular—Fiddle Ensemble

This ensemble is comprised of students who play violin, viola, cello, bass, guitar and mandolin etc. Fiddle ensemble works to refine their improvisational skills, learn music in an aural tradition, and performs authentic American roots music by arranging traditional tunes of the American Roots repertoire. The Fiddle Ensemble performs at school concerts and special events, and is available for private performances throughout the year.

Uniforms

Formal concert attire

Owned and maintained by the Ballard Performing Arts Department.

- **Men:** Tux jacket and pants, bow tie, and cummerbund. *All men will be measured by a professional. Date to be announced after school in the band room in early September. This is mandatory for all men.* Concert attire is loaned out to students for the school year. *Students must provide black socks, black dress shoes (no tennis shoes), tux shirt, cuff-links, and studs.* Tux shirts, cuff-links and studs can be purchased at Tux shirts are available to purchase from Ted Brown Music, 1006 NE 50th St, 206-622-0171. The tux shirts cost \$19.99 plus tax.
- **Women:** Black top, and skirt. *All women will try on their concert clothes on September 1st or 2nd at BHS.* Attire is loaned out to students for the school year. *Students must provide black, closed toe dress shoes and black hose.*

T-shirt

All orchestra students will have the same t-shirt, which comes included with the annual fee. This shirt is worn on trips and at informal events where formal attire is not required.



Ballard High School Performing Arts

P.O. Box 17774, Seattle, WA 98127 – www.ballardperformingarts.org

Fees

Music Department annual fee

\$130 yearly fee paid by all choir students. Fee must be paid by September 16th, 2016. Each year we ask that all students pay a Music Department annual fee to help cover the cost of our operating expenses—sheet music, festival fees, transportation, uniforms, t-shirts, instrument repair, and uniform cleaning and maintenance. As many of you know, the Seattle Public School District funds only the teachers' salaries. Running a professional quality music program requires significant support from our community. We are grateful to our Ballard Performing Arts community, and deeply appreciate your support. Orchestra students may participate in band and/or choir groups without paying another fee. Jazz Bands and percussion class include separate fees.

Orchestra camp

\$160 fee paid by all orchestra students. To make this trip possible, the form and fees must be submitted by July 1st 2016. Orchestra camp is September 23-25 at Camp Burton on Vashon Island and includes all members of Chamber and Symphonic Orchestra. Camp provides orchestra students with intensive and focused solo, sectional, and ensemble study. Students will get to know each other, set goals, learn new music, sight read, and work in solo and group performances. They will also improve listening skills with the help of individualized instrument coaching. Fee covers cost of camp, food and lodging, transportation and coaches.

How to make payments

You now have the opportunity to make payments over the summer for orchestra activities. Make checks payable to Ballard Performing Arts and send to BHS Performing Arts Booster Club, P.O. Box 17774, Seattle, WA 98127. Payments can also be made online by credit card at www.ballardperformingarts.org then go to Boosters Tab, then Forms and Payments. The online cost will include the credit card processing fees.

The Music faculty, together with the Ballard High School Performing Arts Booster Club (BPABC), is committed to providing a high quality experience for all students who wish to participate in Performing Arts activities regardless of financial circumstances. If you are in need of scholarship assistance, please download the form from www.ballardperformingarts.org and return it to your students' teacher or to the P.O. Box listed above.

Estimated 2016-2017 trip fees

- *Chamber and Symphonic Orchestras:* Chamber Music Festival at Icicle Creek near Leavenworth, WA March 31st - April 2nd 2017 – *estimated \$400*

Orchestra Events

Women's Uniform Fitting: September 1st/2nd
Men's Uniform Fitting: Sept 13, 3-5:30
Ballard Performing Arts Booster Meeting: Sept 13th
7:30 BHS Library
Orchestra Camp: September 23rd-25th
Chamber Orchestra PLU Invitational: October 14th

Contacts

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