

North Star Orchestra Handbook



Rob Salistean, Director

2015-2016

lnsfinearts.com

Welcome to the North Star Orchestra Program

This handbook has been prepared from students and parents in the North Star Orchestra program so that you will know the procedures and expectations for the 2015-2016 school year. Please read this information carefully and keep it for future references.

The Performing Arts Calendar lists performance dates and important rehearsals where attendance is expected. You may see this calendar at any point on the web site. If dates are changed or added, I will do my best to inform you as soon as possible. Please inform your parents and your employer now so that they might plan accordingly. It is important for every member to be present at concerts for the entire concert.

String Classes

All instrumental groups at North Star stress the development of technical performance ability, sight-reading skills, and attainment of expressive qualities through rehearsals. Each group performs a wide variety of literature from the classics to popular selections. The main concert groups will rehearse during the school day and have concerts to demonstrate learning in the school auditorium. Select and extra curricular groups may perform in the community, at festivals and contests, and at sporting events. The course offerings in the program will be based on numbers.

Orchestra

The North Star Orchestra is open to string players in 9-12 grades. This ensemble will enhance the musicianship of the individual and foster cooperative learning with concert music. This ensemble meets all year long and will perform 4 in concerts as well as participate in a music contest. Most of the music will be for strings only, but there will be some full orchestra experiences.

Jazz Band

The Jazz Band will focus on big band style music and improvisational skills. It is highly recommended during the first year that members of Jazz Band be a member of a concert group at North Star. (Priority will be given to those that participate in the concert ensembles) This ensemble will participate in various jazz festivals and perform 3-4 concerts per year. This ensemble meets all year during the school day.

Additional Performance Opportunities

Small Ensembles

Various other small ensembles are formed during the year. These might include brass, woodwind, string, and percussion small ensembles that are formulated for special performances or events. Small ensembles provide an excellent way for students to develop their musicianship in smaller rehearsals and cooperative situations. Small ensembles that meet throughout the year are eligible to receive lettering points.

All-State Orchestra

The Nebraska Music Educators' Association All-State Honor Band, Orchestra, and Jazz Band auditions are held the second Saturday of October. This is one of the highest honors a high school musician can attain. All 10-12 grade students are highly encouraged to participate in this audition, and students are expected to be fully prepared to represent North Star. Director assistance will be given.

College Honor Orchestras

Auditions for several College Honor groups, including Wesleyan, and Doane College are held throughout the year. Eligibility varies by grade, depending on the ensemble. These ensembles are wonderful opportunities to work with great conductors, meet new people, and make great music. Students are encouraged to find other regional honor bands to be apart of.

Pit Orchestra

A small group of students is selected to be members of the pit orchestra for the spring musical. The selection is made on the recommendation of the band director. Auditions may be necessary.

Electroponic (E16)

Electroponic is a show combining Rock N Roll, Jazz, Stomp, Percussion, Indoor Marching, and Color Guard for a stage presentation. The group may involve some of the scheduled classes and it may also contain an audition group of students. The show will be performed in the spring close to the end of school. Strings have been involved in the show for many consecutive years.

Auditions for E16:

Electroponic dress rehearsals:

Electroponic performances:

In class, Winter 2016

Tuesday/Wednesday, April 26-27 6-9pm

Thursday/Friday, April 28-29 7pm

Grading Procedures and Expectations

The goal of the Orchestra program is to develop comprehensive musicianship among the individuals in the ensembles. I wish to train musicians that will be able to perform without assistance when they leave the program. Grading in the orchestra program will evaluate the amount of learning and progress that occurs during the grading period. Students will be evaluated on the following criteria:

80% of your grade is now from **summative** assessments from the following
20% of your grade is now from **formative** assessments from the following

1. Performance Skills

- Students will demonstrate music performance skills through in-class playing with the ensemble and group of individual playing tests.
- Assessment will be done by the teacher and the student with music performance rubrics.

2. Musical Knowledge

- Students will demonstrate their understanding of musical terms, concepts, and theory through written tests.

3. Performances

- Student growth is demonstrated as a whole with performances. They are equivalent to final tests in other classes. Therefore, every student is required to be at all performances. Unexcused absences will lower the grade significantly. Conflicts must be discussed with the director in advance. **Work is never an excuse!** If there is a school conflict please notify me of that in advance.

Tuesday, October 6	7pm	LNS Auditorium
Thursday, December 17	7pm	LNS Auditorium
Saturday, January 23	AM	LINKS Orchestra Contest
Saturday, February 20	AM	LPS Solo/Ensemble @ LNS
Tuesday, March 29	7pm	LNS Auditorium
Monday, April 18	TBA	NSAA Contest @ EAST
Thursday, May 12	7pm	LNS Auditorium

4. Rehearsal Attitude, Effort, and Attendance

- Be a team player that listens, works hard, challenges oneself, and leads in a positive way.
- Be prepared with all your equipment, music, pencils, and any other instructional materials needed.
- Being prepared also means practicing your music outside of class.
- Be on time. Rehearsals begin promptly which means being ready to play when the rehearsal begins, not just arriving to the classroom.
- Leave cell phones and electronic music devices out of the classroom.
- If you are not in the rehearsal, you are not learning or helping the group. **You make up every missed rehearsal through practicing.**

Expectations in the Program

1. Show up on time and prepared.
2. Respect people and equipment.
3. Give 100% effort 100% of the time.

Housekeeping Procedures

- Set the room up the way it needs to be for the specific class.
- Get your instrument and music out and warm up until the director begins.
- Please put your music in order based on the instructions on the board.
- No food, gum, or drinks other than water in the classrooms.
- No talking during rehearsal- everyone needs to hear all instruction.
- Always bring a pencil for marking music.
- **Come prepared musically. Rehearsal is not a place to learn parts.**
- Hands off equipment that is not checked out to you or owned by you.
- Instruments are to be stored in lockers or storage areas- not left out on the floor.
- Music is to be kept in music slots not in lockers or cases.
- Take care of your instruments whether school owned or not. Instruments in the shop can't be practiced. Make sure your instrument works properly.
- If you forget your instrument or if it is in the shop, you will take detailed notes of the rehearsal to use when practicing. These notes will be turned in the next day after you practice.
- Do not bring work from other classes. You don't practice your instrument in other classes, so don't bring their work into our class.
- Put stuff back where you found it.
- Pianos and timpani are instruments. Please don't use them as shelves.
- You are responsible for the music checked out to you, and it is to be treated with care. You will pay to replace damaged or lost music.

Concert black performance attire requirements (Updated Fall 2015)

LADIES: ALL black, PURE black, DRESS black, LONG black.

Specifically....

ALL black: Black dress or black top & black skirt or pants, black closed-toe, low-heel shoes

PURE black: No sequins, no pinstripes, no polka-dots, no lace, no shiny accessories; only solid, pure black.

DRESS black: Formal, dressy material. No cotton or denim. Yes to nylon, polyester, silk, rayon, or similar.

LONG black: Elbows & knees covered when sitting.

Tops should cover the elbows, so long sleeve or $\frac{3}{4}$ length sleeve are good. Please no short-sleeve, sleeveless, tanktop, or spaghetti strap. Modest neckline; no undergarments showing. Less skin visible is more formal. Please remember, this is a concert, not a fashion show.

Skirts/dresses should cover the knees *when sitting*. No knees showing during the music. Less skin showing is more formal.

JEWELRY: Small, modest or none. Please do not wear any jewelry that will reflect stage lights or draw attention to self. Thank you.

GENTLEMEN: ALL-Black long-sleeve, button down shirt with collar. Black slacks, black belt, black shoes, black socks.

Specifically...

BLACK PANTS: **Black**, not navy, not charcoal. **BLACK**. No pinstripes.

BLACK DRESS SHIRT: **PURE-Black**, long sleeve, button-down with collar. No stripes.

BLACK DRESS SHOES with BLACK SOCKS. Dress shoes, please. Not black gym shoes or tennis shoes. Black socks that can be pulled high (not ankle socks).

BLACK BELT: Plain, all-black, belt with simple buckle. No character or novelty buckles

TIES are no longer permissible on stage unless they are pure black and blend in with the outfit.

****Please note that if you do not have the proper concert attire, you may be asked to sit out of the performance. Be prepared so we can look great and perform great!****

**If you have questions, please contact Mr. Salistean immediately
(not the day before concert ☺ !!!!)**

Orchestra Lettering Application 2015-16

An Orchestra Letter represents participation beyond the regular classroom activities. To be eligible for an Orchestra letter, **you must participate in orchestra for the entire school year**, maintain an 'A', and collect 300 points based on the activities listed below. Please fill out which points you feel you are eligible for and Mr. Salistean will verify them.

Orchestra	125 pts.	_____pts.
Jazz Band	125 pts.	_____pts.
Pit Orchestra	75 pts.	_____pts.
Electroponic (auditioned string members ONLY)	50 pts.	_____pts.
Lincoln Youth Symphony Member	125 pts.	_____pts.
Junior Youth Orchestra Member	125 pts.	_____pts.
Honor Orchestra Participation	75 pts.	_____pts.
Honor Orchestra Audition	25 pts.	_____pts.
Performance at LPS Solo/Ensemble Contest	75 (solo)	_____pts.
<i>*You may receive points for performing in 1 solo and up to 2 ensembles</i>	50 (ensemble)	_____pts.
Perform solo at public event (must have program)	50 pts.	_____pts.
Taking Private Lessons all year (must be verified)	75 pts.	_____pts.
Concert Attendance (college or above- must have program)	25 pts.	_____pts.
<i>You must write a 1 page review shortly after event. Reviews written after 2 weeks of the event will not be accepted. Acceptable events do not include anything where the instrumental group is background to the overall performance such as a theatrical production.</i>		
Tri-M Membership	25 pts.	_____pts.
Service (ie. parking,)	10 pts/service	_____pts.
TOTAL		_____pts.

Semester 1 Grade _____%

Have you lettered before? If so, what year: _____

Instrumental letters points must be submitted to the instrumental office by April 22, 2016. It is your responsibility to submit points to receive a letter.

*****Directors will no longer accept early submissions towards lettering. Everything must be submitted at once within the above date range*****

Private Instruction

Individualized, one-on-one instruction with a qualified tutor will put any student on the fast track to incredible success. Provided is a list of qualified music instructors and their phone numbers.

Violin/Viola

Morris or Aleta Collier	421-1535		
Donna Carnes	489-6193		
Nissa Evenson	440-1473	info@stringstudio.com	www.stringstudio.com
Vicki Harris	474-3546	jharris1@neb.rr.com	
David Neely (UNL)	472-2987	dneely@unl.edu	
Sam Packard	730-4472		
Heather Pedersen	484-7284		
Clark Potter (UNL)	420-5333	cpotter1@unl.edu	
Kim Salistean	421-2481	ksalistean@aol.com	
Lisa Watkins	421-9161		

Cello

Karen Becker (UNL)	472-4253	kbecker2@unl.edu	
Amy Salistean	525-7907	equineakw@hotmail.com	
Traci Sands	423-9246		

Bass

Mike Swartz	423-5343		
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North Star Pride

Perseverance- You can never give up.

Respect- For yourself and others.

Intensity- Stay focused and keep your goals in mind.

Desire- Reach beyond your limits.

Excellence- Not perfection. Do your best every day.

1. You are what you think you are. Think positively about yourself.
2. A winner works harder than a loser and makes time for activities.
3. A winner makes commitments; a loser makes promises.
4. A winner listens; a loser just waits until it's his turn to talk.
5. A winner feels responsible for more than his job; a loser says, "I only work here."
6. Decide exactly what you want. Become goal oriented.
7. All things are possible to him that believes.
8. You must have a clear picture of the correct thing.
9. Good planning requires concentration. Learn to concentrate.
10. Give your best effort at all times.
11. When you maintain an enthusiastic outlook, you will be successful.
12. Don't allow adversity to stand in your way. Find a way through it.
13. Never use the word can't. (**Can't really means won't!**) Overcome this habit by saying "I can!"
14. Enthusiasm for life and its many opportunities is a must.
15. Finally, no matter what you are trying to accomplish in life: **Know what you want in life and go after it!**

Wall of Fame

Students who participate in honor orchestras have the opportunity to be placed on the Fine Arts Wall of Fame. In order to have a plaque placed on the wall of fame students must accomplish the following within their four years of high school:

3 years of All-State Participation OR

2 years of All-State Participation and 1 additional honor orchestra

Instrumental Awards

The following Awards are given at the end of the year during the final concert. Students are given a certificate as well as added to the plaque in the orchestra room. Recipient is selected by director and is a cumulative process.

National School Orchestra Award: is the highest honor bestowed upon a member of a high school orchestra that recognizes excellence in playing and contributions to the ensemble.