



Orchestra Program Detailed Overview

Concert Orchestra

A string orchestra comprised of students who play the violin, viola, cello, or bass. All incoming freshmen begin in this group unless they choose to audition for Symphonic or Chamber Orchestra. This class is also open to beginners. This class will focus on nuts and bolts skills review will perform a variety of music for string orchestra and will perform at our Fall, Winter, and Spring Concerts. Concert Orchestra members will attend the fall retreat with Symphonic and Chamber Orchestra members.

Symphonic Orchestra

An auditioned string orchestra comprised of students who play the violin, viola, cello, or bass. This is an intermediate level group that will perform a wide array of string orchestra literature, ranging from Baroque to contemporary. Symphonic Orchestra combines with members of the band and choir for a winter masterwork performance, participates in chamber technique instruction, and performs at the Fall, Winter, and Spring Concerts. Symphonic Orchestra will attend the fall retreat with Concert and Chamber Orchestras and compete at regional festivals. Seating and section leader auditions will take place at the beginning of each school year. There may be regional or national a spring trip scheduled, depending on the year.

Chamber Orchestra

An auditioned chamber orchestra comprised of students who play the 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 a winter masterwork performance, participates in chamber technique instruction/ coaching from local experts, and performs at the Fall, Winter, and Spring Concerts. Chamber Orchestra will attend the fall retreat with Concert and Symphonic Orchestras and compete at regional festivals. Over the course of the year, students will form small ensembles (trios, quartets, etc.) for various gig performance opportunities. There may be a regional, national, or international spring trip scheduled, depending on the year. Seating and section leader auditions will take place at the beginning of each school year.

Extracurricular—Fiddle Ensemble

This ensemble is comprised of students who play the violin, viola, cello, bass, guitar, mandolin etc. Fiddle ensemble members work to refine their improvisational skills, learn music in an aural tradition, and perform authentic American roots music by arranging traditional tunes of the American Roots and Jazz repertoire. The Fiddle Ensemble performs at school concerts and special events and is available for private performances throughout the year. **During the 2021/2022 school year, the fiddle ensemble will meet weekly on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00pm in the main band/orchestra rehearsal room starting Tuesday, October 5th.** The new instructors this year are Amanda Fitch and Shelley Weiss.

Uniforms

New this year: The uniforms described below can be considered “components.” Some members of the orchestra may wish to build their uniform with various elements from the tuxedo combination or the skirt/top combination, or components of their own. Bottom line: formal/black, and full-length on the bottom, formal/black and full-coverage on top, black dress shoes, black socks.



Ballard High School Performing Arts

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

Men's Concert Uniforms

Owned and maintained by the Ballard Performing Arts and is loaned to students for the school year and kept at home.

Tux jacket and pants, bow tie, cummerbund, garment bag, and hanger

All men will be measured by a professional on a date TBA.

Students must provide:

Black socks, black dress shoes (no tennis shoes), tux shirt, cufflinks, and studs. Tux shirts, cufflinks, and studs are available to purchase from Ted Brown Music, 1006 NE 50th St, 206-622-0171. The tux shirts cost \$19.99.

Women's Concert Uniforms

Owned and maintained by the Ballard Performing Arts and is loaned to students for the school year and kept at home.

Black velvet top, black satin skirt and garment bag, and hanger

Fitting will be on a date TBA.

Students must provide Black, low heeled, 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.

Fees

Music Department Annual fee

\$155 yearly fee paid by all orchestra students, due September 25, 2021. 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, Fiddle Ensemble, and percussion class include separate fees.

Orchestra Camp

For 2021, Orchestra camp will be a day trip to Camp Burton on Saturday, September 18. Orchestra camp is typically held one of the weekends in September (Friday through Sunday) at an off site location. Camp includes all members of Chamber, Symphonic, and Concert 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.

Fiddle Ensemble

Fiddlers fee is \$200, to cover coaching costs.

How to make payments

Pay online - this is the preferred method. There are no extra fees and you will receive a receipt. You can also review if payment was made by checking over your credit card statements.

For payment link, go to <https://www.ballardperformingarts.org/orchestra-1>.



BALLARD MUSIC

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

Pay by check made out to BPA and dropped off in the band room mailbox or postal mail to:
BHS Performing Arts Booster Club, P.O. Box 17774, Seattle, WA 98127.

*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 complete the scholarship request form here.***

Estimated 2021-22 trip fees - TBA

Orchestra Events

Ballard Performing Arts Boosters Meeting:
September 14 at 7:00 pm

Orchestra Camp: Saturday, September 18

Fall Orchestra Concert (all groups): Tuesday, November 2, 7:30pm

Winter concert: December (date TBD)

Spring concert: Thursday, June 2, 2022

More orchestra events to be announced throughout the school year!

Contacts

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