



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS
KAPĀLAMA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Course Summary for Grade 8 Orchestra
Teacher: Mrs. Winnie Lam
School Year 2014-2015

Welcome To Grade 8 Orchestra

Email: wilam@ksbe.edu



Course Description:

Students will experience being part of a large performing arts groups. They will learn rehearsal and performance etiquette, as well as gain a sense of how individual work impacts the whole group. Through these experiences, they will hopefully gain a new appreciation for the arts.

Course Goals:

Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of playing a string instrument, including techniques and basic music theory. They will be able to play pieces by rote, as well as by reading simple music notation.

Course Materials:

1. All for Stings, Book I and II
2. Essential Elements Book I and II
3. String Orchestral Music (Grades 1-3)
4. Music Theory Booklet Level I and II

Student Responsibilities:

- ♪ To be on time be prepared for class daily.
- ♪ To be responsible for the care of instrument and follow borrowing procedures.
- ♪ To do homework by turning in practice record sheets weekly.
- ♪ To be on time and attend all rehearsals and performances.
- ♪ To follow all rules as stated in the student handbook.
- ♪ To show positive attitude when learning new things.

Grades:

Student's grades will be posted periodically through KSCConnect.

A+ = 97-100%	C+ = 77-79%
A = 93-96%	C = 73-76%
A- = 90-92%	C- = 70-72%
B+ = 87-89%	D+ = 67-69%
B = 83-86%	D = 63-66%
B- = 80-82%	D- = 60-62%
F = 59% and below	

Components of Grades:

25% Daily Participation (COP) and Rehearsals (May be held during school or after school)

- 🎵 Students will be given weekly COP (cooperation, organization, and participation) points, based on attitude, participation, and effort in class, and compliance to all class rules and student responsibilities.
- 🎵 Students will also need to attend all after school rehearsals and sectionals. These rehearsals are MANDATORY and allow students to receive more individual attention. Students will be notified of upcoming afterschool rehearsals & sectionals at least 2 weeks in advanced. **If a student cannot make it to a rehearsal a signed, written note from a parent needs to be turned in at least 1 day prior to the rehearsal date.**
- 🎵 **Rehearsal Make-Up**—if a student is excused from a rehearsal, he/she must come to see the teacher for a Rehearsal Make-up Form. This form must be completed and the student must come in to take their make-up **no later than 1 week after the missed rehearsal date. It is the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to make sure he/she makes-up the rehearsal by the designated date.**

25% Practice Sheets, Class Work & Homework

- 🎵 Students are expected to practice outside of class time and **will turn in practice sheets every Monday at the beginning of class time.**
- 🎵 Students may be given written worksheets during class or for homework to reinforce what is being taught in class. All worksheets will be graded and count towards a student's final grade.

25% Written & Playing Assessments

- 🎵 All assessments cover what has been learned over the course of the quarter and can be cumulative.
- 🎵 Playing assessments are given out throughout every quarter and it may be done during class or outside of class.
- 🎵 If a student does not take the assessment by the due date, he/she will be given the opportunity to take it **in front of the class** a day or two (depending on when their period for orchestra is) after the due date. (Example: Due date is on a Monday and you do not take the assessment. You will need to do the assessment in class on Tuesday or Wednesday depending on when you have orchestra class.)

- if you decide to take the assessment in class, you **DO NOT** get to do a re-take or try again. Whatever grade you receive is the grade you earn.

25% Performances

- ♪ **Performances are mandatory.** If a student cannot make a performance, a signed, WRITTEN note from a parent is required at least 2 weeks before the performance date. Student will need to take a **Performance Make-up Exam** that will count as their performance grade.
- ♪ **Students must be in the proper orchestra performance uniform for the performance!!!** If student is not in the proper uniform for performances, he/she will not be allowed to perform with the group and will receive no credit for the performance.
- ♪ **PERFORMANCE MAKE-UP EXAM**—students who are excused from a performance will need to perform all of the concert music in front of the teacher & a few students or the class. It is the student's responsibility to practice for and schedule a time to take their exam with the teacher. Whatever grades the student receives for the make-up exam becomes their performance grade. **Students have 1 week after the performance date to complete their performance make-up exam.**

Late Assignments:

Students are expected to turn in work on time. However, students may turn in late work, but **5% of points will be deducted each day it is late** from whatever score the student receives on the assignment.

*EXTRA CREDIT

Students may earn extra credit by going to live performance arts concerts, recitals, etc. AND writing a one-page critique about the concert. Students may also earn extra credit by being a part of outside string activities (ex: private lessons, Hawaii Youth Symphony). Additional extra credit is available upon request.

Policy on Make-up work and Absences:

The teacher is available for make-up work upon request.

Study Help Information:

The orchestra room will be open and available for use for individual practice upon request.

Classroom Expectation:

- ♪ Follow all school and class rules and procedures.
- ♪ Teacher's office is off limits!! Do not touch anything on the desks unless you have permission first.
- ♪ If you are tardy to class, please walk in quietly. Do not disrupt the class.
- ♪ All assignments must have your first and last name, date, and team name at the top of the paper.
- ♪ All homework must be turned in within the first five minutes of class, or it will be considered late.

Classroom Procedures:

- ♪ Students are expected to have all of the supplies necessary for class everyday.
- ♪ Coming in at the beginning of the period: (First 5 minutes of class)
 - You enter the main room quietly and read the board to find out what you need to set up for the day.
 - Get your things set-up first, and then help others around you if needed. Remember to have your music out on the stand and ready to play according to what is written on the board.
 - If you have homework or class work to turn in, turn it into the turn-in bin marked with your class name.
 - When you are finished setting up, you may practice on your own.
 - When the teacher steps on the podium you should stop playing and stand up. You should be ready and prepared to play by this time.
- ♪ During class time:
 - Students will respect the Tribes agreements.
 - If you need to leave your seat, your instrument should be placed on the seat (not on the floor) and the bow should go on the music stand.
- ♪ At the end of class:
 - Remember, the teacher dismisses the class, not the bell.
 - Listen for instructions.
 - Put your instrument into the case; make sure to loosen the bow.
 - Clean up around your area; help others in your section.
 - When your section is ready, the teacher will excuse you.

Orchestra Uniform:

Students will need to purchase their own orchestra uniforms to be worn at concerts. Please begin to look for the following items early. **Your child will need their uniform by the concert date. Please note that the clothing items may not have any other colors on them.**

Girls

- Solid white long-sleeved blouse
- Long black dress pants or skirt (**ankle length, NO JEANS**)
- Black sandals or shoes (Heel on sandals cannot be more than 2 inches high)

Boys

- Solid white long-sleeved dress shirt
- Black dress pants (**NO JEANS**)
- Black socks & black shoes (Can wear athletic shoes, but they need to be ALL BLACK)

Supply List:

Students are expected to **purchase the following supplies and have them ready for class by Friday, August 22, 2014**. Some supplies may be purchased from the orchestra teacher (see below).

Supplies you will need to purchase on your own:

- Pencils & Erasers
- 25 sheet protectors
- Cloth for cleaning instrument (Can be a piece from a clean t-shirt or a small, soft towel)

Supplies you can purchase through the orchestra program:

- Rosin (\$4 cash)

Mrs. Lam's Contact Information:

I prefer to be contacted by e-mail, but if you can't e-mail me, feel free to call and leave a message. I will try my best to get back to you within a day or two.

E-mail: wilam@ksbe.edu

Phone: 842-8629

Kamehameha Schools Kapālama Middle School Orchestra Student Information Sheet

Student's Name: _____
Last, First

Grade: _____ Section: _____

Instrument: _____

List/Describe any past musical experiences:

List/Describe what you would like to learn in class this year:

Parent/Student Orchestra Contract

Student's Name: _____ Section: _____

My child and I have read the Kamehameha Schools Kapālama Middle School Orchestra Syllabus and understand what is expected. We understand that there are supplies and a performance uniform that need to be purchased to participate in this class, have read the classroom procedures & expectations and understand how my child will be graded for this class. We also understand that after school rehearsals and performances are mandatory and part of a student's grade for this class.

Student's
Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's
Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please check that you are returning the following with this contract...

- Supply money (\$3 cash) for rosin
- Student Information Sheet
- Instrument Contract (only if your child will be using a school instrument)

Orchestra contract and all forms need to be turned in by

Friday, August 22, 2014