

August 28, 2017

MacArthur High School Orchestra Opening-of-School Bulletin
Orchestra Room E822, Phone 356-7672

TO: Parents and High School Orchestra Students

FROM: Dr. Jan Garverick, Director of Orchestras

Dr. Jan Garverick and Ms. Jordan Loveland

Course	Varsity	Jr. Varsity	Freshmen	Jr. Varsity	lunch	Fr.	Fr.	Conf.
Period	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Please read this opening-of-school Orchestra Bulletin and forms. By Tuesday, Sept. 5th, sign and return the all-year permission slip, front and back, the orchestra directory information sheet, the Fine Arts Code of Conduct agreement, acknowledge receipt of the MOPA envelope and sign the verification signature page. Both parent and student signatures are necessary. The permission slip is for in-town travel only. Out-of-town trips will have separate permission slips. The school instrument use forms for viola, cello, and bass students will be sent home for signatures of parent and student next week. The fee remains at \$30.00 per year. A district-wide fee for uniforms is required from each orchestra member. The fee is \$10.00 per year. Students will bring the \$10.00 fee for the uniform on Friday, September 8th. Please see the flyer about uniforms included in this bulletin. Parent volunteers are needed to assist with uniforms on Friday, September 8th, throughout the school day, until 6:00 p.m. Thanks.

We look forward to another challenging year for orchestra. Please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Garverick if you have questions. Dr. Garverick and Ms. Loveland have a conference time at 8th period. For conference scheduling, the MacArthur phone number is 356-7672. Please plan to attend the first MacArthur Orchestra Parents Association (MOPA) meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 26th at 6:30 p.m. in the orchestra room. Mrs. Seddighzadeh will welcome everyone and introduce the new officers and activities for the year. We need your support in order to continue our tradition of excellence and quality music education for students. Go Mac Orchestra!

<http://mopa.sa-arts.net/>

Please check this site for the MacArthur Orchestra Newsletter and most current information about events. Special Note: All parent volunteers must re-apply at

<http://www.neisd.net/vol/index.html> in order to have proper district approval for 2017-18.

MacArthur Orchestra Parents Association Officers, 2017 – 2018.

President	Mrs. Seddighzadeh
1st Vice-President	available
2nd Vice-President	Ms. Nawrocki (volunteer coordinator)
Treasurer	Mrs. Jackson
Secretary	Mrs. Carmichael
Webmaster	Mr. Garoutte

Parents are Very Important People. Be sure to read the MOPA information and join!

Brief Course Descriptions and Supplies

All students will be issued a QED Scale Book (\$3.00), Essentials for Strings (\$6.00), and/or Essential Techniques for Strings (\$6.00), as well as etude books when needed. The student will be charged current replacement cost if he/she does not have the proper books at the end of each semester. All students need to have a sharpened pencil with them at all times in orchestra (on the stand during rehearsal). A roll of scotch tape (3/4 inch wide) is necessary for orchestra. All students enrolled in orchestra will be required to attend two live, professional symphony/chamber music/opera performances during the year (one during first semester, one during second semester). Four group trips to the San Antonio Symphony will be planned as well as a trip to Austin or Houston Lyric Opera productions and, perhaps, attendance at a ballet performance.

Grade 9. **MacArthur Sinfonietta/Orchestral Techniques.** Emphasis on basic sequential string technique and rhythms with mastery of upper positions, bowing styles, and improved tone production through sequential orchestral repertoire and music theory. 5671 will perform as a separate ensemble if instrumentation is appropriate. Students furnish own instruments. Required early morning rehearsals (three) will be scheduled before each concert. Playing tests will be either in front of the class, taped on a tape recorder during class, or video-taped during class. A solo/duet performance is required for the 3rd nine weeks. Dr. Garverick will help with selection. All freshmen combine for orchestra performances during the year.

Grade 9. **MacArthur Sinfonietta.** Continued emphasis on sequential string technique, ensemble skill, music theory, and standard orchestra repertoire. This is a competition, performing ensemble. Required performances of a solo/duet in the 3rd nine weeks. If students are not studying privately, Dr. Garverick will help with the solo selection. The solo may be entered in the UIL solo contest or played for the teacher as a class project solo. Chamber music repertoire will also be explored. Mastery is expected through the classroom experience and practicing at home. Playing tests will be either in front of the class, taped on a tape recorder during class, or video-taped during class. Required early morning rehearsals (minimum of three) will be scheduled prior to each concert. Ensemble performances in the community will be planned. Students furnish own instruments.

Grades 10, 11, 12. **MacArthur Sinfonia.** Continued emphasis on sequential string technique, advanced performance/ensemble skills, music theory, and standard orchestral repertoire. Required performance of solo in the 3rd nine weeks, either entered in the UIL solo competition or performed for the teacher. All areas of string literature as well as full symphonic literature will be explored. Chamber music participation required. Students furnish own instruments. If students are not studying privately, Dr. Garverick will help with solo selection. Early rehearsals will be scheduled before each concert. Playing tests will be either in front of the class, taped on a tape recorder during class, or video-taped during class. Community performances will be planned. Junior Varsity Orchestra will participate in UIL orchestra competition, depending on instrumentation.

Grades 10, 11, 12. **MacArthur Symphony.** Continued emphasis on sequential string technique, advanced performance/ensemble skills, music theory, and standard orchestral repertoire. Required performance of solo in the 3rd nine weeks, either entered in the UIL solo competition or performed for the teacher. All areas of string literature as well as full symphonic literature will be explored. Chamber music participation required. If students are not studying privately, Dr. Garverick will help with solo selection. Early rehearsals will be scheduled before each concert. Students are expected to participate beyond the classroom, i.e. Region Orchestra auditions, UIL solo/ensemble, drama performances. Students furnish own instruments. Required MORNING sectional rehearsals are held at **7:45 a.m.** throughout the year on a day mutually agreed upon by each section. Evening rehearsals will be held as needed. Playing tests will be either in front of the class, taped on a tape recorder during class, or video-taped during class. A variety of testing situations will be provided throughout the year. Performances are frequent for this orchestra.

AP Music Theory 5680. Grades 11 and 12. Students are encouraged to enroll in AP Music Theory as juniors and seniors in order to deepen their knowledge of music and earn college credit through the AP exam. Students must be enrolled concurrently in band, orchestra, or choir at MacArthur.