

*Darby High School Orchestra*



*Hilliard Darby High School  
Orchestras*

*2017-2018*

*Handbook*

# *Darby High School Orchestras Handbook*

*2017-2018*

*Mr. John Riegel, Director*

*Mrs. Sara Given, Assistant Director*

## **WELCOME**

We welcome you to the Hilliard Darby High School Orchestras! You are a valued member of the Hilliard City Schools' orchestra program, one of the finest such programs in the state of Ohio. To continue this tradition of excellence, both musically and behaviorally, certain rules and guidelines must be maintained. The following paragraphs serve as guidelines to the most common situations that might raise questions or concerns.

Included in this handbook is a calendar of required performance and rehearsal dates for the 2017-18 school year. Parents and students should review all items in the handbook, and complete all online forms in Canvas, by **Friday, September 1, 2017**. Parents are encouraged to volunteer for Darby orchestra and Hilliard Music Booster activities through the Booster website listed later in this handbook.

## **COURSE PHILOSOPHY**

It is the philosophy of this course, in accordance with the school philosophy, that each student has the opportunity to explore music performance in a supportive, caring, and encouraging environment that holds its participants to high standards and high levels of expectation of performance achievement. Orchestra students at the high school are exposed to a variety of literature, advanced performance techniques and musicianship, varied performance ensembles, and various performing situations. These will enable them to grow in their music making abilities as string players and will enable growth in sensitivity, group dynamics, and leadership skills as young adults.

## **COURSE GOALS**

The goals of this course are:

- To further the students' musicianship and playing skills through a variety of performance literature and musical styles.
- To provide greater performance opportunities through a variety of ensembles and performance situations.
- To provide the student with suitable musical experiences that will further enrich and support their future work/ life/ hobby endeavors; either as an amateur or professional performing musician or teacher, participant in any facet of fine arts careers (music therapy, music business, music performance, music appreciation), community performance hobbyist, supporter and audience participant of community fine arts, or fine arts advocate.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will develop and refine musical and technical skills in the following areas:

- Right hand (bowing) skills
- Left hand (fingering) skills
- Ear-training (aural) skills
- Rhythmic skills
- Sight reading and notation skills
- Overall musicianship skills (greater understanding of dynamics, phrasing, expression, music theory, and musical periods/ styles)
- Further the responsibilities of being in a performance group/community arts applications
- Knowledge of musical career/hobby participation/involvement- post high school

## COURSE OFFERINGS

There are currently four periods of orchestra offered at Darby High School. Students perform repertoire from many different periods and styles in a variety of formats, which may include the following:

- String Orchestra
- Full Orchestra (includes woodwinds, brass, and percussion)
- Chamber Music Ensembles (such as duets, quartets, etc.)
- Holiday Ensembles (usually in conjunction with Chamber Orchestra)
- Musical Theater (depending on instrumentation needs)

## CONTRIBUTION TO SECTION AND ORCHESTRA

**Every member matters.** Every student plays an important part in the Darby Orchestra program. Unlike a sports team, we have no “bench.” Each student is expected to uphold his/her responsibility to the orchestra and section by contributing *100%-plus* effort. Cooperation with the directors, section leaders, and class officers is expected. Section leaders and officers must take their responsibilities very seriously, making every effort to assist and help members of their section and the orchestra in a positive way.

**Our success depends upon your focus.** As a Darby Orchestra member, you are expected to be attentive at all times during the rehearsals. Orchestras perform only as well as they rehearse. Rehearsal time is precious; focus and attention are a must! Even though the director’s attention may be spent with a section other than your own at times during the rehearsal, the information discussed/ emphasized most often applies to everyone.

**Posture and good technique make the difference.** Students are expected to maintain correct posture while they are playing their instruments. More than simply “looking good,” a relaxed yet lengthened body posture is a fundamental part of the technique of playing your instrument, and being a musician. Proper instrument hold, hand shapes, and technique are crucial to your success as an individual, and our success as a group. This includes all rehearsals and performances.

## CLASSROOM RULES

Rules are meant to insure everyone has a safe and healthy environment in which to learn. No student has the right to disrupt the learning environment of any other student. The following rules will be in effect:

1. Respect other people’s property, school property, and musical property.
2. Respect and be polite to classmates and directors.
3. Leave gum, drink, and food outside classroom and concert stages.
4. Use of personal electronics, such as (but not limited to) cell phones, iPods, school-issued iPads, etc. is not permitted during rehearsals unless specific, express permission or direction to use them is given by the director(s). Turn these items off and put them away as you get set up for daily rehearsal.
5. Remain silent and focused in rehearsal. Always follow directions.
6. Obey all school rules in this classroom.

*Failure to follow class rules will result in the loss of 10 or more daily points.*

## CLASS EXPECTATIONS

Your membership in the orchestra carries with it certain expectations in order to build and maintain our high standard of excellence. The Hilliard Darby Orchestras are committed to quality musical performances. In order to achieve this goal, each orchestra member is expected to:

1. **Give your best effort**—Give your best efforts at all times.
2. **Be on time** and ready to work with all necessary materials.
3. **Practice**—Take your instrument home regularly and practice. There is a strong need for individual practice in this class, given our busy concert schedule and the level of literature we perform. There will be regular test/ music checks, as well as other assessments of out-of-class practice. Simply "learning the part as you go" during class time is not enough to produce a truly superior performance. You need to practice **regularly**-- as much as necessary to have the part you play fully prepared and ready to go (not less than four days per week outside of class, preferably six to seven).
4. **Help others**—Help those who may need help. Always provide support and encouragement to your classmates.
5. **Be positive**—Set a positive example with a positive attitude. These qualities are contagious!

## CLASS CONSEQUENCES

Following the classroom rules will lead to a greater enjoyment of orchestra and pride in personal and group accomplishments, and greater opportunities for orchestra members. Not following the listed rules will result in consequences including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense:    Loss of daily points  
                  Teacher/student mini-conference
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense:    Loss of daily points  
                  Teacher/student conference  
                  Parent notification
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense:    Loss of daily points  
                  Teacher/ student conference  
                  Possible disciplinary referral  
                  Parent notification  
                  Counselor notification  
                  Principal/ assistant principal notification  
                  Possible removal from class

*Blatant and/or purposeful defiance of authority (insubordination) will result in immediate removal from class, referral, and parent notification.*

## DAILY CLASS PROCEDURES

Procedures give us guidelines for how our daily rehearsals should operate from beginning to end. In order to best use every minute of our rehearsal time, our orchestras need to operate smoothly and efficiently. The following are expected guidelines:

**1. Preparation:** Each orchestra member will get instrument materials upon entering rehearsal room and assist in room set-up.

(A). Be in the room no later than two minutes after the bell has rung. Be ready for **tuning by no later than four minutes after the bell has rung**. "Ready for tuning" means you are *in your seat, instrument/class materials unpacked and ready, and attentive*. After the four-minute mark will result in a marking of tardy and loss of 10 daily points.

(B). Attendance/materials check. Late passes or absence passes are to be given to the teacher.

(C). Preview the board. Get materials in order. Individual warm-up on your own.

**2. Tuning:** On signal of director or section leader, tuning process begins. **Everyone is silent.**

**3. Rehearsal** of day's plan.

**4. Dismissal:** Teacher dismisses class (*not the clock*) by two minutes before end of class. Students put away instruments, stands and chairs. (Stowage of stands and chairs will vary depending on needs of rehearsal space.)

5. Other common questions/ situations:

(A). No instrument in class? Sit quietly in your section and follow along with the rehearsal, and take notes. Hand in those notes to the director, with your name and the day's date at top, at the end of rehearsal.

Use of personal electronics (cell phones, text messaging, personal music players, cameras, etc.) is prohibited, *unless specific, express permission is granted by the directors*. These items are to be turned OFF at the start of tuning, and not used until rehearsal is dismissed. (If you need an electronic tuner, use your iPad or a dedicated tuner, such as a Korg handheld tuner.)

(B). Restroom? Take care of this before our class. If you must use the restroom once class has begun, ask permission first. Emergency use only, please.

(C). Hall pass/Medical clinic/Counselor pass-see the director. No late passes will be given, unless the class is let out late (i.e., after the bell rings).

(D). Section leaders—be ready to assist your section in every way possible. Pass back bowings, fingerings, etc.... as necessary!

(E). Need music? See the librarian (if one is designated) - not the director!

Failure to follow class procedures may result in the loss of daily points.

## GRADING

Orchestra is an accredited class and follows the guidelines listed below throughout the year.

The school-wide grading scale is as follows:

98-100 A+	88-89 B+	78-79 C+	68-69 D+	0-59 F
93-97 A	83-87 B	73-77 C	63-67 D	
92-90 A-	80-82 B-	70-72 C-	60-62 D-	

## **(GRADING cont'd.)**

Your grade is based on four areas, described below:

### ***Daily Preparation, Participation, and Performance Grade-30%***

Every orchestra student is given 100 points at the beginning of each week. Points will be deducted for the following items:

#### ***A. Preparation:***

No Instrument -20

No Music/ Books or missing pieces of music, -10

No Pencil -5

No Shoulder Pad (violins/violas) -5

#### ***B. Daily Participation/ Performance:***

Inappropriate Participation (not following rules/procedures, lack of attention, excessive talking, etc...) -20

Gum, food or drink during rehearsal -10

Doing homework or reading material not related to this class -10

Poor Posture -5

Poor Instrument Position/Bow Hold -5

Inability to perform the assignment for the day at an acceptable level -5

Failure to strive to improve identified weak areas -5

### ***Playing Exams/ quizzes, written assignments-30%***

Each playing exam is worth 100 points. There will be one to two playing exams in every orchestra class per semester. Type of exam and frequency of exam will vary per class. Any written tests, quizzes, or written assignments given are included in this portion of the grade.

Playing tests may be done in any of several formats, including (but not limited to) live video, performing individually for a director, or audio test recorded outside of class. In the event of a playing exam recording or video, tests will always be announced at least one week in advance. **RECORDED TESTS MUST BE TURNED IN ON TIME.**

Tests that are one day late are minus 10 pts. Tests that are two or more days late are minus 20 points. **Test recordings more than one week late will not be accepted**, resulting in 0 points (and 0% for this part of the grade).

**SEATING-** Designated recorded playing exams will be used to determine seating order of the orchestra. Seating will be done in rank order, youth orchestra, or rotational style. All seating decisions are the final decision of the director and will be based upon what is best for the orchestra for specific times and/ or pieces. Playing ability, class rank, leadership, maturity, and responsibility are all factors that will be considered in seating. Also, specific instrumentation needs depending on repertoire will be considered.

### ***Performances-40%***

Every performance is worth 200 points. Special rehearsals (e. g. dress rehearsals, evening or out-of-school clinician sessions/rehearsals) are worth 100 points.

**\*All performances/special rehearsals are mandatory and are a required part of the school curriculum and of proper student evaluation and assessment in a music performance class.**

**\*The only excused absences from a performance event are illness or family emergency. Any excused absences require a signed parent note indicating the reason for the absence. A student may make up the performance points missed from an excused absence. Students who receive an unexcused absence from a performance event will be unable to make up the performance points missed.**

NOTE: On rare occasions, there may arise a conflict with another *sanctioned school event*. In nearly all cases, these situations can be easily resolved if the issue is brought to the attention of directors and coaches ahead of

*(performances cont'd.)*

time. *This is why we give you the calendar of events at the beginning of the year.* The key to resolving and/or avoiding these conflicts is to speak to all teachers, coaches, etc. involved, WELL in advance (i.e. three or more weeks ahead) of the potential conflict. In general, a performance or tournament would take precedence over a practice or out-of-school rehearsal; however, it is still crucial that you talk to the director and coach *first* as soon as you learn of the conflict. If you have any questions or concerns about potential conflicts, please see the director right away.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

The following are required class materials for all orchestra students:

1. Good quality instrument, bow, and case, in good playing condition (you should change strings and have bow re-haired at least once a year for violins and violas; cellos might be able to get 2 years out of a set of strings, basses about two to three).
2. Rosin and cleaning cloth
3. Extra set of strings (violin, viola, cello)—if you have not changed your strings within the last year, you need to do so. See the director if you would like help changing strings.
4. Shoulder pad (violin, viola)
5. Rock stop (cello, bass)
6. Music, folder, and pencil
7. Class Method text:

- For **Symphony and Chamber**, “Advanced Technique for Strings” (tan/mustard color cover).

- For **Concert Orchestra**, “Essential Technique for Strings” (green stripe on cover). Most students should already have a copy of this text from previous years.

The following are required home materials for all orchestra students:

1. Folding metal music stand
2. Metronome (a hand-held tuner is also strongly encouraged)—you can also find these resources online, or get apps to use on your iPad or phone!

## CONCERT DRESS

Formal concert dress is as follows for all orchestra members:

- Gentlemen: School-issued long-sleeved white tuxedo dress shirt, black tuxedo jacket, black tuxedo dress pants, **black dress socks, black dress shoes**, black cummerbund, black bow tie.

- Ladies: Long sleeve black shirt or blouse, black dress pants, black socks, hose or tights, black dress shoes. Dresses and skirts must fall past the knee when seated. No exceptions. Modest, unobtrusive jewelry (colors: silver, gold, pearl, or dark-coordinating), modest hair accessories (dark-coordinating) are permitted but must not be distracting or draw undue attention to individual performers. If you decide to wear nail-polish, it must be light in a muted, traditional color (no blue, bright red, purple, black, etc...).

(Note: If necessary, ladies may still rent a school-issued long formal school-issued black orchestra dress to use for formal concerts.)

- All students in uniform are expected to look neat and well-groomed.

### **Not permitted (this list is not all-inclusive):**

- Flip-flops, athletic shoes, other non-dress type shoes (even if black in color).

- Denim, corduroy, athletic/workout wear, other non-dress clothes

- Distracting hair styles, jewelry, etc. that call undue attention to an individual are not permitted.

- Students who do not fulfill the proper dress code requirements for concerts may forfeit the privilege of performing with the orchestra (resulting in no credit for that performance) and/or have points deducted from their concert grade.



# ORCHESTRA FEES

## I. UNIFORM FEE

Orchestra students who are renting a uniform from the school will be assessed a uniform rental fee. This fee will be assessed through Hilliard City Schools and collected as part of each student's school fees.

This fee helps cover repair/replacement/ dry cleaning/ costs accrued through uniform use. Alterations will need to be done on your own. PLEASE HEM (**DO NOT CUT**) ANY EXTRA MATERIAL ON THE BOTTOM OF GARMENTS. We may need to take hems out (lengthen) in the future for taller students.

All students using a school outfit will be assigned a uniform and uniform number. Uniforms will be issued along with a black orchestra garment bag. Make sure your name is on the garment bag and your uniform (and can be removed at a later date). Always keep your uniform hung neatly in the garment bag when not in use. Replacement fees will be assessed for damaged or missing items. Ladies dress replacement fee is \$100.00. Men's formal replacement fee is \$120.00. Bow tie/ cummerbund replacement fee is \$15.00 for each item. Garment bag replacement fees are \$25.00. *Fees listed are at the time of printing and are subject to change based upon catalog availability.*

## III. INSTRUMENT RENTAL FEE

Students who are using a school instrument for the 2017-18 school year will be assessed a rental fee to help defray repair and replacement costs as they arise. This fee will be assessed through Hilliard City Schools and collected as part of the student's school fees. This fee is only assessed for members who are using a school-owned stringed instrument for class use for the school year. All cello and bass students will need to remember to bring their own instruments (and rock stops) from home for all concerts.

## INSTRUMENT STORAGE/LOCKERS

- Students will be issued a locker in the music room for storage of their instrument during the school day. In many cases, due to the large size of our program, it will be necessary to share a locker.
  - Each student will be assigned a school lock to use on the instrument locker and issued a combination for that lock. The lock remains the property of Darby High School. Students will be assessed a fee of \$5.00 for locks lost or damaged.
  - PLEASE NOTE: Hilliard Darby High School, and the orchestra directors, do not assume any liability for lost or stolen instruments or other equipment.** Do not leave your instrument lying out in the rehearsal rooms or beside or on top of locker bays. Instruments left out in this manner may be confiscated and parental contact made. Do not "lock" your instrument locker open, as this invites the possibility of theft or tampering. **Do not tamper with other students' locks, instruments, or other equipment** (refer to Rule # 1 of "Classroom Rules," p. 2 of this handbook). Persistent failure to properly store and secure instruments will result in the consequences listed on p. 3 of this handbook.
  - Clearly label your own instrument case with your name on it. Most instrument cases look alike, and it is difficult to match misplaced or lost instruments to their owners if no identification is provided. If you need a case tag, see the director or your local violin shop and one can be supplied to you.
  - Lockers are to be kept clean and in good working condition. Do not misuse or tamper with doors, bars, hinges, hasps or other locker parts. Report any damage or problems to the director right away. Lockers are designed for instrument storage only-- do not store other, non-orchestra items in them.
- (MORE)

## INSTRUMENT STORAGE LOCKERS cont'd.

•**Students using school-owned instruments are *required*** to make reasonable attempts to secure them against theft or damage. Students must make sure the locker is securely locked when equipment is put away. Failure to do so may result in students held liable for repair or replacement cost of missing or damaged school equipment. Lockers must be kept neat and free of trash. **Fees will be assessed at the end of the year for damaged lockers and/or damaged school instruments.**

## USE OF SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENTS

We are fortunate to be able to provide cellos and basses for students to rent for use during daily class. The school inventory represents a significant outlay of school funds, and the instruments must be kept in excellent condition as there is little or no funding to replace them. Each cello retails for about \$1500.00; each bass about \$2500.00. Each bow costs between \$100.00 and \$300.00. A cello or bass bow re-hair costs \$75.00. **Students must exercise care in daily use of these instruments and return them in the same condition at the end of the school year as they were at the beginning. Evidence of careless handling or willful misuse (carvings in finish, dented or broken parts, etc.) can serve as the basis for additional charges to the student and may render the student ineligible to use a school instrument. TAKE GOOD CARE OF THE INSTRUMENTS.**

## CALENDAR

Please read and keep the enclosed calendar at the end of this handbook for all required orchestra performance dates for the 2017-18 school year. This calendar is also posted in the orchestra rehearsal rooms and on the Darby Orchestra website. As an orchestra member, you are expected to attend all concerts and special rehearsals. Please put these dates in your planner/ calendar now and share with your parents to avoid conflicts later. If you know of potential conflicts at the beginning of the year, use the space provided in the online Orchestra Contract form to indicate the possible date and nature of the conflict.

## METHOD BOOKS/SHEET MUSIC FINES

Depending on the class, students may be issued school-owned method books for use in class, or asked to purchase a personal copy of a method or scale book. Books will be coded and distributed during the first week of school. Lost, missing, or heavily damaged books are the student's responsibility. A replacement fine will be assessed for school-owned books missing or damaged at the end of the year, equal to the books' replacement value.

All sheet music issued to the student remains the property of the Hilliard City Schools, and must be returned after performance in as good condition as it was issued. Students may be fined for lost or damaged sheet music. To prevent this, students should:

- Write your name on the top of each sheet of music in pencil
- never* fold or tear music
- keep music in your folder for protection (not loose in your case, locker, etc.)
- write on music sparingly and in pencil only.

## AWARDS

All students receive an award for each year of orchestra membership at the spring music awards night. The awards are as follows: **First Year:** performance membership certificate; **Second Year:** varsity letter; **Third Year:** three-striped chevron; **Fourth Year:** special fourth year member plaque with engraved name plate.

Additional special awards that have been given out in the past include: NSOA (National School Orchestra Award), Outstanding Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior, Most Improved, and Spirit Award.

## CONTRACT AND FORMS

Along with this handbook, you will find an online orchestra contract and information form for the 2017-18 school year. The contract and forms need to be completed by **Friday, September 1**. Signatures on the contract indicate an understanding of all handbook policies and procedures and an agreement to abide by them, and be present at all concert calendar dates.

**Emergency medical forms** are to be filed through the main office. Please be sure that a complete, updated emergency medical authorization is on file with the school office. Students must have this form on file to participate in any activities that occur off school grounds, including field trips and adjudicated events.

## OFFICERS

Officers are responsible for various duties throughout the orchestra and may be elected or appointed by the director. Potential elected officers must be nominated by their peers, submit a brief essay, and give a brief speech to the class. Elected officers will meet once a month after school. Officers will be responsible for a myriad of pre-established duties, including but not limited to: beginning of school year organization, suggesting/ planning/ attending social events for the orchestra, concert publicity, orchestra member concerns, bulletin boards, scrapbook, back to school nights, freshman orientation, Fall Orchestra Concert decorating, 8<sup>th</sup> grade orchestra recruitment activities, orchestra picnic, reporting to class on meetings, posting minutes, assisting music boosters as necessary, assisting the directors as necessary.

The following are orchestra officer positions:

### *Elected Officers:*

**President:** Must be a junior or senior. Lead organizer for all above activities.

**V.P.:** Must be a junior or senior. Types meeting minutes. Assists president.

**Secretary, Treasurer:** Open to all (preferably open to all students having had one year of membership in Darby Orchestra). Secretary creates scrapbook of our orchestra year with assistance of other council members; both secretary and treasurer may be called upon to assist with fundraising or other financial duties.

### *Appointed Officers:*

**Orchestra Managers** (representatives/officers from each orchestra so that all groups are represented on the orchestra council and at meetings)

**Librarian(s)** (this is the person you see if you need music!)

**Stage Manager(s)/Set-Up/Tear Down Crew** (these individuals are responsible for helping with dress rehearsal, performance, and special event chair and stand set-up and tear down)

-other appointed positions may be created by the director to enhance leadership and representation in our orchestra program.

## CLASS FIELD TRIPS/TOURS

It is the hope and goal of the orchestra department to further enrich a student's orchestra experience through board approved educational trips. Trips may be in or out of state depending on a multitude of factors (festival requirements, group instrumentation, group interest, cost, etc...). Frequency of trips will also depend on the above factors. Trips will always be scheduled with the best interest of the group in mind. **It is in the best interest of the group and the orchestra program that every student attempts to participate in the trips.** All school rules in effect for the current school year will be in effect for all trips/tours as well as all in and out-of-class orchestral activities. **It is important that you be aware of the drug, alcohol, and tobacco guidelines for all extra and co-curricular activities.** *In addition to the school rules, any activity or behavior that occurs during a trip or other orchestra function that one of the teachers considers to be a flagrant disregard to the well-being of the orchestra and/or a violation of a public rule can lead to removal from the group and/or removal from class.*

## FUNDRAISERS

In an effort to encourage as many of our orchestra students as possible to participate in our group trips, multiple fundraising activities will be available to orchestra members. Fundraising activities are always optional, however. Funds raised during trip years are used to help lower the overall trip cost for the students. Additional fundraisers are implemented in “off-trip” years for the purpose of funding special orchestra needs that are not covered in regular budget allotments.

## HILLIARD MUSIC BOOSTERS/ PARENT VOLUNTEERS

The Hilliard Music Boosters is an organization that raises money to purchase instruments, uniforms, music awards, and fees for contests, and also helps provide scholarship/ clinician monies. Music boosters are parents who have children involved with instrumental or vocal music from the middle and high schools. Booster fund raisers, such as football concessions and marching band festivals, are an important source of funding for *all* performing groups (including the Darby Orchestras). Booster meetings are held the second Monday of every month at Darby, at 7:00 p.m. Come and get involved in this great organization! You can also find out more about the Hilliard Music Boosters through their website: <http://www.hilliardmusicboosters.org/>

Parents, in certain situations it will be possible and necessary to submit various orchestra fees (such as trip payments) through CHARMS, the organizational and financial tool we use. Visit the Music Booster website listed above to be sure your student is enrolled. You can also sign up to volunteer for such Booster activities as working concessions at athletic events, etc. on this site. Announcements and calendar postings of events will also be available through the Charms site.

## PRIVATE LESSONS

It is highly recommended that each student take advantage of the great opportunities that private lessons have to offer. Nothing can take the place of this kind of one-on-one instruction. Skills developed in individualized instruction enable the student to tackle more challenging and interesting literature in the orchestra class, resulting in a deeper musical experience. For students intent on pursuing a music major in college, lessons are an essential part of one’s musical training. If you are currently studying privately on your instrument, I strongly encourage you to continue. If you need information about lessons, please check with the directors for a list of suggested teachers, and be sure to indicate your interest on the online interest form.

## ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Along with enjoying strong school orchestra programs, string players in central Ohio are fortunate to have several additional outlets available for students who wish to play more. Interested students and parents may contact the directors for more information on these and other organizations, or visit the web addresses listed below:

- Columbus Symphony Youth Orchestras—three different youth orchestras are open to high school aged students by auditions held in the spring of each year: Chamber Strings (grades 6-9), Cadet Orchestra (grades 7-10) and Youth Orchestra (grades 9-12). Chamber Strings is a string orchestra, the other two are full symphony orchestras. Web address is <http://www.columbussymphony.com/youth-orchestra/>
- Youth Philharmonic of Central Ohio—a symphony orchestra open to students in grades 7-12 by auditions held each spring. Web address is <http://www.ypeco.webs.com/>
- Columbus Chamber Music Connection—an organization focused on teaching through small ensembles (usually groups of 3, 4, or 5 students) of all ages and abilities. Web address is [www.cmconnection.org](http://www.cmconnection.org)

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR ORCHESTRA MEMBERS:**

Darby Orchestras webpage (link through the Darby HS website)—visit this page often for calendar updates, more useful music links, and other important information.

Loft Violin Shop website: [www.loftviolinshop.com](http://www.loftviolinshop.com)

Shar Music (instruments, strings, sheet music, accessories): [www.sharmusic.com](http://www.sharmusic.com)

Music publisher websites (just a sampling--- many have online recordings of music we are working on, that you can listen to or download):

Alfred Music: [www.alfred-music.com](http://www.alfred-music.com)

Hal Leonard Publishing: [www.halleonard.com](http://www.halleonard.com)

Ludwig Music Publishing: [www.ludwigmusic.com](http://www.ludwigmusic.com)

FJH Music Company: [www.fjhmusic.com](http://www.fjhmusic.com)

International Music Score Library Project: [www.imslp.org](http://www.imslp.org) (public domain scores and parts to thousands of works for all different instrument/vocal combinations. Want to look at the Violin part or full score for Beethoven's 5th Symphony? Mahler 1st? Dvorak 9th? They're all here, complete, and free!)

## **FINAL WORDS**

I consider it a privilege to work and share with each of you in music, and look forward to getting to know each of you better as the year progresses. I know together we will have another great year! Parents, I look forward to meeting many of you in the upcoming weeks, whether at open house, one of our concerts, or other functions in the school and community. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or concerns about the orchestra program. My contact information is listed below. As always, sincere thanks to all of you for your support of quality music in the Hilliard City Schools.

Sincerely,

Mr. John Riegel

Director of Orchestras

Hilliard Darby High School

School phone: (614) 921-7300, x. 7368

Office direct line/ voice mail: (614) 921-7368 (this is the choir and orchestra office line)

Email: [john\\_riegel@hboe.org](mailto:john_riegel@hboe.org) (this is the best way to contact me)

## **FEES/ FORMS REMINDER**

**P.S.** Remember to turn in the handbook contract, fees and other forms included in this handbook. Fees and due dates are listed below.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Due date</u>
Student online form—Contract, student interest, lesson, parent survey, fundraising permission	9/1/17

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Thank you.

**Hilliard Darby High School Orchestras Concert Calendar 2017-18**  
**Some events may be subject to change**  
**ALL EVENTS (UNLESS STATED WITH AN \*) ARE REQUIRED**  
 (“TBA” = “to be announced”)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
October 3	Tuesday	Autumn HS/MS Concert/Dinner	Heritage MS 6:00 pm
October 29	Sunday	Region Orchestra read-thru rehearsal* ( <i>required</i> for those accepted into OMEA Region Orch.*)	Dublin Coffman HS 2-4pm
November 8	Weds.	Chamber Orchestra performance at Station Fall Concert	Darby 7:00-8:00 pm
Nov. 17-19	Fri-Sun.	OMEA Region Orchestra* (for those accepted into Region Orch.*)	Dublin Coffman HS All day-those days
December 13	Weds.	Dress Rehearsals, Celebration Concerts	Darby (during school—TBA)
December 13	Weds.	Celebration Concert #1: Darby Band, Choir, Orchestra (Groups TBA)	Darby 7:00 pm
December 14	Thursday	Celebration Concert #2: Darby Band, Choir, Orchestra (Different set of groups from Weds. --TBA)	Darby 7:00 pm
January 25	Thursday	Evening rehearsal/clinician session	Darby 7:00-9:00 pm
January 27	Saturday	OMEA Solo/Ensemble (for participating students)	Off site (TBA) 8:00-5:00
February 7	Wednesday	Evening rehearsal/clinician session	Darby 7:00-9:00 pm
February 23 or 24	Fri/Sat.	STATE ORCHESTRA CONTEST (for assigned groups) (About 2 weeks beforehand, specific performance date, site and time will be assigned. <b>You must keep BOTH days open until we know our schedule for certain.</b> )	TBA TBA
March 9 or 10	Fri/Sat.	Central Ohio String Invitational (for assigned groups) (About 2 weeks beforehand, specific performance date, site and time will be assigned. <b>You must keep BOTH days open until we know our schedule for certain.</b> )	TBA TBA
March 13	Tuesday	Orchestra Winter Concert (tentative)	Darby PAC 7:00 pm
Apr 27-28-29	Fri-Sun.	Spring Musical*	Darby 7 pm/7pm/3pm
May 14	Monday	Darby/Heritage Orchestras Spring Concert	Darby PAC 6:30 pm