

## **Centennial High School Music Department**

**COURSE** Centennial String Ensemble/Centennial String Orchestra GT  
**INSTRUCTOR** Allen Leung  
**WEBSITE** [www.centennialmusic.org](http://www.centennialmusic.org)

### **Course Description**

The Centennial High School Orchestra Program provides a performance-based curriculum for advanced level learners, focusing on the development of expressive and artistic musical experiences through student driven work. It is important to note that we will not merely be playing instruments in this course, but rather learning the language of music through performance. As such, a significant portion of your work in this course will be devoted to refining your performance skills, increasing your ability to read new music at sight, and exploring what it means to be an all-encompassing musician.

### **Materials**

1. Instrument, bow, rosin, mute, and extra strings (violin, viola).
2. Metronome/tuner (apps work great!)
3. Folder and music (provided)
4. Pencil
5. Concert Attire (described in syllabus)

\*School basses and cellos are available for use in school. Students should rent or purchase an instrument for home use. Any damage on a school instrument is the responsibility of the student.

### **HCPSS Music Grading Standards**

Grading categories are weighted as follows:

**Mus s1: Creativity and Composition 5%** Develops and applies strategies to generate and express a variety of musical ideas.

**Mus s2: Musicianship 25%** Uses best practices and experiences to inform and develop an authentic voice.

**Mus s3: Applied Skills and Technical Development 40%** Demonstrates skills and strategies appropriate to music-making.

**Mus s4: Procedures and Practices 25%** Demonstrates appropriate musical practices in the classroom or rehearsal environment.

**Mus s5: Reflection 5%** Communicates an understanding of concepts and strategies through the evaluation of music.

***Creativity and Composition - 5%***

Students will complete composition assignments to further their understanding of music theory and creative processes.

***Musicianship - 25%***

Students will complete assignments that explore musical works performed in the class to further their understanding of performance practice. Assignments will include listening to personal, ensemble, and professional recordings and researching musical works to understand cultural and historical context.

***Applied Skills & Technical Development - 40%***

Every student will receive graded performance assessments and skills tests throughout the year. These tests are video and/or audio recorded.

***Procedures and Practices - 25%***

Students are not just learning to perform on their instruments, but they are also learning to conduct themselves in a large ensemble rehearsal. This class will put the student in the role of a professional instrumental musician. As such, you will be asked to show your understanding of rehearsal and performance behavior. Students are observed and assessed on their instrumental performance and rehearsal conduct on a daily basis.

***Reflection - 5%***

Students will receive written reflection assignments over the course of the year. Students will evaluate their performances and performances by other groups in the following categories: tone, technique, intonation, musicality, balance, interpretation, musical effect, and other factors.

**REQUIRED AFTER-SCHOOL REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES:**

HCPSS defines String Orchestra and String Ensemble as co-curricular classes that require time outside of the scheduled school-day. (HCPSS Policy 8090: Non-School-Hour Curricular Programs) For all ensembles, concert and after-school/evening rehearsal attendance are an expectation of the course and heavily-weighted within the Procedures and Practices category. Failure to attend will significantly impact your grade in the course.

**HCPSS Orchestra Assessment**

The Howard County Orchestra Assessment is required of Howard County orchestra students. This is a one-time performance opportunity that cannot be made-up. Please plan for this now. Pending notification from HCPSS, all orchestras will perform on either Tuesday, March 26 or Wednesday, March 27, 2019. Please keep both days free until further notice.

## **Concert Attendance**

Concert attendance is mandatory as this is a performance based course. Absences are classified as follows:

### **Unexcused Absences:**

Including, but not limited to:

- No ride
- Sports practice and games
- Work conflicts
- Family vacations scheduled after the school year begins.

### **Excused Absences:**

No penalty. Commensurate work may be assigned at director's discretion.

- Serious illness
- Family emergency
- Religious conflicts (1 month advance notice required)
- Family vacations scheduled before the school year begins

## **Sectional Attendance**

Students will have instrument-specific rehearsals (sectionals) throughout the year (typically 2 to 4 per quarter). Students in orchestra are pulled from periods 2, 3, and 4B for sectionals. Students will not miss the same class more than 50 minutes per quarter and are expected to make-up any work they miss. If a test or lab is scheduled in your class and you cannot attend your sectional, you are required to make arrangements with Mr. Leung to make-up the sectional from the same period on another day.

## **Assignments and Performances**

Students will complete recorded playing assessments in Canvas. Students should listen for announcements in class and check Canvas for updates. Students and parents should also be sure that their Canvas settings regularly send them notifications.

**Concert Uniform** Concert attire for the 2018-2019 academic year will be:

- Solid black suit, black pants, black jacket, solid black long tie, white long-sleeved button-up dress shirt, black dress shoes (no sneakers) and socks

OR

- Either a long solid black skirt or solid black dress pants (no leggings) with solid black long or  $\frac{3}{4}$  sleeved blouse or a solid black full-length dress; black stockings and black dress shoes.

*\*\*\*Students who previously purchased the concert gown may continue to wear it as it meets the requirements listed above.*

## **Classroom Expectations**

The following expectations are listed to create an atmosphere conducive to musical learning

- Show respect for peers, teacher, and self. Treat others, as you want to be treated!
- Be in your seat with instrument and music, ready to play when the bell rings.
- Come prepared for class with the appropriate materials: instrument, music, pencil, and planner.
- No gum, food, or drink in the classroom.
- Display proper rehearsal etiquette. Refrain from talking and respond appropriately to direction given to instructor.
- No homework, electronic devices, or sleeping in rehearsal
- Be responsible for your music and equipment

## **Practicing**

- Students are expected to practice outside of class to be adequately prepared..
- Playing tests will be assigned over the material.

## **Cell Phones and Electronic Devices**

- Please note that to ensure productive rehearsal, cell phones and electronic devices are not to be used in rehearsal or performance. Use of cell phones during rehearsal will result in disciplinary action.

## **Late to class and Behavior Policy**

- If you are late to class sign the Late Book

First offense:	Warning from Mr. Leung
Second offense:	Teacher detention (lunch or after school)
Third offense:	30-minute teacher detention/ parent notification
Fourth offense and beyond:	Office referral

## **Attendance**

\*According to Howard County Public Schools, any student missing more than five percent of class is subject to denial of credit for the semester. If a student has missed five percent or more of classes he/she may not make up the assignments for credit. Five percent of classes equal nine days out of the semester.

## **Rehearsal Procedures for Orchestra**

To develop a standard of musical excellence and attitude, which reflects credit upon you and the orchestra, as well as Centennial High School, the following principles are to be established to maintain discipline, pride, and cooperation from all members.

- Arrive at rehearsals on time with everything you will need
- Set up your stand and chair immediately. If you have time, help set up your section as well.
- Get your music and instrument in an orderly manner and be seated immediately. Adjust your chair and stand so that you can see the music and the conductor.
- Sit with good posture. Both feet flat on the floor, legs, uncrossed, and back away from the back of the chair.
- Warm up quietly. Talking should be minimal.
- When conductor comes to the podium stop playing and talking.
- Stop when the conductor cuts you off and listen for directions.
- Do not touch any instrument other than your own unless instructed to do so.
- Your name must be on your case and music at all times.
- Prepare for every rehearsal. Make sure that your instrument is in good working order and that you have your music and a pencil.
- At the end of the rehearsal reset the chairs and stands for the next class.

**Centennial High School Orchestras  
Calendar 2018-2019**

Note: Please add to your calendar the dates that apply. If you have any questions about which dates may apply, please contact me at school. If there is a conflict, please let me know as soon as possible. All dates are tentative and subject to change.

- SEP 6 Back to School Night/ FOM sponsored Food Trucks from 3-7 pm  
13-14 Auditions for Violin 1  
24 Deadline -Jr. All-State Orchestra Nominations, notify Mr. Leung  
24-28 Section Pride Week  
27-28 Auditions Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Bass
- OCT 5 Deadline –Sr. All State Orchestra Nominations, notify Mr. Leung  
27 CHS Music Department Mattress Sale
- NOV 10 Jr. All-State Orchestra Auditions  
17 Sr. All-State Orchestra Auditions  
26-28 CHS Winter Spectacular Tech Rehearsal, 2:30-6:00 PM  
29-30 Winter Spectacular 7 pm, CHS Auditorium
- DEC 10` CHS Winter Concert, 7:00 PM (Band)  
11 CHS Winter Concert, 7:00 PM (Orchestra)  
12 CHS Winter Concert, 7:00 PM (Choir)
- JAN 26 Howard County Solo and Ensemble Festival, Mt. Hebron High School
- FEB 1-3 Sr. All-State Orchestra
- MAR 1-3 Jr.-All State Orchestras  
TBD Adjudication Clinic  
26-27 Howard County Orchestra Adjudications  
28-31 CHS Music Department Spring Trip, Virginia Beach
- APR 2 CHS Spring Concert, 7:00 PM (Band)  
3 CHS Spring Concert, 7:00 PM (Orchestra)  
4 CHS Spring Concert, 7:00 PM (Choir)
- MAY 11 Maryland State Solo and Ensemble Festival  
20 CHS Pops Concert I, 7:00 PM (Band)  
21 CHS Pops Concert II, 7:00 PM (Orchestra)  
22 CHS Pops Concert III, 7:00 PM (Choir)  
TBD Graduation

# Instructions for completion of CSO/CSE Syllabus

1. At [www.centennialmusic.org](http://www.centennialmusic.org) under your ensemble, click on the link for the syllabus and the medical form. Fill out and return first page of medical form with this signature sheet. Students in the CHS Music Department will participate in after school rehearsals, evening concerts, and many other non-school hour related events over the course of the year. It is important that we have easily accessible emergency contact and medical information for every student. All medical forms will be kept confidential and on file for the school year.
2. Visit [www.centennialmusic.org](http://www.centennialmusic.org) and click the link on the home page to complete the *Syllabus Agreement and Contact Information Form*. All contact information provided will be used for educational and informational purposes for the CHS music department and CHS Friends of Music.
3. Please fill out *Syllabus Agreement and Contact Information Form* by **Friday, September 8, 2017** acknowledging completion of online contact information, medical form, and understanding of the CHS Orchestra syllabus. Thank you.

\*Note, at times rehearsals and concerts will be recorded and/or videotaped which will be used as an educational tool to help the students and director. If this is a concern please contact me.