



# Whiteaker Middle School Advanced Orchestra

*Mr. Correa & Ms. Graybeal*

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**Orchestra Resource Website - [www.correamusic.com](http://www.correamusic.com)**

**Welcome** to Advanced Orchestra! This year we will be playing and making great music together. This handbook will give you an idea of the skills you will learn this year, what our class requirements are and how you will be graded. Please take this home and share it with your grown-ups. You and they need to **sign the contract** on the last page and please returned it signed to Mr. Correa by **Friday, September 5th<sup>th</sup>**.

**Course Description:** This is the advanced middle school orchestra. This course is designed to enable students to perform repertoire in a concert setting. The course will enhance skills in reading music and help them develop good practicing habits, performance routines, and concert skills. Students learn how music is relevant to their lives and promotes leadership skills. The foundation of string instrumental technique is constantly reinforced. Development of an appreciation for music is fundamental to the course.

**Course Objectives: "A.S.K."**

## **Attitudes**

- Critically self-evaluate performances and accept constructive criticism from qualified evaluators.
- Develop a sense of pride and enjoyment in playing an instrument.
- Develop poise and proper stage presence.
- Perform with confidence in a concert setting alone and in a group setting.
- Strive for the highest and enjoy the music making process.
- Promote a safe educational environment.
- Develop healthy problem solving technique

## **Skills**

- Read, define, and understand musical terms used in selected repertoire.
- Demonstrate the following note and rest values in duple and triple meters: whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, and the dotted values of each.
- Read and demonstrate the following time signatures: 4/4, 2/4, 6/8, C- alla breve.
- Read and understand the following key signatures: D, G, A, C, and F major.
- Demonstrate the following dynamic markings: pp, p, mp, mf, f, ff, cresc. and decrescendo and their symbols.
- Sight read grade II music
- Refine weight distribution, unilateral movement, and basic body positions - "address"
- Develop bilateral movement (*move in opposite direction of the bow movement*)
- Refine and control bow hold, basic martele, detache, retrieve, and linked bowing in all parts of the bow and tempi.
- Use complex slurs and refine string crossings at various tempi.
- Adjust bow distribution in proportion to bow weight, speed, and placement.
- Demonstrate hooked, successive down-bows, and tremolo bow movements.
- Match pitches that are chromatically altered.

## **Knowledge**

- Differentiate between characteristic and uncharacteristic tone
- Recognize major and minor scales and arpeggios in basic keys
- Understand and demonstrate ensemble skills (*blend, balance, intonation, dynamics, uniformity of articulation, tempi, rhythm, phrasing, and style*)
- Understand and expressively interpret a variety of styles through performance.
- Internalize musical elements (being able to vocalize music concepts)
- Understand all musical symbols in selected music.
- Planning proper bow distribution, weight, and direction for appropriate outcomes.
- Understand student leadership, rehearsal discipline, and efficient self-directed study skills.

## Grading Criteria:

**Concerts, assemblies, festivals, adjudications, out-call performances** all have a potential **30 point** possible.

*Participation includes being in proper dress attire. Non-participation in a concert, assemblies, festivals, adjudications, or out-call performances without proper excuse will result in a loss of 30 points.*

*Non-participation in an individual hearing will be able to be made up after appropriate time for the student to catch up following the illness or conflict. There will be no loss of points.*

**Individual hearings** will be held regularly to determine accurately a student's current performance product, where their abilities relative to proper pitch, tone, and rhythm will be carefully evaluated on a **30-point** possible standard.

*The evaluation includes a 10-point possible rating in each of the three categories listed above, for a maximum possible or 30 points.*

*The grading is done on a product-oriented basis, not a curve, which gives each student an absolute standard to compare their progress, and unlimited opportunity to develop based upon consistent and purposeful practice routines.*

*The grading procedure is listed immediately below, and is applied to each of the three categories:*

- a) 10 – 9 = no noticeable weakness, occasional but slight refinement possible, but performance is of high quality, and without question ready for public display.
- b) 8 = generally acceptable playing, with noticeable need for some attention in several spots that would affect a performance negatively.
- c) 7 = frequent and obvious faults, with definite interruptions that would jeopardize an entire performance.
- d) Less than 6 points in any category is unacceptable. Make up necessary.
- e) 10 – 9 = A; 8 = B; 7 = C; 6 = D.

*Comments are provided immediately for each student to review in order to remedy those areas of greatest concern. Verbal feedback is given following the hearing to reinforce the more critical aspects of the hearing, including positive high points, which further reinforces the student's perception for what is highly valued by the instructor for their particular personal development.*

**Attendance** at all sectionals and scheduled concerts appearing on the school calendar are mandatory unless a family emergency or illness precludes participation in those scheduled events.

*-Whenever students have received a written addendum to their calendar with at least a two-week advance notice, those items will also become mandatory.*

*-Absence from any scheduled events. i.e. sectionals, concerts, festivals, etc. will result in the loss of all points associated with that particular event.*

*-Absence, without appropriate excuse, from a sectional will result in the loss of the 5 points possible for participation.*

### Daily participation

*After the tardy bell has rung, each student will be seated and prepared to commence tuning and begin warm-ups.*

*Consequences:*

<i>Failure to Participate</i>	<i>5- point loss</i>
<i>Disruptive Behavior</i>	<i>5- point loss</i>
<i>Unexcused tardiness</i>	<i>10- point loss</i>

**Progress, semester and final** grades are determined by the average of the individual hearing tests, concert scores, and attendance points from sectionals.

*The number of points which were lost due to late arrivals, non-attendance at sectionals, concerts, assemblies, festivals, adjudications, and out-call programs are deducted from the total points achieved prior to the averaging process.*

## Class Materials

Bring the following items to every rehearsal unless otherwise stated.

- *Your instrument and bow*
- *Special needs for your instrument (rosin, cleaning cloth, shoulder rest, rock-stop)*
- *Music folder, sheet music and assigned books*
- *Sharpened pencil (NO pens, not even the "erasable" kind)*

## Concert Attire

Unless otherwise stated by the director, clothing for all performances will be:

Ladies:  
Black blouse (long sleeves preferred); and  
Black slacks or floor-length skirt; and  
Black dress stockings and shoes.

Gentlemen:  
Black dress shirt w/ collar (long sleeves);  
Black dress pants, black belt;  
Black dress socks and shoes.

**– Absolutely NO jeans, tennis shoes, or white sweat socks! –**

**If you are unable to acquire the appropriate clothing**, please contact Mr. Correa.  
Students who are inappropriately dressed will not be allowed to perform and will lose points.

## Calendar of Events

*All dates are subject to change. Updates will be provided in a timely manner.*

	<u>Performance date</u>	<u>start/call</u>	<u>location</u>
Fall Concert	October 27 <sup>th</sup>	7PM/6:30PM	Dayspring Church
Winter Concert	December 9 <sup>th</sup>	7PM/6:30PM	Dayspring Church
Music Assembly	December 19 <sup>th</sup>	During school	Whiteaker Middle School
Spring Concert	March 10 <sup>th</sup>	7PM/6:30PM	Dayspring Church
Solo/ensemble(opt'l)	March 14 <sup>th</sup>	Throughout the day	McNary High School
MS Adjudications	April 16 <sup>th</sup>	5PM/5:30PM	McKay High School Auditorium
Area Wide	May 28 <sup>th</sup>	7PM/6:30PM	McNary Gym
End of Year Concert	June 1 <sup>st</sup>	7PM/6:30PM	Dayspring Church



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## 2014 Whiteaker Advanced 2015

### ORCHESTRA SYLLABUS PARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

Student Name: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian's Name: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Students *and* parents or guardians: read this syllabus carefully. Sign your name if you understand and agree to abide by the policies in this syllabus. Include comments or questions on the back of this form and return it (below the dotted line *only*) to Mr. Correa. Keep the rest of the syllabus so that you can refer to it later.

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you in advanced for all you help and support! This will be a great year!  
Let's make some beautiful music!*