

4th Grade Orchestra 2019

Congratulations! Your 4th grade student has the opportunity to join Crookston Public Schools' **Orchestra Program!**

On September 10th, 4th grade students attended a presentation and demonstration of the string family of instruments. Your student learned about the differences between string instruments, heard some Crookston High School orchestra students perform, and even got to try out instruments. Now is the time for your student to get their very own string instrument and join orchestra!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. The green interest form is DUE FRIDAY, 9/13, to your student's classroom teacher.

2. ORCHESTRA RENTAL NIGHT
Monday, 9/23, any time between 5:30-7:00 PM
Highland Elementary School Cafeteria
For parents *and* students

At this meeting, your family/student will:

1. Receive information about the Crookston Orchestra Program and string instruments.
2. Learn about instrument rental plans (presented by Popplers Music and Schmitt Music).
3. Rent your first string instrument!

Grade 4 orchestra lessons will begin the week of September 30th.

Students will receive their instruments at their first orchestra lesson. It is critical that students have all the required materials at their first orchestra lesson. Lesson schedules will be distributed to 4th grade teachers the week prior to the first lesson.

Please contact me with any questions you might have. I hope to meet you and your student on Monday 9/23 at Orchestra Rental Night!

Haley Ellis
Orchestra Director, CHS/HES
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You Will Need...

1. An instrument, bow, and case with name tag:

- Violin, viola, cello, or double bass

2. Instrument accessories:

- For violin and viola: shoulder rest or sponge, rosin, cleaning cloth
- For cello: endpin anchor (strap) or rock stop, rosin, cleaning cloth
- For double bass: rock stop, rosin, cleaning cloth

3. Books

- Sound Innovations for String Orchestra Book 1 (for your instrument)

Materials are available from area music stores listed below. A limited supply of instruments and bows are available to rent from the school for \$30. Bass players will have access to a school bass for use in lessons.

Arioso Music Academy

2524 South Washington Street
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(701) 738-0088
www.ariosomusicacademy.com

Popplers Music

1720 S. Washington St S5
Grand Forks, ND 58208
(701) 746-7471
www.popplersmusic.com

Schmitt Music

Village West Shopping Center
4101 13th Ave SW
Fargo, ND 58103
(877) 724-6488
<https://www.schmittmusic.com/>

Which Instrument Should I Play?

VIOLIN

The violin is the smallest and highest pitched instrument in the string family. The sound of the violin is bright, lively, and sweet. It is a highly versatile instrument and can be heard in any music genre, from Fiddle to Classical to Pop. There are more violins in an orchestra than any other instrument (some orchestras have as many as 40 violins!). In an orchestra, the violins most often play the melody - the "main tune" of the music. The violin is played horizontally, by tucking it between the jaw and shoulder and either standing or sitting.

VIOLA

The viola looks similar to the violin, but is a bit larger and has a deeper, warmer sound than the violin. The range of the viola is similar to that of the violin. The number of violas in an orchestra is usually about half the number of violins. In an orchestra, the violas typically play a harmony or counter-melody part, but do sometimes play the melody as well. The viola is played in the same way as a violin, by tucking it between the chin and shoulder and either standing or sitting.

CELLO

The cello (or violoncello) is noticeably larger than the violin and viola and is pitched an octave below the viola. The cello has a wider range because of its larger size, and can create both dark, rich, deep sounds, and bright, cheerful, high sounds. The cello is often said to be the instrument whose range is closest to the human singing voice. In an orchestra, the cello section has about as many members as the viola section, and most often plays a harmony part. The cello must be played upright while seated and by leaning the instrument into the body.

DOUBLE BASS

The double bass (also called bass, string bass, or upright bass) is the largest instrument in the string family and is pitched an octave below the cello. The deep, very low sounds of the bass provide the foundation of the orchestra's harmonies and help carry the rhythm. The instrument is so large that it must be played standing up and by leaning the instrument into the body. Bass players pluck and bow the strings like other string players, but they have two bow style options - the German and French bows (underhand and overhand). There are usually only several basses in an orchestra.

ORCHESTRA INTEREST FORM

DUE FRIDAY, 9/14

Student name (first and last): _____

Classroom teacher: _____

School (circle one): Highland Cathedral Our Savior's

Rank your instrument preference 1-4 (1=top choice):

_____ Violin

_____ Viola

_____ Cello

_____ Double Bass

Check one:

_____ Yes, we will be attending Orchestra Rental Night on Monday, 9/23 between 5:30-7:00 PM in the Highland Elementary School Cafeteria.

_____ No, we will not be attending Orchestra Rental Night. We will be getting the required materials independently.

_____ No, we will not be attending Orchestra Rental Night. We are interested in renting a school instrument.

Parent/guardian name: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Questions/Concerns: