



YC MUSIC HANDBOOK 2017-2018

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www.yamhillcarltonmusic.org

Welcome to the Yamhill Carlton Music family! By joining the music program you have dedicated yourself to an outstanding organization committed to excellence through performance. Our ensembles have a tradition of excellence that you have committed to being a part of, and in doing so you will have some of the most powerful experiences of your entire life; make lasting friendships; learn the value of teamwork, discipline, hard work; and create beautiful music in the process. Your experiences in music will be: rehearsals and performances, music festivals, trips, auditioned honor bands, solo and ensemble performances, and parades.

This manual is intended to answer most questions that may arise. Because there are several musical teams within our music department, this handbook sets some specific parameters and guidelines to that we can all work together better and make the best music possible. Ultimately though, the most important attributes that you can contribute is desire, a good attitude, and determination.

Because our music program is in a constant motion of rehearsal and performance, the majority of the day-to-day operational info is located on our music webpage at www.yamhillcarltonmusic.org. Please visit they website weekly so that you can receive information as it becomes available. This handbook is designed to provide the foundation for all that we do and accomplish in our music program. We are excited to welcome you to the Yamhill Carlton Music!

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! I would like to commend you for making the decision to join the music program at Yamhill-Carlton. Your activities say a lot about you; you have chosen to get involved with a group of people known for working hard, making wonderful music, and producing highly successful and well-rounded individuals. I hope you are looking forward to an incredible year of music making as much as I am.

As I start my second year at Yamhill Carlton Intermediate and High Schools, I am even more excited about the potential of our program and our students. In the past, the YC Music Program has seen some incredible successes. I am looking forward to working with all of you (students, parents, and community) to improve the program. One of the best feelings as a teacher is watching students feel proud of what they have worked so hard to achieve. I have no doubts that this is the environment we will create; something we can all be proud of.

This handbook contains a great deal of information about the music program. Please take the time to read through it thoroughly, even if you are a returning member. This handbook covers all aspects of the music program.

I have set a goal for our music program this year: Accountability. Students must be on time to every rehearsal. They must know their music ahead of time by practicing at home. Student and parents can hold each other accountable by doing weekly check-ins and making sure they check the website often for announcements. As for myself, I hope to improve on communication via the website, emails, and calls home to all of you. Let's all hold each other accountable!

Please add the rehearsal and performance dates in this handbook to your home calendar as soon as possible. It is critical that students attend *every* rehearsal and performance for each ensemble they commit to at YC. Please contact me well in advance of any unavoidable conflicts so that we can make the best adjustments for the good of the program. The calendar is on the website!

In addition, this year the YC Music Program and Theater Department will be starting a Parent and Booster Organization, *Friends of the Performing Arts*, which all parents of YCIS and YCHS music and drama department automatically become members themselves. We will be looking for individuals to help formalize this support group to help the music program be sustainable and grow. For more information, including detail about fundraising, volunteering, and other ways to support the music program, please visit our new music department website: www.yamhillcarltonmusic.org.

Thank you for your support! Go YC Music!

Sincerely,



Eben A. Fernando Heldreth
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All forms can be found on our website: www.yamhillcarltonmusic.org



Student Expectations

Being a member of the YC Music Program means you are part of a close-knit family. Your attitude and accomplishments have a direct impact on everyone else around you, and vice versa. To the rest of YC Schools, the Cities of Yamhill and Carlton, and the State of Oregon, you serve as an ambassador for our program. Success in our program comes from your dedication to perfection and teamwork. We expect you to help foster excellence by taking responsibility for learning your music, performing with great artistry, and treating others with respect at all times.

Good Faith

Honesty and openness are expected from all students; forthrightness and serious consideration are given in return.

Rehearsal Etiquette

"Rehearsal Skills" are a significant part of your assessments. During rehearsal, students are expected to follow instructions given by the director, staff members, student leaders and guest conductors. You must arrive early, use the restroom beforehand, and make sure your instrument is ready to go before rehearsal begins. Gum chewing, eating, and cell phone usage during rehearsals will be interpreted as having a poor attitude, and disciplinary action may be taken if that becomes a pattern.

Individual Practice

Students are expected to prepare their music before coming to rehearsal. Students are also expected to regularly drill themselves on scales and other exercises in order to build strength, control and endurance on their instrument. Insufficient practice and preparation of music can affect the student's progress and performance and should be reflected in his/ her grade.

"The purpose of a rehearsal is not to learn your part, but to learn everybody else's part."

Performance Conduct

When we perform, we represent the very best of YC Schools. Be especially professional during concert performances. On or off the stage, the audience is evaluating you.

Athletic Events

The Pep Band represents YC Music Ensembles when they perform at home football and basketball games. Despite the relaxed atmosphere and popular music, you are expected to dress appropriately and play to your highest level. Please leave your cell phones off and in your pocket so you are ready to play at a moment's notice.

Travel

Traveling presents a unique opportunity to strengthen our reputation throughout Oregon and the United States. The ability to travel is a privilege earned by past generations of music students; you should aim to leave the same legacy.

Absences

Discuss absences to the director and if you know you will be late to rehearsals and performances. In an emergency, call to the Director before the start of the event will excuse you from that event. Please notify the director at least two weeks before a required performance if a conflict is unavoidable. When performances missed there will be required make-up work and assignments that will need to be submitted.

Private Lessons

All music students are encouraged to take private lessons, as they are the best way to improve on your instrument and get the most out of music class. The Director's primary objective is to prepare the ensemble for a performance, which means he/she simply does not have the time to teach every student one-on-one for more than the occasional moment. On the YC Music website you will find our local private teacher list and contact information.

Instruments

Generally, students are expected to supply their own instruments for the smaller, basic instrumentation of the band. High School music members are expected to have higher quality instruments. Additionally, students must purchase their own reeds, mouthpieces, oils and cleaning materials, and cover maintenance and repair costs. Students are expected to care for others' instruments as if they were their own. Most students and families rent their instruments for the first couple of years to try out different instruments and find the one that is most suitable. Renting an instrument varies greatly in price depending on the type and quality of instrument (most instruments cost between \$20-\$30/ month, some of the larger and premium quality instruments range from \$30-\$50/month).

School-Owned Instruments

The music department has a very limited selection of specialized and larger instruments such as larger saxophones, tubas, bassoons, percussion instruments, and others. Band members who play these instruments may borrow them from the school with a rental agreement and fee. Each student must provide supplies such as oils, reeds, cleaning cloths, and sometimes mouthpieces. All students are highly encouraged to rent from one of the local music store.

Insurance, Damage and Theft

We strongly recommend that you insure any instrument in your care, whether it is rented or owned. Instruments can usually be added to homeowners' and renters' policies. Yamhill – Carlton Intermediate and High Schools, YC Music Ensembles are not responsible for damage to instruments (including cases) that occur during rehearsals and performances, damage that occur during transportation on a bus or truck, or theft from the music room, or any other storage facility – temporary or permanent.

Lost and Found Items

YCIS, YCHS and YC Music are not responsible for items left out in the band room, on practice fields, or at event locations. Check the Lost & Found box near the front entrance of YCIS for missing items. Students who find others' items are encouraged to return them as soon as possible to its owner, or deposit them in the Lost & Found box. The Lost & Found box is emptied at the end of each semester.

Sheet Music

All YC Music students will be given sheet music, which is acted like our curriculum and textbooks. Every student will have their personal music folder containing sheet music and music books for class. It is expected that all students turn in music their music when we are done performing the pieces periodically throughout the year. All of our music should be taken with great care. Sheet music is expensive. At times original copies will be passed out and if that copy gets misplaced or damaged by a student, that student will be charged to replace it (some publishers require you to buy the whole piece again if this happens, which can cost up to \$150). The music folders are meant to protect the music and keep them organized for students.



YC MUSIC ROOM

Our music room is a unique facility. It is unlikely that any other single room in the school is home for this much expensive equipment. Used by over 120 people every day, it is important to maintain the space responsibly to respect the needs and equipment of all members.

Using the music room is a privilege. Everyone who uses the music room is expected to know and follow these basic rules...

1. *NO FOOD OR DRINK (including gum) in the music room for any reason.* The only exception is water in a sealable container. Gatorade is NOT water...
2. Keep the music room clean. Pick up trash even if it's not yours.
3. No electronics except for the required tuner/ metronome and clip-on microphone.
4. Respect the podium.
5. Stay out of the music room during classes you are not enrolled in.
6. Sectionals will take priority over individual practice outside of school hours.
7. Be respectful of our facility as it is one-of-a-kind! Treat everything in it as if it were your own!
8. Please do not set anything on top of the percussion or mallet instruments.
9. Please do not touch others' instruments. Only move someone else's instrument if it will be damaged otherwise.
10. Must follow all YCIS and YCHS school rules and regulations.



OVERVIEW OF YC MUSIC ENSEMBLES

Yamhill Carlton offers many opportunities for students to learn about and perform music. At the core of each student's music experience is membership in one of the large ensemble classes of Band & Orchestra ensembles. These classes provide the instruction and assessments that students need to be successful in other musical settings.

Goals for all Ensembles:

Students will...

- Perform a varied repertoire of music.
- Read sheet music and interpret music notation.
- Listen to, analyze and describe music.
- Evaluate music and music performances.
- Study relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
- Study music in relation to history and culture.
- Display the behaviors of professional musicians.

Materials

Required:

1. Pencil with eraser.
2. All loaned music.
3. Instrument and accessories including: bow, mouthpiece, 3-4 reeds, sticks, mallets, oil, and rosin.
4. Tuner/Metronome with clip microphone

Recommended:

1. Covered water bottle.
2. Blank staff paper.
3. Paper clips.
4. Small rag or cloth.

Classroom Procedures

At the beginning of class...

- Use the restroom on the way to the music room.
- Set up your instrument.
- Be in your seat, warming up LOW AND SLOW, within 2 minutes after the bell rings. Warming up on your own is a privilege – use the time wisely, please.

During class...

- Keep cell phones off and away.
- Use a pencil (NO PENS!!!) to mark your loaned music.
- Listen to whomever is playing or speaking at all times.

After class...

- Stack chairs and stands.
- Pack up instruments properly.
- Speak with director (if needed).
- Do not crowd the doorway.

Before or after school...

- Students who wish to practice individually or in groups after or before school in the music room, must discuss and sign-up with Mr. E beforehand.



High School Ensembles

String Ensemble

The High School String Ensemble is the top performing string ensemble within the music department and is for high school students. Students explore and perform a wide variety of advanced string literature as well as continuing to expand individual technique. This performance group is a great way to enjoy music and the orchestra experience. This ensemble performs for various functions during the year including selected sport events, student assemblies, school concerts, and festivals. In addition to the string orchestra responsibilities, String Ensemble musicians are responsible for performing in Pep Band.

Wind Ensemble

The High School Wind Ensemble is the top performing wind ensemble within the music department and is for high school students. Students explore and perform a wide variety of advanced wind literature as well as continuing to expand individual technique. This performance group is a great way to enjoy music and the band experience. This ensemble performs for various functions during the year including selected sport events, student assemblies, school concerts, and festivals. In addition to the concert band responsibilities, Wind Ensemble musicians are responsible for performing in Pep Band.

YC Tiger Pep Band

The YC Tiger Pep Band helps create an exciting and fun atmosphere for many of the home varsity football games and varsity boys/girls basketball home games. It is there to entertain and pump up the fans and athletes. Students can earn credit toward earning their Music Letter by participating in Pep Band. All members of the YCHS musicians participate in Pep Band and will attend all scheduled football and basketball band rehearsals and performances. These are performances, which are summative assessments for class. Make-up assignments will be required if a performance is missed. All music (band & orchestra) students in 7th-12th grades are invited to play with the pep band.

Intermediate Ensembles

Woodwind Class

The Intermediate Woodwind Class is composed of 7th and 8th graders. This woodwind ensemble focuses on enhancing individual and ensemble techniques and explores more advanced concepts and literature. Students explore a wide variety of woodwind literature as well learn individual technique and develop the fundamental skills. This performance group is another a great way to enjoy music and the band experience. This ensemble performs at local concerts throughout the school year and may participate in 1-2 middle school music festivals.

Brass Class

The Intermediate Brass Class is composed of 7th and 8th graders. This brass ensemble focuses on enhancing individual and ensemble techniques and explores more advanced concepts and literature. Students explore a wide variety of brass literature as well learn individual technique and develop the fundamental skills. This performance group is another a great way to enjoy music and the band experience. This ensemble performs at local concerts throughout the school year and may participate in 1-2 middle school music festivals.

Percussion Class

The Intermediate Percussion Class is composed of 7th and 8th graders. This percussion ensemble focuses on enhancing individual and ensemble techniques and explores more advanced concepts and literature. Students explore a wide variety of percussion literature as well learn individual technique and develop the fundamental skills. This performance group is another a great way to enjoy music and the band experience. This ensemble performs at local concerts throughout the school year and may participate in 1-2 middle school music festivals.

YC Music Ensembles (continued)

Strings Class

The Intermediate Strings Class is composed of 7th and 8th graders. This string ensemble focuses on enhancing individual and ensemble techniques and explores more advanced concepts and literature. Students explore a wide variety of string literature as well learn individual technique and develop the fundamental skills. This performance group is another a great way to enjoy music and the band experience. This ensemble performs at local concerts throughout the school year and may participate in 1-2 middle school music festivals.

Beginning Ensembles

Beginning Band

The Beginning Band is the entry-level concert band composed of 6th graders. Students explore a wide variety of beginning wind literature as well learn individual technique and develop the fundamental skills. This performance group is a great way to enjoy music and the band experience. This ensemble performs at local concerts throughout the school year.

Beginning Orchestra

The Beginning Orchestra is the entry-level string orchestra composed of 6th graders. Students explore a wide variety of beginning string literature as well learn individual technique and develop the fundamental skills. This performance group is a great way to enjoy music and the orchestra experience. This ensemble performs at local concerts throughout the school year.



PROFICIENCY - BASED GRADING

Students are assessed regularly to determine growth and progress. Students will have formative and summative assessments every month. Formative assessments will mostly be individual playing assignments, music theory assignments, and in-class performances. Summative assessments will mostly be concerts, performances, and tests and are weighted heavier than the formative assessments. YC music students have 6 main Learning Targets, and each learning target has a few sub-categories.

Students receive a grade dependent on their level per standard:

1: Beginning 2: Approaching 3: Proficient 4: Exceeding

Yamhill Carlton Music Ensemble Learning Targets

1) I can perform music with quality of sound.

- Balance
- Intonation
- Balance

2) I can perform music with technique.

- Articulation/Diction/Bowing
- Rhythm & Precision
- Facility

3) I can perform with musicality.

- Interpretation/Style
- Phrasing/Dynamics
- Expression/Sensitivity

4) I can demonstrate ensemble skills.

- Contribute to Rehearsals in a Positive Manner
- Rehearsal Technique
- Concert Etiquette

5) I can listen and respond.

- Diagnose performance of self and others using appropriate musical terminology
- Prescribe solutions for performance issues
- Demonstrate awareness of cross-curricular, cultural and/or historical context and relevance

6) I can demonstrate musical literacy

- Read, interpret and perform musical notation
- Demonstrate understanding and proper use of musical terminology, markings, etc.



PRACTICING AT HOME

Learning how to be a skilled musician starts at school, but serious proficiency is achieved at home. In order to develop your musical skills, you **MUST** practice **CONSISTENTLY**. Do so by setting aside 30-45 minutes each day to practice; beware that procrastinating for several days and then trying to practice for 3 hours all on one day will accomplish nothing meaningful. Ideally, you should set aside a single block of time, but practice can be broken into smaller chunks throughout a day if need be. *Some practice is always better than none.*

It is important to have specific goals in mind for each practice session. Keep a log and shoot for faster tempos, smoother slurs, even pitches, accurate articulations, etc.

<i>Sample Practice Session</i>		
Exercise	Goals	Time
Breathing & Stretching	Activate the music-making muscles and tissues in your body. Get the blood flowing and the air moving.	2-5 minutes
Long Tones	Warm up the ears, embouchure/ arm positions focus the air stream/ bowing, concentrate on producing your best tone. Practice slowly and smoothly, with frequent lip rest.	2-5 minutes
Flexibility Drills	Further warm up the embouchure up in all registers, develop excellent breathing coordination. Practice slowly at first.	2-5 minutes
Velocity Drills	Develop finger-air-eye coordination. Slowly at first, eventually as fast as possible!	2-5 minutes
Articulation Exercises	Develop ear-embouchure-tongue/ bow coordination, increase your ability to set up and play any note in any register on the first attack.	2-5 minutes
Band & Orch. Music	Improve sections in ensemble music and fix mistakes.	4-10 minutes
The best way to practice ensemble music is to... <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pick out small segments that need the MOST improvement NOW. 2. Look up fingerings and musical terms you don't recognize. 3. Count the segment out loud – slowly at first – while tapping your foot. 4. Play the segment several times (tap your foot!). 5. If you get stuck on one little spot, zero in on it and play it several times until it becomes more comfortable. 6. Gradually speed up the tempo until you can play the segment correctly several times in a row. 7. Play the whole section that includes the segment correctly several times. 		
Sight-Reading	“The Enjoyment Factor.” Learn and experience new music of your choice and interests, for your own enjoyment.	2-5 minutes
Phrasing	Concentrate on feeling the music. What is the composer trying to say?	2-5 minutes

If you set goals and work hard to achieve them, you should produce positive results. Not only will you become a better performer, you will help yourself develop a good attitude toward **LEARNING** and **IMPROVING** every day. You will also come to feel the inner rewards of creativity and having the power to produce great music. Band class will be a lot more enjoyable and your appreciation for music will be much greater. Those are all things you can keep for life!



VOLUNTEERING

Parent Volunteer Needs

There are many opportunities for parents to volunteer in support of the program, and the success of the program depends upon the willingness of parents to step up and do their part. **It is our hope that every parent volunteers to the music program.** Please visit the YCSD website.

*All volunteers must adhere to the YCSD volunteer requirements and must pass the background check via the YCSD website. Questions? Please contact our Mr. E.

FUNDRAISING

FOR THE MUSIC PROGRAM AND THE STUDENTS

Music Fundraising

The YC Music engages in several major fundraising efforts throughout the year. All families are encouraged to participate in the fundraising activities by providing time, creative energy & labor. We are always looking for new ideas!

Sponsorship Letters

An additional fundraising opportunity is the mailing of Sponsorship solicitation letters. Students may ask friends, family, and businesses to either help support them individually or support the program donating money (for specific items or general), supplies, or time. The contributions may be tax deductible for the individuals making the contributions. This is an easy way to raise funds and awareness of the music program. Participation in this effort is entirely voluntary. Additional details about the timing and process for submitting names will be provided during the school year. These donations will assist us in helping fund instrument purchases, instructors, private lesson scholarships, transportation expenses, event participation fees, and other music-related expenses. Our Sponsors are listed on the website and will be presented in all of our concert programs with you and/ or your company's name. Sponsors will reset every year.

Other Fundraising Opportunities

Throughout the year the Parent and Booster Group will develop additional fundraising activities targeted at helping students offset the cost of music such as scholarships for rentals and lessons. These have including can drives, car washes, merchant card sales, Christmas tree farm help and a breakfast fundraiser to name a few. Stay tuned throughout the year to the [YC Music website](#). Periodically there will parent meetings to stay in touch with the latest news on fundraising opportunities and other events.

Thank you for supporting your band and orchestra program!



YC Music Participation Contract
2017-2018 School Year

READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY.

I, _____, have read and understand
(write your full name)
the YC Music Handbook. I pledge to do all of the following:

I will follow directions and work independently.

I will practice and protect my sheet music. I will always keep my equipment in the best condition possible.

I realize that planning ahead, keeping a schedule, communicating, and working toward a common goal is expected and required of me.

I will attend all rehearsals and performances, and do whatever is needed of me to help set-up and take-down equipment.

I will try not to make mistakes, but if I do, I will accept the consequences of them.

I will respect other people for who they are, where they came from, and what they believe is right. I am open to new ideas and willing to compromise.

I will check my email and keep myself updated with the music program.

**BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT, I CERTIFY THAT I AM 100% COMMITTED
TO THE YC MUSIC PROGRAM AND MAY BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE
FOR ALL OF MY SUCCESSES.**

DATE: _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____