

# Mustang Symphony Packet

*A special piece for MHS Orchestras*

*composed by Miss Aileen Keliiliki*

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## *Composer's Pre-note*

Welcome to Orchestra! This class is not only here to help you learn music, but to learn teamwork, aural skills, responsibility, and what it means to be a part of a musical ensemble.

The following sections will talk about how the class works, and my expectations for you as a musician. This is for *you* to read, and for your parents' records. Please refer to this document for my policies throughout the year. The **Parent's Note** page is for your *parents* to read and sign. It is a condensed version of this packet.

## Movement 1: The Musician's Rulebook

### Motivate Yourself:

The masters learn the most from their mistakes. Push yourself to always do your best, and don't become discouraged if something doesn't make sense the first time.

### Use Common Sense:

How you act in class determines how fast you improve on your instrument, and how fast our orchestra improves as well. You know what it means to act and speak appropriately.

### Show Respect:

Respect yourself, your school, your peers, your teachers, your family, and your instrument.

### Instruments are Important:

Your instrument is an expensive object. It cost a lot to make, and it will cost a lot to fix. Handle with care at all times. Keep your instrument away from younger siblings, pets, and friends who do not know how to handle it. Store your instrument in a safe, room-temperature place. Hot and Cold temperatures will affect the binding and the wood itself. Do not eat or drink around your instrument, or handle with dirty hands.

### Come Prepared:

Bring instruments, music, pencils, and any other equipment you will need for rehearsal. If any of these things are missing, you will get participation points taken off for the day.

## *Movement 11: I Choose...You*

Participation is 70% of your grade: 30% is for rehearsals and 40% is for performances (concerts). Each day you'll receive 10 points in participation. If you are tardy, absent, or not prepared for class, you will lose points.

**To make-up an *Excused Absence* from Rehearsal:** Practice an extra 30 minutes, and include it on the next Practice Log.

**To make-up an *Excused Absence* from a Performance:** All performances are very important and mandatory. We use everyone in the orchestra, and without you, it won't be the same. There are only two options to make-up a performance:

1. *Perform the concert pieces for the class:* You will need to have all 5 parts present for the performance, which means you'll have to recruit friends to practice, and perform with you. You will then be required to submit a 1 page paper explaining the preparation process, and your thoughts on the performance. The grade you receive will depend on the quality of the performance and your typed report.
2. *Perform in a public venue and submit a video recording:* The performance must be on your string instrument. A family recital in your living room does not count. Examples of public venues can be: A senior or nursing home, the library, an elementary school class, etc. Performance must be at least 15 minutes long.

### ***Performance Make-Up Appeal***

- This appeal must be submitted to Miss K at least two weeks prior to the concert date in order to receive full points for the make-up.
- Any student submitting an appeal closer than two weeks to the concert date (unless it is an emergency) will not be able to make-up the concert for full points. The amount of points earned will be at Miss K's jurisdiction.

*An orchestra concert is like a final exam for the entire orchestra class, and the experience is one that cannot be accurately replaced by any other activity.* This is the time to show our families, friends, teachers, and community members what we've worked hard on in class, as well as experience what it's like to perform on stage as an ensemble. We are a team with no bench warmers, and we can only succeed if our *entire* team is present. Please make it an effort to attend every mandatory performance. I cannot stress enough how important these concerts are.

### *Movement III: Let The Show Begin!*

For every concert, students should look their best. There is a saying that “an audience hears with their eyes.” Students should be well-groomed, showered, and prepared. Please no cologne or perfume, as it can inflame allergies and asthma and cause distractions for those around you in close quarters. That being said, there are specific uniforms students must abide by for concerts and performances.

<b>Clothing Item</b>	<b>Beginning Orchestra, Orchestra I &amp; Orchestra II</b>	<b>Orchestra III</b>
<b>Top/ Shirt</b>	Ladies: White blouse or nice top (no t-shirts, tank tops or shirts with color).  Gents: White long sleeve button down with collar and dark colored tie (or bow tie).	Ladies: Black blouse or nice top (no t-shirts, tank tops or shirts with other color).  Gents: White button down with collar (can be short sleeve), and black suit coat. Tucked into pants.
<b>Skirt/ Pants</b>	Ladies: Black skirt (at least down to knees when sitting). Cello and Bass players may wear nice black dress pants (no jeans, leggings, etc.).  Gents: Black dress pants (no jeans)	Ladies: Black skirt (at least down to knees when sitting). Cello and Bass players may wear nice black dress pants (no jeans, leggings, etc.).  Gents: Black dress pants (no jeans)
<b>Shoes &amp; Socks</b>	Both: Black socks/ tights without colorful logos that are visible. Closed Toe COMPLETELY BLACK shoes (including laces and logos). Small and minimum designs with jewels are appropriate.	Both: Black socks/ tights without colorful logos that are visible. Closed Toe COMPLETELY BLACK shoes (including laces and logos). Small and minimum designs with jewels are appropriate.
<b>Other</b>	Ladies: Black or simple jewelry (earrings, necklaces, etc.) is allowed.	Ladies: Black or simple jewelry (earrings, necklaces, etc.) is allowed.

## *Movement 1V: "Grade" Finale*

The remaining 30% of your grade is based off of other homework and quizzes. Any assignment handed in late will lose 3 points from the total earned score.

-**Practice Logs** need to be turned in every other week (see the website for due dates).

**Beginning & Orchestra 1:** You are required to practice 3 hours total per log.

**Orchestra 2 & 3:** You are required to practice 5 hours total per log.

You can turn it in via website, or use a hard copy. Practice Evaluations must be turned in online by 11:59 pm the day it's due.

-A **L.A.W. (Listen, Adjudicate, Write) Report** is required once every semester, and will be included in the final grade for Term 2 and Term 4. This is when you attend an *orchestra* concert at a high school level or higher, and submit a typed report on your thoughts about the concert. The worksheet can be found and printed from the website, under the Music Project page.

Orchestra concerts can be substituted by attending two live music performances such as: A musical, a ballet/ opera, a band/choir concert, etc.

The following concert types are examples that will count for L.A.W. Reports:

**Orchestra or Symphony Concert:** Concert for a string ensemble or full orchestra ensemble.

**Special Student or Senior Recital:** College students often put on solo recitals as part of their Senior curriculum.

**Concert with a string ensemble or orchestra as a special guest:** Other performance groups (ex. Choirs) may invite a small string ensemble, or the orchestra as special guests to perform with them at their concerts.

In other words, the concert should count if there is a string ensemble or string player involved in an *on-stage* performance. The Orchestra in the pit does not count.

### **Grade Break-Down:**

Participation (rehearsals): 30%

Other Homework: 15%

Participation (concerts): 40%

Playing Tests & Quizzes: 15%

## *Parent's Note*

### **Orchestra Parents/ Guardians,**

I am so excited to work with you and your student at MJHS! This ***Parent's Note*** is a highly condensed version of my policies stated in the ***Mustang Symphony (MS)*** disclosure document. We will go through the ***MS*** in class, though you are welcome to read it. The white version is a copy for *your* records.

♪ Most of your student's grade is made up of participation (30% rehearsal, 40% concert). All concerts/performances are mandatory, and it is very important that your student attend all of them. They will only be allowed to make-up a concert if it is an excused absence, and your student has filled out a Concert Make-Up Appeal. Please refer to the ***MS*** for what is considered an *excused concert absence*, and options for concert make-up.

♪ 10 Participation points are given every day. Points will be taken off if your student is tardy, absent, misbehaving, or not prepared (no instrument, no music, fingernails are too long, etc.).

♪ The remaining 30% of your student's grade is made up of homework, Practice Logs, quizzes, Playing Tests, and class assignments.

♪ Practice Logs are a way to record a student's practice efforts. This can be turned in online via website, or by paper which can be printed from my website, or found in the classroom. Practice Logs are due every *other* week.

♪ There are uniform dress requirements for the concerts. If students are not wearing appropriate concert attire, they will lose participation points, and those cannot be made up. Uniforms vary per class, so please ask your student, or refer to the ***MS*** for the requirements in more detail.

♪ Students are required to submit a L.A.W. Report for each semester. The reports will be included in the final grade for Term 2 and Term 4. Students must attend a high school level or higher string performance and submit a typed report on his/her thoughts about the concert. An orchestra concert can be substituted using two non-orchestra live musical performances. See the ***MS*** for additional information.

♪ I have a website with a special page for each class: [www.mapletonorchestras.org](http://www.mapletonorchestras.org)

All class pages will include information for what we did in class, upcoming events, and upcoming due dates. There are also several other pages on my site that may be of use to you and your student. Please take a moment to browse through and become familiar with my website.

You can find a copy of the entire ***Mustang Symphony Packet*** online for more detailed information, as well as a list of music teachers in our area.

You've reached the end! Please sign and date below signifying that you read the entirety of the ***Parent's Note***. Your student knows the due date. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Parent/ Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## *Orchestra Equipment Checklist*

### Things You need to provide:

Item	✓
Instrument & Bow in a Case	
Rosin	
<b>Beg. Orch. &amp; Orch. 1:</b> String Explorer Book 1 <b>Orchestra 2 &amp; 3:</b> String Explorer Book 2	
<b>Violin &amp; Viola:</b> Shoulder Rest (make sure it's the correct size!) <b>Cello &amp; Bass:</b> Rockstop	
Pencils	
<i>A book to read, or something else quiet to do during tuning.</i>	

### Places for Instrument Rentals and Accessories:

**Summerhays Music:** 1006 S State Street, Orem / 801-226-1760

**Boothe Brothers:** 135 N Main Street, Spanish Fork / 801-798-7650

**Burt Murdock:** 981 N 1200 W, Orem / 801-225-7922

### String Explorer Books Only:

**Mountain Rock Music:** 290 S Main Street, Springville / 801-489-3000

### **Instrument Rental Information**

Optional Violas, Cellos, and Basses are available to rent through the school for a fee of \$150 for the entire year. Fees are not discounted based on number of users, length of use, or condition of the instrument. If your student would like to rent a school instrument for the year, please fill out the *Instrument Rental Form* from this packet, and turn it in to Miss K with the attached fee receipt from the Finance Office. Your student will not be able to take an instrument until both the form and fee receipt have been given to Miss K.

If you would like to rent an instrument, but need to make smaller payments towards the \$150 fee, let Miss K know!

