

JOHNS CREEK HIGH SCHOOL
ORCHESTRA
2009 – 2010

HANDBOOK



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ORCHESTRA WEBSITE:
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Johns Creek High School Orchestra
SCHEDULE OF ORCHESTRA ACTIVITIES
2009 – 2010
UPDATE (As of August 18, 2009)

DATE	TIME	EVENT	Event Site
7/31 - 8/1	** TBA	Johns Creek High School Orchestra Camp	JCHS Orch Room/Auditorium
8/18/2009	6:30pm	Annual Orchestra Potluck Dinner	JCHS Cafeteria
8/19-8/21	TBD	Seating Auditions for Orchestra	Johns Creek HS
8/31/2009	TBA	JCHS Music Department "Cheese Cake" Fundraiser	Johns Creek HS
9/2/2009	N/A	Application Deadline for Solo & Ensemble Festival	Johns Creek HS
9/2/2009	N/A	Application Deadline for All-State Orchestra	Johns Creek HS
9/18/2009 (tentative)	TBA	Orchestra Picture (individual)	Chamber Room
Early October	TBA	Band/Orchestra Fruit Sale Fundraiser	Johns Creek HS
10/13/2009	** 7:00pm	Johns Creek HS Orchestra "Fall" Concert	JCHS Auditorium
10/16 – 10/17	TBA	Georgia State Univ. High School Honor Orchestra Event	Georgia State Univ.
10/24/2009	TBA	District All-State Orchestra Auditions	Holcomb Bridge Middle
11/2/2009	4:00pm	Fulton Co. HS Honor Orchestra Auditions	Centennial HS
11/9 – 11/10	TBA	Fulton Co. HS Honor Orchestra Event	TBD
11/14/2009	TBA	GMEA Solo & Ensemble Festival	Renaissance MS
11/16/2009	7:00pm	JCHS "Fall" Student Recital	JCHS Auditorium
12/8/2009	** 7:00pm	Johns Creek HS Orchestra "Winter" Concert	JCHS Auditorium
1/16/2010	TBA	GMEA All-State Orchestra Final Round Auditions	Westminster Schools
2/2/2010	** 4:00pm	Orchestra Pre-Festival Performance	JCHS Auditorium
2/9 - 2/10	** TBA	GMEA District V Orchestra LGPE	Roswell High School
3/4 - 3/6	TBA	Georgia High School All-State Orchestra Event	Savannah, Georgia
4/5 – 4/11	N/A	Spring Break – No School	N/A
4/27/2010	** 7:00pm	Johns Creek HS Orchestra "Spring" Concert	JCHS Auditorium
TBD	** 7:00pm	Johns Creek - Cluster Orchestra Concert	TBD
TBD	N/A	Selection of Orchestra Officers for 2010-2011	N/A
5/7/2010	6:00pm	Orchestra Banquet (tentative)	TBD
May 2010	TBD	Orchestra Auditions for Next Year	Orchestra Room
5/14/2010	7:00pm	JCHS "Spring" Student Recital	Orchestra Room

** Mandatory event for Orchestra members as part of course requirement

GENERAL INFORMATION

Purpose

Our Orchestra's purpose is to:

- Serve the school and community through quality concert performances
- Furnish members with an invaluable experience in music as an art form.
- Develop individual responsibility and self-discipline.
- Further school spirit.
- Encourage and develop leadership and teamwork.



Description of Orchestra Classes:

The Johns Creek High School "Philharmonia Orchestra" is a performance group comprised of 9th through 12th grade students. The students are selected through auditions and/or with the approval of the Orchestra Director, with the understanding that there will be out-of-school performances and rehearsals required of all members during the school year. The course will cover the mechanics of string instruments: note reading, rhythm, pitch discrimination, expression, and music literacy at a higher level. Students receive one hour elective credit for all music courses

The Johns Creek High School "Sinfonia Orchestra" is a performance group comprised of 9th through 12th grade students. The students are selected through auditions and/or with the approval of the Orchestra Director, with the understanding that there will be out-of-school performances and rehearsals required of all members during the school year. The course will cover the mechanics of string instruments: note reading, rhythm, pitch discrimination, expression, and music literacy at a higher level. Students receive one hour elective credit for all music courses.

Additional Ensembles:

Johns Creek High School Symphony Orchestra :

This is a full-orchestra that includes students from strings, winds, and percussion. The wind and percussion students in this orchestra are a group of selected students from JCHS Band through auditions and/or recommendation from the Director. The Johns Creek High School Symphony Orchestra usually rehearses once a week in the evenings and sometimes during class.

Chamber Strings :

Chamber Strings is a selected ensemble that comprises members of the Johns Creek High School Orchestra that performs in special, smaller ensemble settings. The students are chosen based on their musical skills, dependability, and the commitment for success. The members of the Chamber Strings will sometimes be asked to perform at functions with a short notice; therefore, the students must be flexible. Additional rehearsals may be required.

Other String Ensembles (String Quartet, etc...):

All students are encouraged to participate in small chamber ensembles, such as string quartets, quintets, trios, etc.... The students' musical understandings and appreciation about the composers and their work will be much enhanced through the performing of chamber music.

The students will benefit much both musically and socially by participating in small ensembles. The students will generally rehearse before and/or after school.

METHOD BOOKS/COURSE MATERIALS

Method Books

The students will be exposed to music of all genre and styles. In addition to many different types of music that they will perform in class, the students will also use supplemental books throughout the course of the year, depending on their ability and progress. Listed below are some of the supplemental books which will be used throughout this year:

Advanced Techniques for Strings

Essential Elements for Strings

Harmonized Rhythms

Carl Flesch Scale System

Replacement of each book is about \$7.

Tuner and Metronome

All students are encouraged to purchase a personal tuner and metronome. These devices are necessary during personal practices at home to improve his/her performance.

“Daily Required Materials”

All students are required to bring their instrument, personal copy of music, and pencils to class. Failure to bring these items will result in lowering of the student’s grade.

CONCERT ATTIRE

All Johns Creek High School Orchestra students are required to provide their own performance uniform. The uniform needs to be properly fitted and worn properly. Any student not properly dressed will not be allowed to perform until the problem is corrected.

Please contact Mrs. Monica DuBois (monicadubois@bellsouth.net) or a parent volunteer, if you have any questions regarding uniform.

Males:

Tuxedo with black bow tie, white shirt, black cummerbund
Black socks and Black shoes

Females:

Long black dress (to the ankle)
Black stockings with black shoes



GRADING SCALE

The grading scale and quality point values for final semester grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Numerical Grade</u>
A	90 - above
B	80 - 89
C	70 - 79
F	Below 70
W	Withdrew (numerical grade is used for 1 to 100)/Pass or Fail
NG	No grade (no transfer grade or on roll less than 20 school days in the grading period)
INC	Incomplete

Recovery Policy:

Please refer to Johns Creek High School Student Handbook regarding Recovery Policy.

ADVANCED ORCHESTRAS **("Philharmonia" & "Sinfonia")**

An orchestra member's semester grade will be derived from rehearsal and performance attendance (35%), playing and/or written tests (20%), classroom participation (25%), final exam (15%), and Homework (5%).

Grading for Festival/LGPE preparation during the 2nd semester for the Advanced Orchestra classes involve individual check-offs on each of the ability to accurately perform 95% of each selection in order to participate in the festival. First chair at 100%.

Testing

Playing tests and check offs will be given regularly by Director. A numerical grade will be assigned after each quiz/test. Written and Playing tests will be given throughout the semester.

Homework

The students' grade will be lowered when homework is turned in late—one letter grade lowered per/day. All students are responsible in learning music and completing all written/oral homework. All students will be responsible for numbering the measures in his/her music within 2 days of issuance. This is not to be done during class. The section leaders will check parts and report failures to the Concertmaster (mistress).

Attendance Policies for Performance and Rehearsal

Orchestra members shall regard performance as their primary purpose for belonging to this organization and shall make every possible effort to be in attendance unless there is an emergency situation.

Students are required to be present at all rehearsals and performances in order to receive full credit and remain in good standing with the Orchestra. Situations may arise for not attending an orchestra activity. Students should contact the Director with an acceptable reason prior to the activity (must be a written note- at least one day in advance) to avoid any grade penalty. The Director reserves the right to excuse or not excuse each absence depending on the situation at hand.

A personal illness and death in the family are considered emergency situations. In this case, a written explanation should follow (a doctor's note, if student is ill).

An absence from a final rehearsal could result in a student not being allowed to perform with the orchestra for the upcoming performance(s). Unexcused absence from a public performance could result in dismissal from the Orchestra and/or lowering of grade and receiving demerits.

Dismissal

The Director reserves the right to remove a student from organization for:

- An unexcused absence from a performance
- Use of drug or alcoholic beverages while representing the Orchestra or Johns Creek High School
- Continued failure to demonstrate a cooperative behavior and attitude

Parents shall be notified immediately regarding the above circumstances for dismissal. Students dismissed from performing organizations shall continue to function in daily class until the end of the semester. He/she will have an alternative assignment during that time. A grade will be assigned based only on class work/assignment and participation.

CLASSROOM RULES AND PROCEDURES

Tardiness to Class:

Students are expected to be in class before the bell rings. The students need to understand the nature of our class in which much preparation (such as tuning/warming up, getting music, instrument, etc.... prior to actual class instruction) needs to take place.

Tardiness will not be tolerated in this class. A telephone call or email will be made to parent if the student is tardy more than once per semester. Tardiness can count toward the loss of school privileges as well as deduction towards student's classroom participation grade. Students must also serve private detentions. The student may also be demoted to lower chair. Please Do Not Be Late to Class!!!

Classroom Participation:

Students are expected to be attentive and respectful. There should be no talking except by the conductor. If students have any questions, they should raise their hand and wait to be called. They should address all major questions to the conductor instead of discussing things among themselves. For any minor problems (such as bowing, etc....), they should check it out with his/her section leader. When the conductor works with one section, an individual or any other situation not involving you personally, your focus of attention should still remain on the conductor because the concepts being taught may also directly or indirectly apply to you as well.

Food, drinks, gum, etc... are absolutely not allowed in rehearsal room and rehearsal areas (without permission). Cell phones, iPods, or any type of MP3 players are also not allowed during rehearsals. Failure to comply to these rules will result in lowering of classroom grade, privileges, demerits, and/or further disciplinary action.

INDIVIDUAL PROGRESS

Chair Assignment

Students will be assigned seating and parts in their section according to their demonstrated playing ability during auditions.

Section leaders and assigned parts will be determined following these auditions. Section leaders will assist other students in learning the assigned music.

First stands shall make every effort to be at all rehearsals and be in their seats before rehearsal begins. The first stands should be one of the first persons to learn the music. Failure to learn quickly will result in demoting to lower seating.

Seating Auditions for “Philharmonia” and “Sinfonia” Orchestra

Students will play two assigned scales and arpeggios of three octaves (two octaves for string bass), prepared excerpt given by the director, and sight reading music.

Assigned scales:

Violins: **G** Major scale with arpeggio
A Major scale with arpeggio

Violas: **C** Major scale with arpeggio
D Major scale with arpeggio

Celli: **C** Major scale with arpeggio
D Major scale with arpeggio

Basses: **F** Major scale with arpeggio
G Major scale with arpeggio

Challenges

A student may challenge for a higher chair following a written request to the Director and informing the person being challenged. A challenge form will be used.

Current music and sight-reading may be used for challenges during the school year. A prepared solo will be used for initial audition only.

Challenges involving a change in part will not be allowed four weeks prior to a scheduled performance.

Private Lessons

Private lessons are not required but are strongly encouraged. Individual progress can be enhanced through private tutoring.

Private Teacher List is found on the Johns Creek High School Orchestra website. The Director will be glad to assist interested students in contacting private teachers.

FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT

Director's Office

Students shall enter the Director's office only for official business. This area is off limits to all students except those engaged in work or meeting. Please do feel free to come in to the office to seek help/advice or discussions.

Students are requested not to interrupt during conferences. Office telephone may be used with permission.

Rehearsal Rooms (Orchestra Room/Orchestra Ensemble Room/Auditorium/Band Room)

Each orchestra member shall assume the responsibility of picking his/her music, instrument, books, clothing, etc. and storing such items properly at the end of each rehearsal or performance. Any music and/or items left in rehearsal room and rehearsal areas may result in a lowering of student grade.

No personal items should be left in the rehearsal rooms. The school will not be responsible for any personal items left in the classroom.

All equipment, including instruments, must be stored properly on shelves, lockers, and racks.

Chairs, stands, equipment must not be removed without permission.

Computer/TV/Music Player Usage

The computers, TV, and Music Players in the orchestra room can be used only by orchestra students and only with permission. The students are not to use them without Mr. Kim's permission. When using the computers, you must logout completely upon finishing your task.

Instrument Storage

All instruments must be properly stored in assigned lockers/bins at all times when not in use. Instruments too large for shelving will be assigned in specified storage area.

Storage bins/lockers are to be kept clean and free of litter and personal items.

Library

The librarians/helpers will assist students with all music needs. Students other than the librarians/helpers are not allowed to remove music or return music to library filing cabinets.

Lost Music Fines

Each orchestra member shall be issued with music. Students not receiving issued parts shall immediately inform a Librarian in order to obtain it. All students need to have their own parts at **ALL** rehearsals (**NOT JUST YOUR STAND PARTNER**).

Music damaged or lost will be paid for by the responsible person at the determined replacement rate.



2009-2010 GMEA All-STATE ORCHESTRA INFORMATION
District All-State Auditions

Students who are auditioning for an All-State Orchestra must play the following:
Etude, Scales, and Sight Reading.

- Detache scale and arpeggio: 15 points (30 points for M. S. only)
- Slurred scale and arpeggio: 15 points (9-10 H. S. and 11-12 H. S. only)
- Etude: 30 points (*see below info regarding Etude*)
- Sight-reading: 20 points

Total 80 points (**55 points needed to pass the 1st round**)

ALL SCALES MUST BE PLAYED FROM MEMORY

Scales and Arpeggios for 9-10 High School:

Student will be asked to play the following scales, separate bows or slurred two notes per bow, and arpeggios with separate bows (QN = 60 or EN = 120 on slurred scales):

VIOLIN G and A major, 3 octaves
g and a melodic minor, 3 octaves

VIOLA C and D major, 3 octaves
c and d melodic minor, 3 octaves

CELLO C and D major, 3 octaves
c and d melodic minor, 3 octaves

BASS F and G major, 2 octaves
f and g melodic minor, 2 octaves

Scales and arpeggios for 11-12 High School:

Student will be asked to play the following scales, separate bows or slurred two notes per bow, and arpeggios with separate bows (QN = 60 or EN = 120 on slurred scales):

VIOLIN - Bb and C major, 3 octaves
g and a melodic minor, 3 octaves

VIOLA - Eb and F major, 3 octaves
c and d melodic minor, 3 octaves

CELLO - Eb and F major, 3 octaves
c and d melodic minor, 3 octaves

BASS - Ab and Bb major, 2 octaves
f and g melodic minor, 2 octaves

Sight-reading:

There will be only one sight-reading selection at District Audition. This selection will be of a Lyrical/Technical nature.

ETUDE - District All-State Orchestra Audition
(1st Round)

9/10 Orchestra

VIOLIN

Mazas: Etudes Speciales, Galamian ed., International Music Co., Op. 36, Book 1, #2. QN=100

VIOLA

Wolfahrt: Foundation Studies, transc. Merle J. Isaac & Ralph C. Lewis, Carl Fischer, Book 2, #38. QN=92

CELLO

Schroeder: 170 Foundation Studies, Carl Fischer, Volume 1, #60 QN=92, 8 notes per bow

DOUBLE BASS

Simandl: 30 Etudes, Carl Fischer, #2. QN=112

11/12 Orchestra

VIOLIN

Mazas: Etudes Speciales, Galamian ed., International Music Co., Op. 36, Book 1, #18. Dotted QN =50

VIOLA

Mazas: Etudes Speciales, Pagels ed., International Music Co., Op. 36, Book 1, #18. Dotted QN=50
(play top [treble clef] at divisi)

CELLO

Schroeder: 170 Foundation Studies, Carl Fischer, Volume 1, #42 QN=92

DOUBLE BASS

Simandl: 30 Etudes, Carl Fischer, #17. QN=88



PRIVATE TEACHER LIST - ORCHESTRA

Daniel Arshavsky (Roswell)	Violin	770-993-5533
Cindy Beard (Alpharetta)	Viola	770-740-8107
Shirly Berger (Sandy Springs)	Violin	404-255-4859
Darlene Bost	Violin/Viola	770-442-5714
Hannah Cha	Violin	404-729-4983
Andrew Colella	Viola	404-394-2757
Gabriel Feurdean	Violin/Viola	770-819-7847
Ilya Fishov (Alpharetta)	Violin/Viola	770-752-9406
Sonya Foster	Violin (advanced only)	770-447-9776
Keiko Furness (Cummings)	Violin/Viola	770-887-7160
Charlotte Higgins (Alpharetta)	Violin/viola	770-552-6925
Jeanne Johnson-Watkins	Violin (Alpharetta)	770-410-4990
Yong Lui	Violin/Viola	678-417-6489
Elana Nolte (Huthmakers)	Violin/Viola	770-448-4631
David Palombo	Violin/Viola	404-513-0545
Dr. Oliver Steiner (hour lessons only)	Violin	404-321-7558
Sheela Su (E. Cobb)	Violin	770-971-3176
Sou-Chan Su (E. Cobb)	Violin	770-971-3176
Michele Volz (Huthmakers)	Violin/Viola	404-297-1813
Jacob Yampolsky	Violin (Roswell)	770-992-8366
Le Zheng	Violin/Viola	770-465-0704
Jennifer Barket (Alpharetta)	Cello	678-366-9759
Joel Dallow	Cello	770-355-2556
Carolyn Landreau	Cello	770-356-1818
Shalunda Feurdean (Alpharetta)	Cello	770-819-7847
Jean Gay	Cello	404-626-3753
Anna Huthmaker (Duluth)	Cello/String Bass	770-476-9443
Dona Klein	Cello	404-233-9069
Kevin Majeske (Alpharetta)	Cello	404-384-1039
David Pineda	Cello	770-804-0749
Dr. James Barket (Alpharetta)	String Bass	678-366-9759
Seth Gamba	String Bass	770-475-2660
Todd Markey	String Bass	678-297-0911

You can also find reputable instructors from music schools listed below:

AMA (Atlanta Music Academy - Suwanee)	770-614-8221
Georgia Academy of Music (Buckhead)	404-355-3451
Huthmaker Bowed String Instrument (Duluth)	770-476-9443
North Atlanta Talent Education (Roswell)	770-640-1003

MISCELLANEOUS

Instrumental Music and Athletics

Music students are encouraged to participate in any sport they choose provided rehearsals of the music group can be attended. The Director and Coach will try to work out a compromising schedule for the student. It is the student's responsibility to first inform the Director and Coach of the situation.

Scheduling of Classes

Orchestra members who are confronted with scheduling problems should consult the Director for assistance.

Students who have earned first chair status in their respective primary ensemble sections must be enrolled in the regular scheduled class. Students need to be enrolled in the regular scheduled class to participate in performances. Exceptions are upper classmen who have unresolved schedule conflicts involving classes necessary for graduation and/or AP class conflict or Joint-Enrollment conflict in which the Director has approved for participation.

Parent Conferences

Parent conferences are encouraged as needed. Please feel free to contact the Director for an appointment.

JCHS Orchestra Office: (770) 623-2138 ext. 183

Email: ykkimy@gmail.com

Johns Creek High School Orchestra Website

<http://www.johnscreekorchestra.org>

- Much of the orchestra-related-information will be available on our orchestra website.

MERIT SYSTEM

Merits are points given to students for extra work or outstanding achievement worthy of recognition. Students accumulate merits to qualify for awards given at the annual Spring Orchestra Banquet. Merits do not affect a student's semester grade.

Demerit points will be given to students not following rules of orchestra, such as missed rehearsals, chewing gum in class/rehearsal, leaving music on the stand, negative behaviors, etc....

MERIT ACCUMULATION

2009-2010

Orchestra Letter/Bar - 15-40 merits
Star - 41+ merits

- _____ Orchestra Officer/Volunteer (6 pts)
- _____ Extra effort in helping with orchestral needs (2 pts)
- _____ Have Met Section Leader Responsibilities (3 pts per Semester)
- _____ “Excellent” Ratings at the Solo & Ensemble Festival
SOLO-(3 pts) ENSEMBLE (2 pt each)
- _____ “Superior” Ratings at the Solo & Ensemble Festival
SOLO-(5 pts) ENSEMBLE (3 pt)
- _____ Participation in High School All-State Orchestra Auditions
Auditions DIST. (5 pts) STATE (additional 5 pts)
- _____ High School All-State Orchestra Member (10 pts)
First Chair at All-State (add. 10pts)
- _____ Fulton County High School Honor Orchestra
Auditions (4 pts) *Honor Orchestra Member* (additional 10 pts)
- _____ Governor’s Honors Participant in Music (15 pts)
- _____ Major Fund Raising Sales (4 pt) Highest (additional -8 pts)
2nd, 3rd, 4th (add. 5 pts)
- _____ Private Lessons on Major Orchestra Instrument (2 pts per month)
- _____ GMEA Large Group Performance Evaluation Participation (5 pts)
- _____ Regular Membership in Performing Organization Other than
CHS- Requiring Weekly Rehearsals—ASYO, MYSO, etc...(1 pt. Per month)
- _____ Cultural Concert Attendance (maximum - 2 total pts)
- _____ Membership in JCHS Orchestra Association (5 pts)

OTHERS: List anything below that you consider to be worthy of consideration for merits not listed above. Points will be assigned if there is good reason.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Johns Creek High School Orchestra Representatives

Kathy Hogan, JCHSOA Co-President
Deborah Williams, JCHSOA Co-President

Johns Creek High School Administration

Buck Greene, Principal
Caren Hudson, Assistant Principal
Michael Inseher, Assistant Principal
Patrick Martin, Assistant Principal

Fulton County Schools Music Department

Dr. John LaForge, Coordinator of Music Education

