

Get ready for “Introduction to Strings” at Rolling Hills!

Why learn to play an instrument?

Studies have shown that early and ongoing musical training helps to promote higher-level thinking and that students participating in school instrumental music programs attain higher grades in their other classes. It is my belief that music is an integral part of a well-rounded education and that studying music and learning a musical instrument offers not only intellectual growth, but also social and emotional growth.

Cost

The classes are free and are currently available to all 4th graders.

Which instruments will be offered?

Students may choose to learn to play violin, viola or cello.

When will strings meet?

Introduction to Strings will meet Tuesdays from 2:30 - 3:00. We will begin with an introductory meeting on September 9 at 2:30 and then meet each Tuesday at 2:30 - 3:00 in the MPR or Pit (depending which is available). Students may take their time to decide and rent or purchase instruments and we are hoping all students will acquire an instrument by the end of October. Students are expected to attend each rehearsal unless they are absent from school (even before they have their instruments) as we will be learning about music theory and instrument care.

Where do I get an instrument and music book?

It is highly recommended that you provide your own instrument as the district does not have any extra string instruments at this time. ***Forte Strings*** is suggested for renting and sizing instruments for your student at their shop on Harbor Blvd. in Fullerton. They have excellent instruments at competitive rental prices. The book we will be using is ***Essential Elements for Strings***, book 1 for your instrument and is currently available at most music stores and online.

Who is the music teacher?

Mary Louise Uys is a graduate of the USC School of Music (with a major in clarinet performance), has a Masters degree in education and has played clarinet with the Cape Philharmonic Orchestra in South Africa for 13 years. In addition, she has taught music and conducted bands and orchestras both here and overseas for the past 20 years.

Questions?

Feel free to contact me at any time with any questions or concerns. Interested students should come to the first regular Beginning Strings class on Tuesday, September 10 to learn more about the different instruments in orchestra. Please also [check out my website](#) here and also linked from the Rolling Hills staff pages. Additional information about our exciting after school orchestra for Strings Students of ALL levels!

[Fullerton String Orchestra](#)

I am looking forward to an exciting year of music making at Rolling Hills!

Mary Louise Uys
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Please sign and return bottom portion

I am interested in joining Introduction to Strings at Rolling Hills!

student's name

teacher's name

parent's signature

email

instrument I'm interested in playing