Student-Parent-Teacher Agreement

Ascent Classical Academy Orchestra

Mrs. May
jen.may@nc.ascentcolorado.org

Course Description

Students will study music theory, music history, the fundamentals of their instrument, and performance practices. Students will perform at least one winter and one spring concert each school year with the possibility of other performances. Daily practice is expected and there will be performance tests and written quizzes throughout the year. Updates about what students learn in class and any upcoming assignments will be posted on Mrs. May's website.

Required Textbooks and Materials

1. Pencil
2. Music/Book/Folder
3. Instrument and all of its accessories

Classroom Rules

1. Observe all rules in the student handbook
2. No gum, no food, and no beverages (except water) is permitted in the classroom
3. Respect yourself
4. Respect others
5. Respect the classroom and the equipment

Arrival/Dismissal Routine

Students will quietly enter the classroom, get their instruments ready, sit in their assigned seat, and begin to warm-up. Once students are dismissed they will put away all classroom material, collect their belongings, clean up the area they were sitting in, and quietly line up at the door.

Concert Attendance

Music is both a written and performance based class. Due to this, students are expected to attend and participate in all rehearsals and performances. Concert dates are announced at the beginning of the school year. If a student is not able to make a performance please email Mrs. May at least **one week** before the performance. Absences, including potential ones, (ex. playoff games) that are not communicated and approved by Mrs. May by this time will result in a zero for their concert grade.

Excused absences include, but are not limited to; family emergency, illness of the student, or school approved academic or athletic conflicts. Absences that are excused will be subject to a make-up assignment if deemed necessary by Mrs. May. Please email Mrs. May on concert day to discuss a make-up time for their concert performance. If no email is received that day it will be counted as a zero.

Concert Attire

Students will wear their formal school uniform for all school related events, concerts, and performances unless told otherwise.

Concerts and Performances

This year our Middle School and High School Instrumental Music Concert will be on Thursday, Dec. 12th beginning at 5:30pm. The Spring Concert will be on Thursday, May 8th beginning at 5:30pm.

Assessment Overview

Classwork (60%)

During class students will have individual goals assigned to them that they need to complete or work on each class. Staying on task and meeting these goals each class will result in a grade of an A for the class.

Assessments (40%)

This category consists of NinGenius stars, playing tests, and performances.

Make-up Work

If a student misses class then they are responsible for finding out what they missed. They can do that by asking a person in their group, referring to their practice plan, or asking Mrs. May after class ends. If there was a test/quiz/worksheet that day students will have the number of days absent to make up the missing work without penalty. Students will be expected to practice the material that they missed in class that day at home.

Materials for Class

Students are expected to bring their instrument, folder, book, and all music accessories, such as rosin, to class. If your student consistently forgets to bring their music items to class an email will be sent home explaining why your student is losing points in music and some solutions to help ensure that they come prepared.

Tests

Tests will be announced at least a week in advance. Students will either complete the test in class or complete it at home by uploading their recording. Students can send the video through Google Drive by uploading the video to their folder and sharing the link, or they can send it via email through a different medium.If students want to complete the test at home then the video must be submitted before class. If Mrs. May does not have the video then the student will be playing their test in class. There will be one test at the end of each semester that students will have to perform in class because they need to practice performing in front of others.

NinGenius and SI Online

Parents will receive an email from NinGenius at the beginning of the school year with login information. If you already have an account then your student will receive a sticky note with his/her login information. This program is to be completed at home and helps reinforce students' music theory skills. Students will complete one lesson a week and most of the lessons average from one to three minutes in length. If students are unable to use the program at home we will find a way for them to complete it before or after school. Students must earn at least a blue colored star on each level in order to receive full points unless told otherwise. If you forget your students password throughout the year or need to make a change to the program please email Mrs. May. If your student is not able to complete the NinGenius assignments please contact Mrs. May for alternative assignments.

SI Online is an online program that comes with the students' book. They do not have to use it to practice, however it is a great tool. The login information is on the back cover of the book and we have walked through how to use this software in class. If you have any questions about it please do not hesitate to reach out.

Grading Scale:

The grading for music class is the same grading scale that will be used by all teachers at Ascent Classical Academy.

Letter	Percent	GPA
A	94-100	4.0
A-	90-93	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	84-86	3.0
B-	80-83	2.7

Letter	Percent	GPA
C	74-76	2.0
C-	70-73	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	64-66	1.0
D-	60-63	0.7

Discipline

In music class there are certain expectations called rehearsal etiquette that all students are held to. Examples of these expectations are:

- Students shall not play their instruments in between songs
- Do not talk right after we finish playing so Mrs. May can give directions
- Following the classroom rules and procedures

If students are not following these expectations they will receive the following warnings:

i. 1st offense- verbal warning
ii. 2nd offense- a verbal warning a phone call or email home
iii. 3rd offense- an office slip, detention and or administrative consequences

If the student earns a third offense parents will be contacted via email or telephone. Office referrals may be given out for earlier offenses if deemed necessary by the teacher.

Religion

In music class we will be playing a variety of music from around the world. In music class, especially during winter time, it is common to play songs that may reflect different religions. We are studying these pieces for the purpose of learning and not for a religious purpose. Students usually receive their concert at the beginning of the semester and the title of each concert piece will be posted on my teacher website.

2023-2024 Band Student/ Parent/ Teacher Agreement Form

By signing below I agree to follow the Student/Parent/Teacher agreement for the 2024-2025 school year. I understand that if I have any questions about orchestra I can email Mrs. May at jen.may@nc.ascentcolorado.org or talk to her at any point before or after class.

Please detach this paper and return to Mrs. May by September 6th. Returning this signed paper is worth 10 points. Any paper turned in after this date will receive 7 points.

Student

I _____ have read through the Student/Parent/Teacher agreement form in orchestra class. By signing below I agree to the rules and expectations that are set. I also agree to practice my instrument, participate in class, and try my best every day.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

I_____ have looked over the Student/Parent/Teacher agreement. I understand that in order for my child to succeed in orchestra class they will need to practice their instrument at home and complete their NinGenius Assignments once a week in order to prepare for class.