

BNHS Orchestra

Descriptions

Freshmen String Orchestras:

At Byron Nelson, we believe that keeping our Freshmen students in grade specific classes is important. It allows our incoming freshmen to get to know each other, creating the camaraderie and family of orchestra students that carries our students through to graduation. After their freshman year, students may then audition for any of the other three orchestras. Placement in one or the other of these groups does not guarantee or limit a student's possible placement the next year. It does allow us to tailor the class to the abilities, strengths and needs of the students.

Concert Orchestra

This orchestra provides students the opportunity to review and develop fundamental skills necessary for future success at the Non-Varsity and Varsity levels. This is a competing orchestra at the Sub Non-Varsity level. Classroom instruction involves expanding technique, introducing positions, developing vibrato, improving tone quality, learning various bowing styles, and building sight-reading skills.

Students will be expected to attend a weekly sectional/rehearsal after school once a week.. Participation in private lessons and Region auditions is encouraged. Students are offered an opportunity to participate in a full orchestra when rehearsals begin in late fall. All students participate in solo and ensemble festivals in the spring semester.

Camerata Orchestra

This orchestra provides students the opportunity to continue to develop fundamental skills necessary for future success at the Non-Varsity and Varsity levels. This is a competing orchestra at the Sub Non-Varsity level. Classroom instruction involves expanding technique, introduction to upper positions, developing vibrato, improving tone quality, learning various bowing styles, and building sight-reading skills.

Students are expected to attend a weekly sectional/rehearsal after school once a week.. Participation in private lessons and Region auditions is encouraged. All students participate in a full orchestra beginning in the late fall. All students participate in solo and ensemble festivals in the spring semester.

Upper Classmen String Orchestras:

Sinfonia Orchestra

This orchestra provides students the opportunity to continue to develop upper position techniques, vibrato, tone quality, use of various bowing styles, and improved sight-reading skills. This is a competing orchestra at the Sub Non-Varsity level. UIL Orchestra and festival competition participation is required.

Students are expected to attend a weekly section/rehearsal after school once a week.

Participation in private lessons and region auditions is encouraged. Students are offered an opportunity to participate in a full orchestra when rehearsals begin in late fall. All students participate in solo and ensemble festivals in the spring semester.

Intermezzo Orchestra

This orchestra provides students the further development of upper position techniques, vibrato, tone quality, use of expanded bowing styles and advanced sight-reading skills. This is a competing orchestra at the Non-Varsity Level. UIL Orchestra participation is required.

All students participate in full orchestra in addition to their string orchestra obligations. All students are expected to attend weekly sectional/rehearsal after school once a week. Participation in private lessons and Region/State auditions are highly encouraged.

Chamber Orchestra

This orchestra provides students an opportunity to perform at an advanced level while focusing on upper position techniques, vibrato, tone quality, use of various bowing styles, and improved sight-reading skills. This is a competing orchestra at the Varsity level and is reserved for those students who make orchestra a top priority.

Students attend a weekly section/rehearsal before or after school along with full orchestra rehearsals during UIL season. Participation in private lessons and all-region/all-state orchestra auditions is strongly encouraged. All students participate in full orchestra in addition to string orchestra. All students participate in solo and ensemble festivals in the spring semester.

Participation in private lessons and Region/State level orchestra auctions is strongly encouraged.