

SYLLABUS
Oldham County Schools Arts Center
OC CHAMBER ENSEMBLE: Strings and Piano

Course Description and Goals

Students admitted to this course will gain a practical understanding and appreciation of the chamber music repertoire for strings and piano. They will increase their knowledge of the technical, stylistic, and interpretive components inherent in chamber music performance. They will learn effective rehearsal techniques. Finally, in achieving the goal of successful collaborative chamber music experiences, students' individual playing will reach a higher level.

Each of three quarters of the course consists of ten weekly 90-minute classes. Each class will include a coaching and rehearsal of the small chamber ensembles as well as rehearsal of the larger chamber orchestra.

Students taking the class for the entire year must participate in the final group concert scheduled at the end of each quarter. In addition, two mandatory concerts or master classes per semester will be presented in the Oldham County Schools or in the community, serving to offer students numerous performance opportunities.

Text

Repertoire will be selected based on the class's instrumentation, students' varying levels of skill, and their varying interests. Repertoire studied will be chosen from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Contemporary periods of classical music as well as from popular music.

Course Requirements and Grading

- 1) The yearly Pass/Fail grade is heavily based upon the student's level of preparation for each class. In preparation for each weekly class, individual practice of the assigned movements/ passages is required- generally 20-30 minutes daily- so that each coaching is a productive and effective experience for all involved.
- 2) Attendance of at least 27 of the 30 weekly classes is required in order to receive credit for this course. Active participation, willingness to take constructive criticism, and a positive collaborative attitude are mandatory.
- 3) Performances and master classes organized throughout the quarters are required.
- 4) The final quarter performance will serve as the culminating experience and thus "final exam" of the course. The yearly Pass/Fail grade will be based on the level of improvement throughout the quarters as well as the level of understanding and mastery of the repertoire performed.

STUDENT CONTRACT

Oldham County Chamber Ensemble 2016-17

This contract is between the Oldham County Schools Arts Center and _____.

In order to receive one performance based credit for the course Oldham County Chamber Ensemble, the student must meet all of the following responsibilities:

-Successfully audition for the class by performing 2 solo pieces and 1 scale of the student's choice. Admission to the class is at the sole discretion of the instructor and is based on performing merit.

-Attend at least 27 of the 30 weekly 90-minute classes. Only three absences per year will be permitted. The absences must be due to illness or family emergency. Classes cancelled due to weather emergencies will be rescheduled. Each quarter of the course - Fall, Winter, and Spring- consists of ten classes which take place at the Arts Center on **Tuesdays from 4:30-6:00pm**. These classes are in addition to the student's regular high school course load and take place at a time that is outside of the school day. Each class includes a coaching and rehearsal of the student's assigned small chamber ensemble as well as a rehearsal of the larger chamber orchestra.

-In preparation for each weekly class, the student must practice the assigned passages/movements 20-30 minutes daily so that each coaching is a productive and effective experience for all involved. The student agrees to be an active participant, with a positive collaborative attitude.

-Participate in the final group concert scheduled at the end of each quarter.

-Participate in additional concerts and master classes, typically one per quarter, presented in the Oldham County Schools and in the community.

-Present a written report at the end of each quarter which describes topics learned through the experience, both musically and relating to personal growth and leadership skills.

In providing credit for this course, the Oldham County Schools Arts Center will do the following:

-Provide a full tuition scholarship for the course if all requirements for credit are successfully met.

-Provide a Pass/Fail grade that will adhere to the OCBE grading scale. This course will not be used in GPA calculation. The grade will be reported to the student's guidance counselor by **Friday, May 12, 2017**. The grade will be reported and the credit posted at the end of the school year, provided that all of the above outlined requirements are met.

The student, the parents, the principal, the Chamber Ensemble director and any facilitating teacher/mentor who is involved must sign this contract.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian

Chamber Ensemble Director

Principal

Date

***This course WILL _____ or WILL NOT _____ be used toward the Arts and Humanities credit required for graduation.**