

String Masterclass
Mr. Wie, Instructor
Orange County High School of the Arts
2004-2005

Overview

Welcome to Mr. Wie's String Masterclass. This course is intended to provide a weekly playing forum for all string students to work on technical and musical challenges in scales, etudes, show pieces, concerti, and orchestral excerpts. Several class meetings each semester have been set aside for lectures covering solo and orchestral technique basics and pedagogy (the teaching of an instrument).

The weekly performance class is a tradition of our craft that can be found everywhere, from beginning Suzuki instruction to the top conservatory programs worldwide. Performing experience for all musicians is critical, and there are few opportunities for most students to play in a setting where the focus is on personal development and not competitive ranking. This class is your "lab" to refine your performing chops in a non-judgmental and supporting environment.

Throughout the year, professional players and teachers from major universities, orchestras, and chamber ensembles will be invited as guest lecturers for this course.

Class Requirements

Besides bringing your instrument to class meetings in which you are performing, you will need to bring the piano score (if one exists) to any works you wish to present in the class. There will be several piano accompanists available throughout the year and it is to your benefit to have them accompany you.

All participants in String Masterclass are expected to play in as many class meetings as possible, and participate in open discussions after each person plays to provide ideas for improving that person's performance.

Citizenship

School-wide behavioral expectations will be enforced. Please bring all your required materials to class with you, attend regularly and on time, stay focused during the class period, and be respectful of yourself and others. As this course will include significant amounts of in-class discussion, observing the following guidelines will make learning easier for everyone:

1. Do not speak when the instructor is speaking, or when the instructor stops the ensemble to address an issue.

- 2. If you wish to ask a question at any time, raise your hand to be called on.**
- 3. Keep the subject matter of your discussions on topic.**
- 4. Maintain professional respect for your colleagues at all times.**

If for some reason your own self motivation does not assist you in following these guidelines, the following progressive steps will take place:

1. Student Conference
2. Parent Phone Call
3. Behavioral Referral
4. Office Referral
5. Suspension from class pending formal parent conference

Grading Policy

Your grade in this course is determined by your level of participation as a performer and feedback you provide for your performing colleagues. Attendance is absolutely critical! Please remember that I do not give you a grade, you earn your own grade!

Your grade will be determined on the following scale:

- A: 90-100% of total points
- B: 80-89% of total points
- C: 70-79% of total points
- D: 60-69% of total points
- F: below 69% of total points

To the Parent

I am committed to helping your son/daughter learn, and I look forward to working with your family. If you have any questions, I can be reached at (949) 510-2592. Please read and discuss this syllabus and return the acknowledgement below.

We have read and understand the policies and procedures of Mr. Wie's String Masterclass, and we have maintained a copy for our records.

Print Student Name

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date