

# NATIVITY SCHOOL MUSIC SIGN-UP PACKET 2022-2023



**BAND  
CHORUS  
ORCHESTRA**

Grades 3-8

Dear Nativity Families:

As you look forward to the next school year, you may consider adding the study of a musical instrument or chorus to your student's school routine. Learning an instrument helps your child to develop important life skills and provides students with a safe opportunity to express themselves. Students in grades 3-8 will be able to study an instrument or sing in chorus and participate in an ensemble. Third graders will take a half-hour group class once weekly and will perform on the Spring Concert. Fourth through eighth graders will receive one 30-minute lesson each week (on a rotating basis during the school day) and a one-hour ensemble class after school starting in November. These students will perform on the Christmas Program and on the Spring Concert. Students who sign up for lessons are required to maintain a passing academic average and will be removed from study if they are unable to maintain academic work. Students will also be expected to practice daily. All students will receive a written progress report at the end of each marking period in lieu of a grade. Make-up lesson times will be available each trimester. If you are continuing study from last year (or are transferring in from another school program) please indicate the instrument that your child studies when you sign up.

Your child also has the opportunity to sing in Festival Chorus during the school year. Chorus is open to all students, grades 3-8, and we perform at the Christmas Program, Spring Concert, 8th Grade Graduation, and various school Mass celebrations. Other special events may include Christmas Caroling and the Darien Lake Music Festival Competition (depending on interest). We perform a wide variety of music from all genres, making sure to include repertoire that is diverse and spiritually meaningful. Students are allowed to participate in more than one ensemble.

We use Google Classroom and your child will receive login information at their first lesson/rehearsal in September. We also use the Remind text service.

I hope your child will join us for some fabulous music making this upcoming school year. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions: [rwilliams@nativityschool.net](mailto:rwilliams@nativityschool.net)

Grace and Peace,

Mrs. Williams

# Instruments, Scheduling, and Fees

## *Instruments to choose from:*

### **Band:**

Flute

Clarinet\*

Oboe\*

Alto Saxophone

Trumpet

French Horn\*

Trombone\*

Baritone\*

Percussion/Mallet Percussion\*

(\* indicates an area of need for our band!)

### **Orchestra:**

Violin

Viola\*

Cello\*

Double Bass\*

Harp

Guitar

## **Schedule:**

Grade 3 Band: Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday mornings, 7:45-8:15am

Grades 4-8 Band & Orchestra: Lessons-every Monday during the school day;  
group rehearsals-Monday afternoons, 2:30-3:30pm

Grades 3-8 Chorus: Tuesday afternoons, 2:30-3:30pm

Grade 6-8 Women's Choir: Mondays during lunch period recess

\*We may add a Men's Choir if there is interest

Grade 4 Band & Orchestra will begin lessons on **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th**, after school rehearsals will begin on **MONDAY, November 7th**.  
**Band will have no after school rehearsals January-St. Patrick's Day.**

Choruses will begin rehearsals the week of **SEPTEMBER 26th**.

**Chorus takes January and February off for the musical.**

Your child will receive a detailed rehearsal schedule at their first rehearsal.

## **Fees:**

All instrumentalists: \$50 per month, billed through FACTS (you will be charged October-May)

*There is no fee for Festival Chorus or Women's Choir.*

## RENTAL INFORMATION AND SUPPLIES

Instrumental music students will require:

- Instrument
- String players: rosin, (a set of extra strings is recommended), Cellists should get a "stopper" or strap for the floor.
- Winds/Brass: cork grease/valve oil, cleaning cloth, **reeds** (size 1.5 for beginners) or mouthpiece; saxophones will need a neck strap (rental shop should provide this)
- Percussion: Size 5A drumsticks with wooden tip and a practice pad
- Grade 3 Band, Grades 4-8 Band/Orchestra: Essential Elements Book 1 (very cheap on Amazon and many local music stores--make sure you get a version with EEi (Interactive) NOT Essential Elements 2000!)
- A music stand for home practice (not required, but recommend)

Folder and ensemble music will be provided at first lesson and are included with tuition.

### PREFERRED RENTAL SHOPS:

#### For Winds/Brass:

Twin Village Music (44 Central Ave in Lancaster, 716-683-4879)

Hamburg Music Center (4433 Southwestern Blvd in Hamburg, 716-649-6660)

Music and Arts (4190 N Buffalo St. in Orchard Park 716-662-9533)

#### For Strings:

Twin Village Music (44 Central Ave in Lancaster, 716-683-4879)

Holden's Violin Shop (4359 Clark St. in Hamburg, 716-649-5937)

Hamburg Music Center (4433 Southwestern Blvd in Hamburg, 716-649-6660)

Monaco's Violin Shop (55 Crosspoint Pwky in Getzville 716-688-8600)

Limelite Music (706 Main St. in East Aurora, 716-652-7539)

Great online retailer: [www.sharmusic.com](http://www.sharmusic.com)

\*Monaco's is my personal luthier and they are PHENOMENAL. Definitely worth the drive. **DO NOT RENT STRING INSTRUMENTS FROM MUSIC AND ARTS.** They are not renting quality string instruments at this time. I also do not recommend buying instruments from Amazon.

\*\*If your child chooses to study the *harp*, you can rent from Lyon and Healy directly at

<https://www.lyonhealy.com/rental-program/> or via the Virginia Harp Center at

<https://www.vaharpcenter.com/>

## Music Enrollment Form

Please complete the following form and have it returned to Mrs. Williams by **June 15th, 2022**. She will then reach out to you for follow up. We are striving to find the instrument that will be most successful for your child and also looking for good balance within the ensembles (the earlier you return your form, the more likely you are to get your first choice). If your student is continuing study, please indicate below.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade (fall 2022): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check as appropriate:

please enroll my child in CHORUS

please enroll my child in WOMEN'S CHOIR

please enroll my child in GRADE 3 BEGINNING INSTRUMENTAL

please enroll my child in GRADE 4-8 BAND/ORCHESTRA

Instrument First choice: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument Second choice: \_\_\_\_\_

check here if continuing study or transferring from another school/program

I \_\_\_\_\_ have reviewed the procedures, including all COVID-19 regulations, for band, chorus, and orchestra with my child and will allow them to participate for the 2021-2022 school year.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Summer Music Enrollment Form

Mrs. Williams will be offering summer music lessons on all instruments, piano, and voice. Cost is \$20 per half hour paid to Mrs. Williams directly each week to accommodate vacations. Group lessons will be available on similar instruments (ex: all strings, or clarinet/flute) at a rate of \$12 per half hour. Lessons will start the week of June 29th and will end the week of August 2nd. Please complete the following form and have it returned to Mrs. Williams by **June 15th, 2022**. She will then reach out to you for follow up.

Lessons will start July 5th and will end August 2nd. (Mrs. Williams will be out of town July 19th.)

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade (fall 2022): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check as appropriate:

\_\_\_\_\_ Instrumental Lessons

Please name instrument here: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Voice Lessons (must be entering 3rd grade or older)

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in a group lesson with (name of child): \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Lesson Day/Time (check all that apply):

\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday AM (before 12 noon)

\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday PM (after 12 noon)

Anticipated Vacation dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_