

# Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Music

## Class Syllabus

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### Class Objectives

- Develop listening skills to understand and describe music
- Develop ability to read, notate and compose music
- Understand the basic elements of music, pitch, melody, harmony, rhythm, and timbre
- Develop skills to play simple music on instruments
- Develop skills to sing simple melodies
- Experience music of different styles, periods and cultures

### Class Materials

Ipad issued by the school.

Notebook paper, pencils and pens, small pencil sharpener, colored pencils or markers.

### Course Schedule

The class will meet two or three periods a week for 80 minutes. The class will be structured around the elements listed below.

- Listening to music and describing its elements
- Reading and responding to questions about composers and periods of music
- Projects that involve creating, analyzing and performance of music
- Quizzes and test on the material read and discussed

### Major Class Components

**Listening to Music** – The student will listen to and recognize styles of music by their instrumentation, musical elements, and performers.

**Writing about Music** – After listening to examples of music, the student will write in musical language what they have heard and how the music affected them.

**Creating Music** – The student will learn the basic notation elements of music and compose music for class projects. They will also use computer-recording software to compose music using recorded loops.

**Instrument Playing or Choral Singing** – The student will learn to play a standard wind instrument or sing in a choral group.

### **Theory/Projects.**

Each student will be assigned music theory and/or ear training exercises to increase their musical knowledge and skills. Most assignments will be completed in class but some may need more study and research and be turned in by a specific due date. Assignments with due dates will be posted so both student and parent can know what is expected.

### **Choice of Band or Choir**

During the second semester, each student will need to choose to play an instrument or sing in a small choir. To play an instrument, each student will either need to own an instrument or rent one from a store or GMAA. The rental fee will be \$15 per month or \$60 per semester. Depending on the progress made by each student, they can be eligible to perform with the Middle School music groups in the spring concert for the music department

### **Computer Access**

Each student will need access to a computer with an Internet connection. Each student will need an email account. Finally, each student will need an account in Schoology web-based software. Assignments, quizzes and projects will be assigned from designated online websites. The student will be required to access these websites to get current class material. If the student does not have Internet access at home, the school can provide the Internet access on school premises.

### **Grading Method**

Grades are earned by assessing each student's knowledge (classroom assignments and projects), skills (sight-singing and ear-training assessments), and participation in class.

### **Assignments and Projects**

Each assignment and/or project will be accompanied by a grading criteria with a specific due date. The points earned will be based on the grading criteria for the assignment or project. Types of possible assignments will be:

### Weekly Class Assignments

- Listening to music
- Reading about music
- Writing about music
- Composing and Recording Music

### Projects that may last several weeks

- What music to which they listen
- Research on specific composer or period of music
- Research on specific instrument and its impact
- Research on specific performer and their impact

### Grading Categories and Weighting:

Weekly Assignments	20%
Projects	30%
Quizzes	20%
Tests	30%

### Grade Point Scale

A+	4.00	B-	2.70
A	3.75	C+	2.30
A-	3.50	C	2.00
B+	3.30	D	1.00
B	3.00	F	0

### Class Rules. Each student must follow the rules of class as follows:

- Arrive on time when second bell rings
- Respect others with words and actions
- Remain attentive and follow the instructor as all times
- Do not talk when the instructor or other classmates are speaking
- Do not bring food, drink or gum to class
- Do not operate any electronic devices during rehearsals

### **Consequences for not following class rules**

- Verbal warning
- Points deducted for class participation
- Phone call to parent
- Parent/teacher conference
- Referral to Principal's Office
- Removal from class

### **Make-Up/Re-do policy**

A student may always make up homework assignments, projects, tests, or quizzes, and still receive credit for them for up to two class periods after the work. After that, the assignment may not be counted for credit. Full credit however, will only be given when an assignment is handed in on the date it is due.

If a student is absent or misses class, **it is their responsibility to phone a friend and to get the assignment. They should also see the teacher the next day that they return to school to let the teacher know they were absent to make sure they understand what the assignment was. This responsibility is one of the student, not the teacher.** They must bring the completed assignment the next class period.

If a student is absent for a test or quiz, they must make arrangements with the teacher to make it up (often during their own free time – either before school, after school, or during lunch). Again, this is the responsibility of the student to see the teacher and make these arrangements, otherwise they may receive **no credit** for that test or quiz.

An electronic copy of the syllabus can be reviewed at [www.gma.edu](http://www.gma.edu) under the **Download** section of the website. It will also be available on the **Schoology** application that the students use for their classwork.

Please review it and sign this page as confirmation you agree to the syllabus of this class.

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Printed name of student

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Student Signature

Date

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Parent Signature

Date

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Teacher Signature

Date