# North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary School Hootie Orchestra Handbook 2018-2019



This handbook has been assembled to inform students and parents of the orchestra's policies. Please read it carefully and keep it in your student's orchestra binder for future reference. This handbook may change at anytime. For the most updated handbook, refer to nccaestrings.com If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email or call me.

**COMPLETE AND RETURN ALL FORMS BY Friday September 7** 

# **ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR**

Andrew Price 843-529-2831 andrew\_price@charleston.k12.sc.us

https://nccaestrings.com

# **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the orchestra program is to give students an understanding of and an appreciation for music. In addition to music, students learn self-discipline, problem-solving, goal-setting, self-expression, memory skills, concentration, poise, enhanced physical coordination, high self-esteem, and the importance of teamwork—skills in great demand in almost every aspect of life. Like all the arts, music has a profound effect on the academic success of students. Orchestra students are expected to develop a sense of pride and respect for the orchestra. This sense of pride and respect will result in the "group spirit" necessary for the continued success of the orchestra program. Your child will be able to take advantage of musical performances and competitions at the local, state, and regional level through middle and high school. Third through fifth grade orchestra students can also audition for the Charleston County School of the Arts, district level orchestras, artistic gifted and talented identification, and the summer SMAART strings program. The opportunities for playing a string instrument after high school are abundant, with many universities offering scholarships for musicians. Orchestra provides a great foundation for your child in all aspects of life!

# **Table of Contents**

| GENERAL SCHOOL HOUSEKEEPING  | 3  |
|--|----|
| ORCHESTRA FEE  | 3  |
| ORCHESTRA CALENDAR   | 3  |
| CONTACT INFORMATION  | 4  |
| REQUIRED MATERIALS/INSTRUMENT INFORMATION  | 5  |
| Local Stores   | 6  |
| Online Stores  | 7  |
| INSTRUMENTS  | 7  |
| INSTRUMENT REMINDERS   | 8  |
| HOMEWORK ("Practice")  | 8  |
| Make up Lessons  | 9  |
| GRADING POLICY   | 10 |
| Concert & After School Rehearsal Attendance  | 10 |
| Make up the grade for excused absences   | 11 |
| Playing & Written Tests  | 11 |
| Class Participation  | 11 |
| Practice Logs  | 11 |
| Extra Credit   | 12 |
| CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS   | 13 |
| Inappropriate Behavior   | 13 |
| NCCAE Strings Best Interest Policy   | 14 |
| TARDY POLICY   | 14 |
| FINGERNAIL POLICY  | 14 |
| FORMAL CONCERT ATTIRE  | 15 |
| FUNDRAISING  | 15 |
| FIELD TRIPS  | 15 |
| OTHER ORCHESTRA OPPORTUNITIES  | 16 |
| Private Lessons  | 16 |
| CCSD District Orchestra  | 17 |
| SCMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival   | 17 |
| ORCHESTRA CONTRACT   | 18 |
| **Email is our primary form of communication. Please update the director if you would like to be contacted differently.Orchestra Parent Volunteer Sign Up Form | 18 |

# GENERAL SCHOOL HOUSEKEEPING

Money- All money for trips, fees, and other payments must be made in cash or money order (make money orders out to NCCAE). NCCAE does not accept checks.

# ORCHESTRA FEE

This year, our orchestra fee will be an **optional** \$30, which is due September 7. This fee will help cover the following: students method & theory book, music for rehearsals and performances, musical supplies (extra rubber bands, strings, shoulder rests, pencils, rosin), and classroom equipment. If you choose to not pay the orchestra fee, you may buy the material listed above online or at a music store. Please note that this assessment does not pay for orchestra trips. It is the desire of the director to take a spring trip each year. No member will be denied the opportunities of our organization due to financial difficulties. If there are financial issues, please talk with us! Fees are non-refundable<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Individual student accounts do not carry over to the next school year

# ORCHESTRA CALENDAR

Please transfer important dates or deadlines to your calendar. Attendance and participation is required for items that are underlined. (See grading policy) As we start the school year, many events or performances are in the process of being planned. As soon as those dates/times are available, they will be sent home with students and parents. Thank you for your patience and support!

| DATE           | EVENT                                       | GROUP              | PLACE & TIME |                    |
|----------------|---|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| August 27      | CCSD District Orchestra Auditions           | Orchestra 2        | SOA          | 6:00-7:00          |
| August 27      | First week of Orchestra (No instruments     | s)All Orchestras   | NCCAE        |                    |
| August 31      | Orchestra Handbook and Fee are due          | All Orchestras     |              |                    |
| September 3    | Labor Day (No School)                       | School             |              |                    |
| September 4    | Orchestra Classes start (w/ instruments     | )All Orchestras    | NCCAE        |                    |
| September 25   | Early Release, First half of Tuesday        | All Orchestras     | NCCAE        | 7:00-12:25         |
| October 25     | Early Release, First half of Thursday       | All Orchestras     | NCCAE        | 7:00-12:25         |
| October 26     | Family Data Conferences (No School)         |                    |              |                    |
| November 6     | Election Day (No School)                    |                    |              |                    |
| November 19-23 | Fall Break (No School)                      |                    |              |                    |
| December 12    | Winter Concert Rehearsal after-school       | All Orchestras     | NCCAE        | 3:00-5:00          |
| December 13    | Winter Concert.                             | All Orchestras     | NCCAE        |                    |
| December 17-20 | Make up lessons                             | Bases as needed    | NCCAE        | Will be pulled out |
| December 21    | Half day, First half of Friday              | All Orchestras     | NCCAE        |                    |
| January 7-11   | SOA Preparation Days                        | 5th Grade Students | NCCAE        | Will be pulled out |
| January 14     | Resume All Orchestra Classes                | All Orchestras     |              |                    |
| January 21     | MLK Jr. Day (No School)                     |                    |              |                    |
| February 15    | PD Day (No School)                          |                    |              |                    |
| February 18    | Presidents Day (No School/Weather Da        | ay)                |              |                    |
| March 22       | Early Release, 2nd half of Friday           |                    |              |                    |
| March 14 or 15 | Concert Performance Assessment <sup>2</sup> | Chamber Orchestra  | TBD          | TBD                |
| March 20       | Spring Concert Rehearsal after-school       |                    | All          |                    |
| March 21       | Spring Concert                              |                    |              |                    |
| April 19, 22   | Spring Weekend (No School)                  |                    |              |                    |
| April 27       | Solo and Ensemble Festival <sup>3</sup>     | Those interested   | TBD          | TBD                |
| May 03         | Electric Orchestra Concert/ Sound Chec      | ck                 | NCCAE        | 6:00-7:00          |
| May 06-17      | Make Up Lessons                             | All Orchestras     | NCCAE        | Will be pulled out |
| May 17         | All rental instruments must be turned in    |                    |              |                    |

<sup>-</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> One day event. Time will be determined at a later time

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> TBD based upon group. Friday events will be after school

# CONTACT INFORMATION

The best way to contact me is through email at <a href="mailto:andrew\_price@charleston.k12.sc.us">andrew\_price@charleston.k12.sc.us</a>. I can be reached at 843-529-2831 which is the school phone and will be directed to myself. All phone calls will be followed with written documentation.

We will also have applications for you to be in contact with me. Remind is a texting service and I highly recommend signing up.

To sign up for remind:

On your phone text 81010 or (843) 751-4862

Sign up by putting the code that matches your class in the message: Kindergarten- @k5violin
1st Grade- @firstvln
Prep Orchestra 2nd Grade- @nccaeprep
Concert Orchestra (3-5th Grade Beginning)- @concertvln
Philharmonic Orchestra (3rd Grade Returning)- @nccaephil
Chamber Orchestra (4-5th Grade Returning)- @chambervln
Shocking Strings (Orchestra Club)- @shockvln

Follow the prompts until completed!

Finally, every Friday, I send out an email called "Strings and Things" which contains information for the upcoming week. Please let me know immediately if you do not or have not been receiving this email.

# REQUIRED MATERIALS/INSTRUMENT INFORMATION

# Please have these by Monday September 10

All of these items are available at the local or online music stores listed at the bottom of the page.

- 1. Instrument Outfit (including case, bow, rosin, cleaning cloth)
- 2. Clear sheet protectors to keep music in binder (minimum 25)
- 3. Pencil for every class
- 4. Method Books (Will be provided by teacher using class fee or purchasing on your own)
  - a. Kindergarten, 1st Grade
    - i. Bornoff Primer
      - http://www.fase.org/product/the-bornoff-approach-a-primer-student-book/
    - ii. Suzuki Book 1 (can get from any music store or online, just make sure it is the right instrument)
  - b. Prep Orchestra (2nd Grade) & Concert Orchestra (3-5th Beginning)
    - i. Bornoff Primer
    - ii. Measures of Success Volume 1 (can get from any music store or online, just make sure it is the right instrument)
    - iii. All for Strings Theory Book (can get from any music store or online, just make sure it is the right instrument)
  - c. Philharmonic (3rd Grade Returning)<sup>4</sup>
    - i. Bornoff's Finger Patternshttp://www.fase.org/product/bornoffs-finger-patterns/
    - ii. Measures of Success Volume 1
  - d. Chamber Orchestra (4th and 5th Returning)<sup>5</sup>
    - i. Bornoff's Finger Patterns
    - ii. Measures of Success Volume 1 & 2 (will finish 1 in december and start 2 in January)
- 5. Extra set of strings (encouraged but not required)
- 6. Shoulder rest (violin/viola only)
- 7. Rock stop (cello/bass only)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> You may be asked to get a suzuki book but these will be issued during private lessons

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> You may be asked to get a suzuki book but these will be issued during private lessons

# Local Stores

Music and Arts Center 975 Savannah Hwy Charleston, SC 29407 (843) 852-0900 www.musicarts.com

Pecknel Music Company Inc. 500-B Altman St Monks Corner, SC 29461 (843) 761-2385 http://www.pecknelmusic.com/ Fox Music House 3005 W. Montague Ave. Charleston, SC 29418 (843) 740-7200 www.foxmusichouse.com Southern String Supply 502 Wando Park Blvd #106 Mt Pleasant, SC 29464 (843) 225-2467 www.theinstrumentdoc.com

# **Online Stores**

Ronald Sachs Violins 836 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lilburn, GA 30047 87110 (770) 931-2440 http://www.ronaldsachs.com/

Shar Music 2465 South Industrial Hwy Ann Arbor, MI 48104 1-800-248-7427 www.sharmusic.com Potter Violins 7711 Eastern Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912

(301) 652-7070 http://pottersviolins.com/

Southwest Strings 1721 S. Cherrybell Strav Tucson AZ, 85713 1-800-528-3430 www.swstrings.com Robertson & Sons 3201 Carlisle Blvd. NE Albuquerque, New Mexico

(505) 889 2999 http://www.robertsonviolins.com/

> Johnson String Instrument 11 John Street Newton Center, MA 02459 1-800-359-9351 www.johnsonstring.com



# **INSTRUMENTS**

Every student must have an instrument. The most cost-effective way to acquire an instrument is to purchase one outright from a string instrument dealer, and most stores offer rental-purchase plans. **DO NOT PURCHASE any instrument from another source before consulting with your orchestra director or private teacher first.** Poor quality instruments are the #1 reason students quit. (Beware of Internet, Craigslist, and Pawnshop "Deals!") You want to invest in an instrument that will sound good and not be constantly in the repair shop because of inferior construction or condition. When students are ready to get a "step-up" instrument as they become more serious about playing, please contact Mr. Price. There are many options that students and parents need to know before picking out their next instrument. We can work together to find the best instrument for the individual student's needs.

Charleston County Schools owns and supplies a limited number of string instruments that are rented on a yearly basis for students to leave in the classroom so that they don't have to carry an instrument to and from school on a daily basis. There are a limited number of instruments available for rental (violin, viola, cello, bass), and instruments will be assigned first by scholarship and financial need, and then by first come, first serve. The fee for the entire year is \$50, however, the instruments must remain at school and cannot be taken home UNLESS there are extras. If we have extra inventory, students will be allowed to take home their assigned instrument for home use but must bring it to school on a daily basis (with the exception to cello and bass). The rental fee helps to cover string replacement (a set of bass strings alone run \$100-\$200) as well as instrument repair and maintenance. Students are financially responsible for damage to a school instrument. Students are expected to keep these instruments in good working order and clean at all times. The orchestra also owns stands, storage racks, music, and other items. Should a student damage any of these items, a sum (determined by the orchestra director and approved by the administration) will be charged for repair or replacement. No member will be denied the opportunities of our organization due to financial difficulties. If there are financial issues, please talk with us!

# INSTRUMENT REMINDERS

1. Take care of your instrument. Keep it clean and stored in a climate-controlled facility. Do not leave in a car or garage since extreme temperatures can damage the instrument. Instruments should be stored in their cases when not in use and never left on the floor, furniture, or on top of a case unattended. Violins

and violas should never be hung from the lip of a music stand. Bows should be loosened and put away when not being used and cello/bass endpins must be in before returning them to racks. Any damage incurred to an instrument due to the failure to follow these procedures or by negligence on the part of the student is solely the responsibility of that student.

- 2. All instruments will be stored in the orchestra room or in a school issued locker. Take your instrument home to complete daily homework (practice).
- 3. If your instrument is in need of repair, do not attempt to fix it yourself. Bring it to Mr. Price first. If it is a minor problem and I can fix it, I will. If I cannot, I will direct you to a reputable repairman.

Students will be given an instrument locker or space during the first couple weeks of school. Students are expected to bring their instrument to school the days they have class or lessons.

Cello and Bass students will have an instrument at home and an instrument at the school. Please see above on instrument fees for more information.

# HOMEWORK ("Practice")

Students will receive playing assignments every week that they are to learn at home. Students will submit a practice log (on the website) each week and 5 minutes of their practicing online each week to the seesaw application (app.seesaw.me, see below) Playing tests will be given during classes at random times to evaluate if the student has learned the assignment. Practice times are recorded below. Students who have a regular time to work every day tend to practice more consistently and are better prepared for tests. Consistency is the key to success. All students must take their instruments home after school. Parents, please encourage your son or daughter by providing time for practice every day. 99% of students need daily parental support and encouragement to practice.

Practice times for Students

Kindergarten- 5-10 minutes a day 1st Grade- 10-15 minutes a day 2nd Grade- 20-30 minutes a day 3rd Grade- 30-45 minutes a day 4th Grade- 40-60 minutes a day 5th Grade- 50-75 minutes a day

SOA Auditioners, Chamber Orchestra Club, and District Orchestra Students require an extra 15 minutes of practice per day.

In the event of written work, there are two bins located in Mr. Price's room. One is for practice logs to be sent in and the other is for any additional homework. Mr. Price will grade homework and give back to their homeroom teacher who will then disperse the homework.

# Make up Lessons

Students will be able to make up private lessons at the end of each semester. Students will be able to make up lessons due to the following:

No school Teacher is absent Testing/Assembly

All other instances of private lessons will not be considered for makeup.

# **GRADING POLICY**

The Grading Scale Used for all Levels is:

90-100=A

80-89=B

70-79=C

60-69=D

59 and below=F

Grades will be based on the following criteria:

| Class Participation                         | 35% |
|---|-----|
| Concert & After School Rehearsal Attendance | 25% |
| Playing & Written Tests                     | 10% |
| Materials Checks                            | 15% |
| Practice Logs                               | 15% |

Extra Credit (see section below)



### **Concert & After School Rehearsal Attendance**

Concerts and after-school rehearsals are considered part of the class requirement for orchestra. Good communication between teachers, students, and parents can prevent misunderstandings. So please communicate immediately with the director when there are problems and schedule conflicts.

The orchestra's performance calendar is on the front page of our website and on the back of the front cover of the Orchestra Handbook. Students are expected to arrive 15 minutes early to rehearsals and 45 minutes early to concerts to unpack, warm, and get ready. They are also expected to stay for the entire rehearsal or performance. Students will receive grades for every after-school and evening rehearsal and performance. Students who are absent, tardy, or leave early for any unexcused reason may receive a low grade or a zero. Students who come to a concert performance in unacceptable attire will have their concert grade reduced, and in extreme cases will not be allowed to perform. After-school rehearsals and concerts are a required part of the class.

Absences and tardies for a rehearsal or performance are only excused when they meet the following criteria and parents immediately send a written note or verbally communicate with the director in person informing the director. Verbal or written statements from students are not excused.

- 1. The student is too ill to attend school. The parent should send a written note to the director as soon as possible. In most cases, a signed doctor's medical excuse will exempt the student form making up the grade. Students who were present at school on both the day of the after-school event and also the day after the event will not be excused without a note from the doctor.
- 2. There is a death in the family or comparable family emergency. The parent should send a written note to the director as soon as possible. If the student's family crisis is a death in the family or comparable, the student will be exempt from making up the grade. All other cases are excused at the discretion of the director; unexcused absences will earn a zero, and excused absences must submit a recording as described below.
- 3. The student has a prior commitment. If the student has a prior commitment that was planned before the orchestra rehearsal or concert was announced, the parent must communicate this conflict using the Prior Commitment Form (see appendix A). Established religious holidays are excused but should be communicated by the parent using the Prior Commitment Form. Prior Commitment Forms for communicating conflicts with events that are announced in August with the calendar in this handbook are due by September 1. If the orchestra has a schedule change during the year, parents will have 10 days to inform the director of conflicts. Students with excused prior commitments are allowed to make up their even grade by submitting a recording

# Make up the grade for excused absences

Students with excused prior commitments, illnesses without a doctor's excuse, and family emergencies that are not comparable to a death in the family must make up the grade of the event missed. To make up a grade, students must record themselves performing all of the music from the event they will miss. The recording will be graded and will replace the zero for the grade of the event missed. Students will lose 10% of their grade for every day the recording is late. For prior illness and family emergency, students must submit the recording within 3 days for the end of the absence.

Students who miss a significant number of in-school or after-school rehearsal for excused or unexcused reasons may lose their leadership seating and, if necessary, may not be allowed to perform at the the concert. This affects students who miss:

- More than 20% of the classes in the 6 weeks leading up to a concert
- More than 40% of the classes in the last 2 weeks before the concert
- Unexcused absences from any required after-school rehearsals or dress rehearsals before the concert

Students who miss too much class to perform will be required to make a recording, as described above, and submit it before the day of the concert in lieu of their concert grade.

# **Playing & Written Tests**

Playing tests will be given to evaluate students on mastery of major skill units. (example: scales, technique, rhythm, concert music, music theory, etc.) Students will be tested individually or in small group performances during class. Written tests and worksheets will cover elements of theory, music history, and music performance that we have covered in class. Students will be given advance notice of a test and material will always have been covered in class before an evaluation is given.

# **Class Participation**

In order for an ensemble to be successful, active student participation and preparation is essential. First and foremost, a student must be in class. There is no way for a student to "make-up" an entire period of rehearsal. Only those absences excused by the office will be excused when a class is missed. Students must have their instruments, music, and pencils at every rehearsal and show maximum effort and focus. Each day of class is worth 10 points. Students begin each day with full credit. Points are deducted for not having materials, being unprepared, and/or for behavior infractions.

# **Practice Logs**

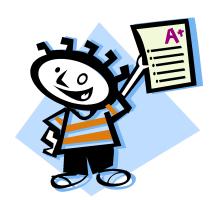
Practice Logs are to be recorded, signed by a parent, and returned to be checked (via email or hard copy). Practice logs are important because they help the teacher identify the strengths and weaknesses of the student and how the teacher can help. **There will be a drawer filled with practice logs at all times**. There is no excuse to not do a practice log.

### Extra Credit

Each nine week period students will have the opportunity to receive extra credit through performing in public. In order to receive extra credit, students are required to perform in any public setting for at least 10 minutes AND bring or send me a video clip of the performance. Students can perform by themselves or in groups. Example: Two students can volunteer to play duets at an art gallery downtown for 10 minutes. Students should have a store owner, passerby, or friend take a picture/video of the performance or of the students posing with their instruments.

Why performing and why the video? Not everyone attends music concerts or listens to it on their own at home. We need to be our own advocates for bringing the great music that we play out into our communities! Through performing in public, students will provide exposure to music to community members, gain valuable performance experience, and also represent the thriving music department that we have here at North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary School. The video will be used to verify that the student(s) performed.

How the extra credit works: For every 10 minutes that a student performs in public I will raise one homework grade to a 100%. Students can receive a maximum of two grade increases per nine weeks (20 minutes of performance). Students must turn in the extra credit information form along with the picture in order to receive credit.



# CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to be:

**Safe** - Come into the room quickly but safely. Grab your own instrument and nobody elses. Handle your instrument as you would a pet or baby brother or sister. Do not touch anyone else's instrument, binder, music, pencil, or accessories. No bow fighting!

**Organized** - Be in your seat and ready to tune at the start of class. Also, be ready to play announced passages of music quickly. Have your instrument, binder, ALL music, pencil and all other accessories with you for every class.

**Always Respectful** - Respect yourself, others, and the instruments. Raise your hand and wait to be called if you have a question/contribution. Keep self and instrument quiet during tuning and rehearsal. Raise your hand to be recognized before speaking and to receive permission to leave your seat. If I don't see your hand right away, please keep it up until I do or quietly say "Mr. Price." I move as quickly as I can to meet everyone's needs but sometimes you will need to be patient with your teacher and your classmates.

**Responsible** - At NCCAE you are the leaders of not only the class but the school. It is your responsibility to own up to the leadership skills you will receive in my class and it is your responsibility to practice at home every day (not your parents). It is your responsibility to achieve SOARing Expectations including those in your academic classes, academic arts classes, and in my room. Your success in this class, and in life, is up to you. If you believe you can, you will!

In addition Mr. Price has four rules that tie in with the expectations above.

- 1. Respect everyone and everything
- 2. If you have a problem with someone or something, come talk to me individually so we can solve it
- 3. When it is time to play, it is time to play. Not before, and not after.
- 4. Have fun! You control the outcome!

# **Inappropriate Behavior**

Orchestra students and parents must believe in the ideals, principles and rules of the organization. Each member must always be aware of good behavior and think for themselves. Any misconduct casts a bad light on the orchestra program, as well as our school and our community. Consequences for inappropriate behavior will include:

1st Offense – Verbal warning

2nd Offense – Loss of class participation points

3<sup>rd</sup> Offense – Loss of playing privilege & alternate assignment, contacting parent(s)/guardian(s)

4<sup>th</sup> Offense – Referral to Administration

Severe Clause – In all grades, severe or habitual misbehavior may result in ineligibility for concerts, field trips and other special events/activities. Extreme discipline problems will warrant automatic referral to the administration. Students who come to class without their materials or cause extreme disruptions for a significant portion of the semester will be asked to drop orchestra beginning the following semester. Being unprepared for or disruptive during class destroys student progress and hinders the progress of the rest of the class.

# **NCCAE Strings Best Interest Policy**

At NCCAE, the director has the right at any time to decide what is best for the student in regard to their continuation in the program. While the director is very unlikely to do this, there are a few instances in which this policy may be put into action.

- In the case that a student repeatedly forgets their materials including their instrument for a very long time
- In the case that the student has come to the director multiple times asking to not play/perform because they do not like it or the instrument causes physical pain
- The student is consistently bringing down other students or the group due to lack of skill or any form bullying, threatening, or criticizing other students.

In addition to the strings policy, it is expected that students maintain and accel in their academic and academic arts classes. If there is any notice of your student struggling in a subject particularly during the time when they are pulled out for strings class, it is expected for the student to ask for help from the teacher and get special attention on that subject either before or after school (7:00 is when the building opens and 3:00 is when teachers leave). This is something students will have to do for many years to come and the best way to get practice asking for help is to do it early in their career.

If the academic or academic arts subject(s) is not taken care of after a period of nine weeks, the teacher, orchestra director, student, and parent, will meet to discuss the options best for that student.

If there is ever a case in which the NCCAE Strings Best Interest Policy is thought of, the parents/guardians will be asked to come in for a meeting prior to discuss options for the student. If the student does not change the behavior or reason the policy was thought of, then the Policy will be put into action.

# TARDY POLICY

Students must be on time in orchestra class in two ways. First, they must be in the orchestra room on time. Second, they must be completely ready to begin class one minute after class has started. This includes unpacking their instrument, rosining their bow, having all materials out and ready, and being seated in their assigned chair. The students will practice this procedure the first two weeks of school before it will be enforced. Consistent tardiness will result in contacting the parent/guardian.

# **FINGERNAIL POLICY**

One sacrifice we make in order to play our instrument correctly is having short nails. Are they too long? Test: with a straight finger, firmly press the fingertip down onto the top of a table so that the finger is perpendicular to the table. If the fingertip can firmly press to the table without the nail getting in the way, the nail is short enough. If the nail gets in the way, it is too long to play a string instrument correctly. Wearing salon nails to orchestra is like wearing high-heels to PE. They make it hard to be successful. Repeat offenders may lose class participation points and may not be allowed to perform.

# FORMAL CONCERT ATTIRE

Gentlemen should wear white button down collared shirt, with a black tie, socks, and dress shoes. Black sport coats are encouraged but not required. Shirts must be tucked in and a black belt worn. Ladies should wear a black dress OR black and/or white blouse with a skirt or dress pants. Ladies dress shoes can also be a nice pair of flats or heels. Dresses and skirts should be knee length or longer when seated and NO strapless dresses.\*\* I **strongly** recommend students try to play their instruments in their concert attire at home before they show up at a concert. Sometimes untested or new clothing can restrict a musician's ability to perform well.

For our holiday concert, students may wear holiday tops and black bottoms. For our spring concert, students may wear a spring dresses or spring ties instead of black.

\*\* Orchestra members must be dressed in complete concert attire in order to perform.

# **FUNDRAISING**

Over and above staffing, Charleston County does not fund our orchestra program – WE DO! This is why fundraising is so critical to the mission of the Hootie Orchestra and the success of our program.

# Why do we need to have fundraisers?

- 1. to offset the additional cost, over and above the orchestra fees.
- 2. to provide a vehicle for families to fund their students' orchestra accounts to assist in paying for orchestra fees, event fees, trips, and other qualifying events.
- 3. to raise money for the orchestra so that we may continue to provide our students with the instruments and equipment that are needed to ensure the excellence of our orchestra program.

# FIELD TRIPS

Musical field trips have educational and social value. All students are encouraged to attend these trips. The director puts a great deal of time and preparation into our music field trips and is committed to making these trips fun and safe for everyone. Students who cannot follow directions in class or who are chronically disruptive will not be allowed on field trips. Students must have permission from all of their teachers before they may attend a field trip. Students with less than satisfactory grades or behavior in any class may be restricted from orchestra field trips.



# OTHER ORCHESTRA OPPORTUNITIES

### **Private Lessons**

Students who enjoy their instruments and who are interested in improving their performance may consider taking private lessons. Private instructors teach one on one, at the student's pace, and help each student develop technical and musical skills specific to their instruments. These skills can be well applied in an orchestra setting, and in most cases, students who work with a private instructor progress much faster than those who do not. Teacher fees and lesson lengths vary.

### Violin

Arkadiy Agrest 843-327-5761 arkadiyagrest@hotmail.com (willing to come to your house)

James Anderson 970-443-2632 (BM, MM), email (jamesandersonviolin@qmail.com) (Summerville area)

Ruben Camacho Mt. Pleasant, 843-475-6583, rubenviolin@gmail.com,

Rex Connor 843-881-5630

Jonathan DePriest (West Ashley and N. Charleston)843-801-2036 Jonathan\_depriest@charleston.k12.sc.us (W. Ashley)

Sadie deWall (West Ashley) sadierosed@gmail.com (917)547-8291

Micah Gangwer, CSO (West Ashley) (405) 408-7598, micahgangwer@yahoo.com

Mei Gawlik, BM, MM in violin performance: 252-531-2318, meigawlikviolins@gmail.com.

DeAnndra Glenn, (843)991-3564, www.charlestonviolin.com, North Charleston

Frances Hsieh, CSO (West Ashley and Downtown) (919)360-3953 hsieh79@gmail.com

Tomas Jakubek: (843)-597-2041, sipa.jakubek@gmail.com

Rachel Krautsack (West Ashley and N. Charleston) 716-319-8479

Asako Kremer, CSO (W. Ashley) 843-364-1420 asakokremer@gmail.com

Gloria Lee M.M. & B.M. (West Ashley and Downtown) 352-281-8220, gloria.yunwon@gmail.com

Andrae Raffield, MM (843) 697-9826 or andrae.raffield123@gmail.com

Matthew Peebles (West Ashley) 803-261-3899 matthewrosspeebles@gmail.com

Dan Urbanowicz (West Ashley) 412-874-9933 danviola08@gmail.com, M.M. New England Conservatory, B.M. Cleveland Institute of Music

Max Spiewak B.M. (Downtown) max.spiewak@gmail.com (336) 430-8057

Brad Harbuck, CCSD Teacher donald harbuck@charleston.k12.sc.us

### Viola

Olivia Morris 704-749-4496 olivia-morris@live.com, North Charleston

Zoe Harbison, West Ashley, zoe\_harbison@charleston.k12.sc.us

Arkadiv Agrest 843-327-5761 arkadiyagrest@hotmail.com (willing to come to your house)

Ruben Camacho 843-475-6583, rubenviolin@gmail.com, Mt. Pleasant

Sadie deWall (West Ashley) sadierosed@gmail.com and my cell is (917)547-8291

Jan-Marie Joyce, CSO (James Island) violajoyce@gmail.com 843-647-9630

DeAnndra Glenn, (843)991-3564, www.charlestonviolin.com, North Charleston

Amy Goldkin goldkingangof7@gmail.com

Andrae Raffield, MM (843) 697-9826 or andrae.raffield123@gmail.com

Alex Agrest, CSO (843) 324-7721 aagrest@comcast.net (W. Ashley)

Jonathan DePriest (West Ashley and N. Charleston) 843-801-2036 Jonathan\_depriest@charleston.k12.sc.us

Matthew Peebles 803-261-3899 matthewrosspeebles@gmail.com

Dan Urbanowicz 412-874-9933 danviola08@gmail.com, West Ashley

### Cello

Helen Greenfield 843-889-8260

<u>Damian Kremer</u>, CSO (West Ashley) 843-953-7335 damiankremer@bellsouth.net

Andrew Mille 843-693-0004. info@classicalcharleston.com

Terry L. Muir, CSO (James Island, Downtown, Mt. Pleasant) (512) 705-1582 terrylmuir@gmail.com

Timothy O'Malley (West Ashley) (843) 573-9416 teomalley@gmail.com

# **String Bass**

Tom Bresnick, CSO (N. Charleston) 843-209-1187 tombresnick@gmail.com

Emily Damrel <a href="maily\_damrel@charleston.k12.sc.us">emily\_damrel@charleston.k12.sc.us</a> (336) 587-6733

Rich Harbison, West Ashley Middle and High School, rich\_harbison@charleston.k12.sc.us

### **Schools & Groups of Teachers**

Music & Arts Lessons (843) 852-0900

Charleston Music School Info@CharlestonMusicSchool.com

Hungry Monk Music 843-571-3857

Charleston Academy of Music (843) 805-7794

### **CCSD District Orchestra**

Charleston County School District offers district level orchestra programs to CCSD string orchestra students. Prospective students must have at least one semester's experience, be recommended by their teacher, and participate in the strings orchestra program at their school if one is offered. Acceptance into the orchestras is based upon auditions. Auditions will be held August 28th from 530pm to 730pm at the School of the Arts (SOA). These auditions are for acceptance into the Fall 2015 district orchestra programs which begin September 11th. SOA is located at 5109 W. Enterprise Street, North Charleston, SC 29405. The goal of the district orchestras is to provide a challenging orchestral experience for CCSD string students beyond that normally provided by the general school program in order to achieve their potential. These orchestras allow students to perform with gifted and talented students from all areas of Charleston County, work closely with talented conductors, study advanced orchestra literature, and achieve higher performance capabilities. District orchestras operate on a semester by semester basis, holding spring, fall and winter, auditions as well as end of semester concerts. District orchestras hold rehearsals once a week on Monday nights from 6:30pm – 8pm at School of the Arts. If you are interested in auditioning, please contact Mr. Price for an application.

### **SCMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival**

Students are encouraged (but not required) to perform either a solo piece or a small group piece at this festival held in early May. Students choosing to play at this festival receive most of their help from their private teachers; however, the school director is also available for coaching. If you are interested, see Mr. Price for more information and a registration form.

The Orchestra Handbook is a living document that will change periodically throughout my time at NCCAE. Any changes will be posted immediately to the website and will have the most updated version as much as possible.

# ORCHESTRA CONTRACT

# **Detach and Return by September 7**

(Please complete both sides of this sheet and return to Mr. Price)

# Student:

I have completely read the Hootie Orchestra Handbook. I understand and agree that I will follow each policy outlined in the handbook. I understand that my contribution to the orchestra is an important part of the ensemble's success. I understand that if I miss a before/after school rehearsal or concert that my grade and my participation in the ensemble will be affected, unless that absence has been excused.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_

| Student Signature  | Date   |
|--|--|
| Parent:  |  |
| expected to follow each policy outlined in<br>contribution to the orchestra is an important of<br>if my child misses a before/after school reho<br>and participation in the ensemble will be aff<br>also agree to pick up my child no later than | stra Handbook. I understand that my child is the handbook. I understand that my child's part of the ensemble's success. I understand that earsal or orchestra concert that her or his grade ected, unless that absence has been excused. I 15 minutes after a rehearsal or event has ended, r. Price to make him aware of the situation. I am gation to the orchestra program. |
| Parent's Name  |  |
| Parent Signature   | Date   |
| Best way of contacting you:  |  |
| **Email is our primary form of communic  | ation. Places undete the director if you would   |

\*\*Email is our primary form of communication. Please update the director if you would like to be contacted differently.

# Orchestra Parent Volunteer Sign Up Form

Please return by September 1

Great orchestra programs cannot exist without great parent support. Any amount of time or effort is appreciated! Please note that checking below does not obligate you to anything, but gives me a better idea of whom is willing to help and in what capacities. It does not hurt my feelings at all if you don't think you will have time to help and prefer to leave this blank. Thank you!

| Parent(s) willing to volunteer:   |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
|                                   |  |  |  |
| Please check appropriate box(es): |  |  |  |
|                                   |  |  |  |
|                                   | PR Committee (help promote concerts)                     |  |  |
|                                   |  |  |  |
|                                   | Program (create programs for concerts)                   |  |  |
|                                   |  |  |  |
|                                   | Copying  |  |  |
|                                   | Transport large equipment (colleg basses music stands)   |  |  |
|                                   | Transport large equipment (cellos, basses, music stands) |  |  |
|                                   | Fundraising Committee                                    |  |  |
|                                   |  |  |  |
|                                   | Stage Set-Up and Break Down                              |  |  |
|                                   |  |  |  |
|                                   | Chaperone Field Trips                                    |  |  |
|                                   |  |  |  |
|                                   | Social Activity Coordinating                             |  |  |