



JENKS INTERMEDIATE ORCHESTRAS

Directors: Laura Duncan and Micah Neely

Welcome New Students!

We are so happy you have chosen to join us in 6th grade next year! Learning to play a musical instrument promotes teamwork, discipline, perseverance, critical thought, problem-solving skills, and other habits that are important for future success. Apart from that, making music with friends is fun!

No doubt there are many questions about what to expect when you start orchestra class. Please plan to join us for a family informational meeting at the beginning of next school year, date/time TBA. We will cover topics such as instrument care and maintenance, curricular objectives, program policies and performance events, and how to establish effective practice routines at home.

We will also discuss how to obtain a quality instrument for your beginning student. The majority of our students rent instruments from local music shops for their first year. We encourage this, firstly because many of our beginners start on fractional-size instruments rather than full-size. Secondly, it allows students to build skills and determine interest level before making a financial investment.

Should you decide you wish to purchase an instrument, please be advised that not all stringed instruments are created equal! Inexpensive non-music store brands such as Cecilio, Mendini, Lark, and Cremona are often cheaply made, difficult to play and keep in tune, and lead to a frustrating musical experience. If you are seeking a new or used instrument, reputable student brands we recommend include Eastman, Knilling, Scherl & Roth, Amati, Mueller, Hoffman, and Lamberti. We are more than happy to advise you in the purchase of a quality instrument for your student.

There are several fine local music shops that carry a good selection of instruments and provide excellent repair services. These include:

- Tulsa Strings [www.tulsastringsviolinshop.com] 4631 E. 31st St; Midtown Tulsa (918)794-8440
- Saied Music Company [www.saiedmusic.com] 3259 S Yale Ave; Midtown Tulsa (800)777-5541
- Tulsa Violin Shop [www.tulsaviolin.com] 220 N Main St; Downtown Tulsa (918)582-1942

Thank you for your support of school music! Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best Regards,

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