

THE BENEFITS OF ORCHESTRA

- **COMMUNITY**
The orchestra coordinates individual abilities into one central effort. It teaches loyalty to the group and provides a place where students feel they belong and are valued. It encourages a sense of belonging throughout students' time in orchestra.
- **DISCIPLINE**
The orchestra promotes responsibility. Students learn problem solving techniques and the importance of following instructions exactly. Respect for people and property is stressed.
- **CONCENTRATION**
Playing a stringed instrument develops fine motor skills. Coordinating the left and right hands, reading music, following the conductor, and listening to others requires a dedication to focus on things individually and in a variety of combinations.
- **PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT**
Orchestra students learn that they can accomplish and achieve whatever they set their minds to. They tackle new challenges with enthusiasm and determination and take this attitude and confidence with them to other aspects of life.
- **ENJOYMENT**
Playing a string instrument provides enjoyment to your child both now and in the future. Whether in formal settings or just for fun, playing music alone or in a group is a healthy way to express emotions and develop positive self-esteem.
- **OPPORTUNITY**
Though few choose to pursue careers in music, opportunities exist for students to earn college scholarships by being a part of the college orchestra. In addition, string players are able to perform for a variety of events to earn extra income. There are also opportunities to participate in church and community orchestras later in life.

QUESTIONS

We would love to answer any questions or concerns you may have about our program.

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Jenks *Orchestra*



WHO SHOULD JOIN THE ORCHESTRA?

Orchestra is for students who have a serious interest in music, who are willing to work in class and practice at home, and who have a desire to be a part of an excellent and accomplished group.

WHAT MUSICAL TRAINING IS REQUIRED?

Your elementary school music classes have prepared you for beginning orchestra. No previous instrumental music experience is expected or required.

CAN STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN MS/HS SPORTS AND STILL BE IN ORCHESTRA?

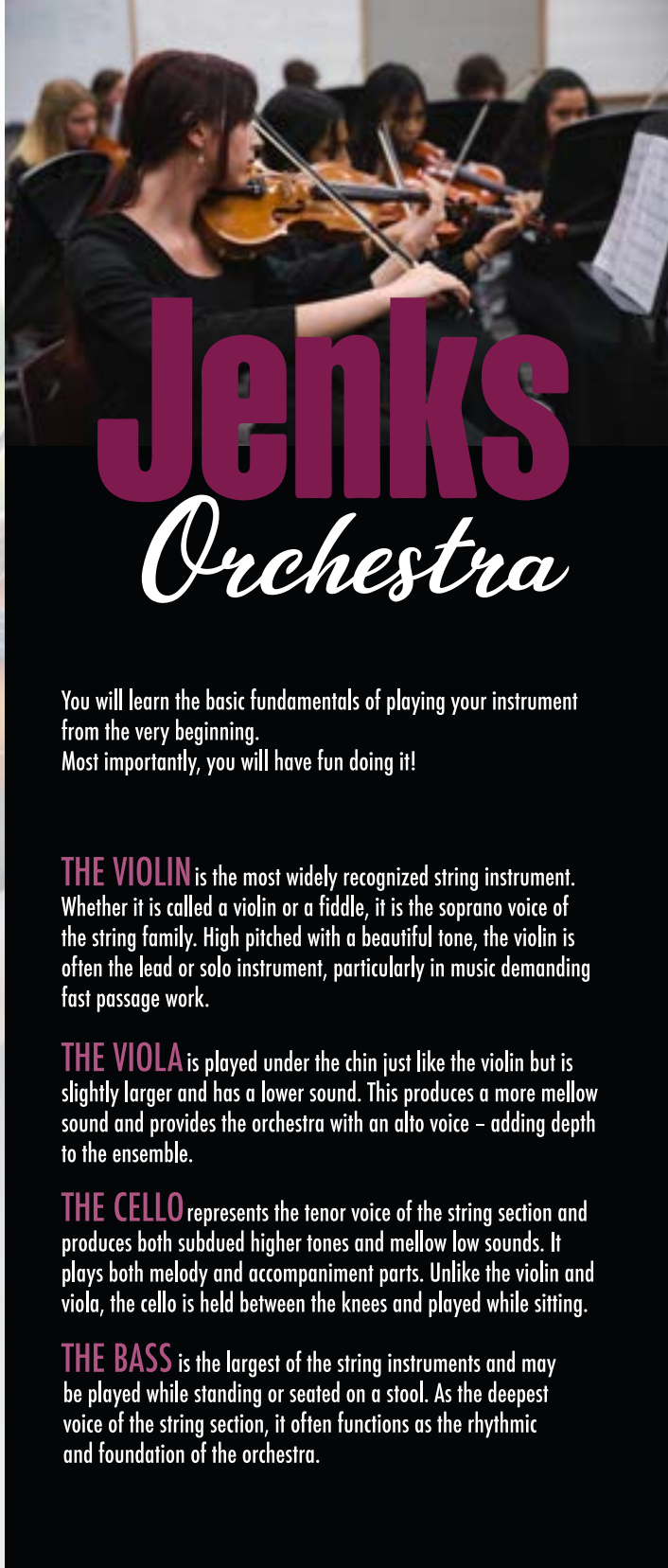
Yes! Many students in orchestra participate in sports as well as many other activities. We work with you and the faculty to avoid conflicts.

HOW ARE INSTRUMENTS CHOSEN?

A teacher will demonstrate each instrument and help you decide which you are best suited for depending upon your personal preference. Then you will need to be measured for the correct size instrument. Do not purchase anything without checking with a director first.

HOW MUCH DOES ORCHESTRA COST?

There is no annual fee required to be a part of the orchestra. The largest expense is the cost of an instrument. Violins and violas may be rented for a monthly charge or purchased. Local music dealers and select online dealers we know to be reputable offer plans where the rental payments apply toward the purchase price of the instrument. The school makes cellos and basses available to students who pay a \$35 maintenance fee. There are fundraising opportunities to cover the cost of trips and other activities. Cost should not deter any student from enrolling who truly wants to learn to play an instrument.



Jenks Orchestra

You will learn the basic fundamentals of playing your instrument from the very beginning. Most importantly, you will have fun doing it!

THE VIOLIN is the most widely recognized string instrument. Whether it is called a violin or a fiddle, it is the soprano voice of the string family. High pitched with a beautiful tone, the violin is often the lead or solo instrument, particularly in music demanding fast passage work.

THE VIOLA is played under the chin just like the violin but is slightly larger and has a lower sound. This produces a more mellow sound and provides the orchestra with an alto voice – adding depth to the ensemble.

THE CELLO represents the tenor voice of the string section and produces both subdued higher tones and mellow low sounds. It plays both melody and accompaniment parts. Unlike the violin and viola, the cello is held between the knees and played while sitting.

THE BASS is the largest of the string instruments and may be played while standing or seated on a stool. As the deepest voice of the string section, it often functions as the rhythmic and foundation of the orchestra.

HOW DO I ENROLL?

Select orchestra on your enrollment form as an elective choice – we will take care of getting you all the information you need to be ready to play shortly after school starts in the fall. Sizing instruments will ensure that you have the correct size instrument for you preventing discomfort and ensuring success.

WHAT ELSE?

Be prepared to have fun and be a part of a culture of excellence. The Jenks Orchestra offers the opportunity to learn to play an instrument and make music and is also a great place to make new friends and become part of a group that performs locally, in out of state contests, and, ultimately, in national competitions. Joining the orchestra can offer you experiences that will last a lifetime!

JENKS ORCHESTRA OFFERS

- **INSTRUCTION**

No prior music knowledge is required. Those with a previous string background will be encouraged to perfect their skills and act as mentors.

- **PERFORMANCE**

There will be a formal orchestra concert at the end of the first semester of study. Less formal performances are added gradually to the curriculum in addition to at least one formal concert each semester.

- **ENRICHMENT**

Outside of class, students will eventually have the opportunity to participate in the Jenks Middle School Honors Orchestra, Summer Strings, and the OSSAA solo and ensemble festival. In HS, students also may audition for summer music camps, state and national performing groups, and perform for select school events like the HS musical.

- **DEVELOPMENT**

The Jenks Orchestra is committed to personal development of every student. Leadership, integrity, responsibility, and discipline are some of the attributes we instill in our students.