



George C. Marshall High School Orchestras

Catherine Bond, Director

contact: cabond@fcps.edu or 703.714.5320

www.gcmorchestra.org



Information for Rising 9th Grade Students

The GCM Orchestra program has a lot to offer! Here are some of the things we do over the course of the school year:

- Fall, Winter, and Spring Concerts;
- District Performance Assessment Concert and Event;
- Performing in the community and at school events;
- An annual Spring Trip (we have been to Florida, Chicago, Nashville, LA, DC, and more!)
- Spring Awards;
- Social activities like pizza parties, bowling night, and more!

The GCM Orchestra program has grown and developed immensely over the past few years. The ensembles consistently rate highly at various festivals and events. We work hard, but we also have a lot of fun! We hope that you will join our orchestra family at GCM!



GCM Orchestra Auditions for 2019-2020 School Year

If you would like to join the GCM orchestras, all you have to do is select ORCHESTRA as your first choice for electives on your course selection sheet. If you have already selected a different class and would like to switch into orchestra, it's not too late! Please contact your counselor and request the change, and let Mrs. Bond know if you need any assistance.

Auditions will take place during the month of May. Mrs. Bond will audition students at Kilmer MS during the school day on May 15th. Kilmer students who will be absent on the day of Mrs. Bond's visit, or students from any other schools (Thoreau, Luther Jackson, Longfellow, etc.) will audition at Marshall HS. Those students will need to email Mrs. Bond to schedule the audition at cabond@fcps.edu. All auditions must be completed by May 17, 2019. Students who do not audition will be placed in Symphonic Orchestra.



Course Information

There are two ensembles available for rising 9th grade students: Symphonic (Intermediate) and Philharmonic (Advanced) Orchestras. All GCM Orchestra students are required to provide their own instrument/supplies and purchase a uniform.

Symphonic Orchestra – Intermediate Orchestra; Grades 9-12

(Prerequisite: recommendation from previous director and/or successful audition.)

- Students continue to develop ensemble and individual skills;
- Performs music at a VBODA level 3-4;
- Afterschool rehearsals and performances are a required part of this course.

Philharmonic Orchestra – Advanced Orchestra; Grades 9-12

(Prerequisites: recommendation from previous director and successful audition.)

- Performs at a VBODA level 5+;
- Afterschool rehearsals and performances are a required part of this course;
- Audition/participation in outside events such as SRO, Districts, etc. may be required.

Audition Requirements

Symphonic Orchestra:

- District Scales* (Senior level) – C, G, and D Majors with bowings (your choice of tempo)
- Solo or excerpt from your school literature that shows off your strongest playing ability (your choice of 1-2 minute excerpt.) *Please bring your music to your audition, even if you have it memorized.*

Philharmonic Orchestra:

- District Scales* (Senior level) - prepare all seven majors and ONE minor of your choosing, with bowings at quarter note = 120
- Solo or excerpt from your school literature that shows off your strongest playing ability (your choice of 1-2 minute excerpt.) *Please bring your music to your audition, even if you have it memorized.*
- Excerpt* - marked section(s) of “Symphony No 25” by Mozart/LaJoie

*All audition materials available at www.gcmorchestra.org.

E-mail Mrs. Bond at cbond@fcps.edu with any questions.

We look forward to having you in the GCM Orchestras!!!