



## *George C. Marshall High School Orchestras*

Tanya Ratner, Director

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www.gcmorchestra.org



### Information for Rising 9<sup>th</sup> 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 a history of excellence. 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 2020-2021 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. Ratner or Mrs. Bond know if you need any assistance.

Auditions will take place via video and will be DUE by April 24, 2020. See instructions on the other side of this sheet. *Students who do not audition will be placed in Intermediate Orchestra.*

If you are unable to complete your audition because of the recent Covid-19 outbreak: please let me know your difficulty and we will find another way!

Your orchestral placement will be a combination of audition and your current director's recommendation.

## Course Information

There are two course levels available for rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade students: Intermediate and Advanced 1 Orchestras. All GCM Orchestra students are required to provide their own instrument/supplies and purchase a uniform.

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.

Advanced Orchestra 1; 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 & Instructions:

### Intermediate Orchestra

**You do NOT need to submit a video audition. You do need prior experience playing your instrument as well as a recommendation from your current orchestra director. Mrs. Ratner and Mrs. Bond will contact your director for the recommendation, you do not need to do anything other than sign up for orchestra!**

### Advanced Orchestra 1 (Grades 9-12) – Please prepare the following:

- Senior District or Regional Scales (whichever you can do) with bowings at quarter note =120. Perform A melodic minor and one of the following major scales: C, G and D
- Solo that you are working on, or an excerpt from your school literature that shows off your strongest playing ability (your choice of 1-2 minute excerpt.) Try to choose something that shows where you are with positions, vibrato and bow technique.

Please record your scales and solo/excerpt on ONE video, making sure that your hands and bow can be seen.

Upload your video onto Google Classroom “GCM Orchestra Auditions 2020-2021 for Rising 9th Graders”

Code: **ce35t7f**

Put your name and the orchestra you are auditioning for in the title of your video submission.

Please make sure you download your video onto google drive before uploading to classroom.

Be sure that you receive a confirmation email that your video was received – if you don’t hear back within a week of submitting, please contact me!

\*All audition materials available at [www.gcmorchestra.org](http://www.gcmorchestra.org).

*E-mail Mrs. Ratner at [tkratner@fcps.edu](mailto:tkratner@fcps.edu) with any questions.*

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