



General Information about Orchestra at New Trier

Are you a current 8th grade student playing a stringed instrument: Violin, Viola, Cello or Bass? If yes, we would like to welcome you to the New Trier High School Orchestra Program! There is a place for everyone. There are lots of reasons to become part of the New Trier Orchestras. Making music with friends and developing your musical abilities are just the beginning. Signing up is easy, and we are excited for you to be a part of our program.

- Orchestra is a curricular class that meets five days a week for one full period.
- You will perform in two concerts each semester.
- You can participate in sports and still be in music! There are many athletes (Freshman through Varsity levels) involved in the music program at New Trier. Because music is a class during the school day, the music and sports schedules rarely overlap. When they do, the teacher and coach will work together to help resolve the conflict.
- **All incoming freshman string players should register for Freshman Orchestra.** Should an adjustment need to be made for your orchestra placement, this will occur after you submit your audition should you choose to audition.
- Auditions are not required for Freshman Orchestra. You are only required to submit an audition if you wish to be considered for Freshman Chamber Players or Symphony Orchestra.

There are three placement options for incoming Freshman string players

1. Freshman Orchestra (no audition necessary, just sign up for the class)
2. Freshman Orchestra & Freshman Chamber Players. (you must submit an audition) Please note that the Freshman Chamber Players are a subset of Freshman Orchestra. The students who qualify for this ensemble will occasionally be pulled out of Freshman Orchestra to work on more advanced repertoire.
3. Symphony Orchestra (you must submit an audition) Please note that the students selected for this orchestra will commute to the Winnetka Campus.

Audition Requirements

1. Solo - Perform a solo of your choice that best demonstrates your skill level to date. This could be from your solo repertoire or from music you have worked on in your orchestra class.
2. Scales - For Freshman Chamber Players, one Major TWO octave scale & one Minor TWO octave scale.
 - a. For Symphony Orchestra, one Major THREE octave scale and one Minor THREE octave scale (double bass two octaves). All scales should be performed ascending and descending: quarter note = 120.

Please note: In early February, Mr. Rosheger will be visiting the middle & junior high schools to listen to 8th graders.

Advice from Current Music Students

“Take driver’s education during the summer.”

“Consider taking summer school so that you have more periods available for classes during the regular school year.”

“Consider taking an early bird course at the Winnetka Campus, especially in science.”

“Music classes can be taken as either a minor or major, and capstone music classes can be taken at the 4 level.”

“Free periods (study halls) can be useful for practicing your instrument at school.”

“Once you have a good understanding of how New Trier works, plan your program of studies far ahead.”

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