

RICHARDSON HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRAS — SYLLABUS

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

- All students will continue to improve individual and ensemble skills through *home practice*, class instruction, video/recorded assignments, and sectionals or after-school rehearsals.
- Students will explore and perform a wide range of orchestral repertoire from classical literature to popular music.
- Orchestra handbook, music, and handouts will be posted on www.charmsoffice.com.
- **Charms Login:** richardsonHSO **Charms Password:** your student ID.

PROGRAM FEES*

9 th	\$180 (+ \$100 School-Owned Inst Fee, if applicable)
10 th /11 th	\$155 (+ \$100 School-Owned Inst Fee, if applicable)
12 th	\$180 (+ \$100 School-Owned Inst Fee, if applicable)

* Please make checks payable to RAOC (see Orchestra Handbook for details)

GRADING POLICY

Participation/Sectionals	30%
Performances	30%
Fundamentals/Hand Positions	20%
Skills/Playing Tests/Written Tests	20%

CONCERTS

Concert dates are published on Charms and attendance at ALL concerts is mandatory. Other school activity conflicts should be communicated to the directors in writing many weeks in advance to resolve the issue.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to follow RISD and RHS Rules at all times. Electronic devices and cell phones may ONLY be used with permission by the director. **Using cell phones without permission during class may result in the cell phone being taken up.** Students in the RHS orchestra program are models in behavior for the rest of the school and are held to a higher standard than the average student. Infractions will result in following the school discipline plan and parents may be notified. Continued discipline problems may result in removal from the course. Also, students must show effort, growth, and progress, or they may be removed from the class or orchestra program.

Daily Expectations are as follows:

1. Adhere to the RHS tardy policy and be in the Orchestra Room with all materials when the tardy bell rings. 2nd, 3rd, and 4th period has one minute after the tardy bell to be seated with instrument and supplies. 5th period must be seated *without* instruments by the tardy bell (fall only).
2. No students are allowed to eat in the orchestra room or practice rooms during lunch. Practicing in the orchestra room or practice rooms is allowed during lunch upon director approval.
3. No talking, plucking, or playing out-of-turn during class. If you have a question, raise your hand.
4. No food, gum, candy, or drink allowed in the Orchestra Room. No Exceptions.
5. Respect **ALL** people and instruments at **ALL** times. All orchestra students will be supported and affirmed in our classroom.
6. Bring instrument and **ALL** supplies (including tuner, binder, rosin, soft cloth, & pencil) every day to class.
7. Masks are required by all students.

PRIVATE LESSONS/TUTORING

Students are encouraged to continue their study through private lessons, which are \$20 per 30 minutes. See our website for teachers and contact information. We are happy to tutor by appointment upon request.

REHEARSAL/CONCERT AND WRITTEN HOMEWORK MAKE-UP POLICY

- In accordance with RISD policy, all “excused” absences will be honored with no grade penalty.
- An “unexcused” absence from a before or after school sectional or rehearsal will lower the participation grade.
- An “unexcused” absence from a scheduled concert will reflect a grade of “0” to be averaged into the student’s nine week performance grade, and the student may be subject to removal from the course.
- Students may complete late work, for no penalty, to show mastery of the assigned task within each 3 week period. Late work will not be accepted outside of each 3 week period, and will result in a zero if the assignment is not turned in.