

Crescenta Valley High School

Visual and Performing Arts Department

Student Handbook 2007-2008

Instrumental Music

Welcome to the 2007-2008 Instrumental Music program at Crescenta Valley High School. You are part of one of the most dynamic, energetic, and active groups at this school. Last year, the entire music department traveled to Florida to perform at the Magic Kingdom. We also performed and competed successfully at numerous local and district festivals as well as in the local community. In past years, we've traveled to New York, Las Vegas, San Francisco, Hawaii and Florida.

Music is an important skill in life as demonstrated by the following facts:

- 1) **Lewis Thomas, physician and biologist, found that music majors** comprise the highest percentage of accepted medical students at 66%. (*As reported in "The Case for Music in the Schools," Phi Delta Kappan, February 1994.*)
- 2) **According to a 2003 Gallup survey**, 95 percent of Americans believe that music is a key component in a child's well-rounded education. - American Attitudes on Music, Music Making and Music Education, The Gallup Org. 2003
- 3) **The College Entrance Examination Board** found that students involved in public school music programs scored 107 points higher on the SAT's than students with no participation. - Profiles of SAT and Achievement Test Takers, The College Board, compiled by the Music Educators National Conference (2002)

The Crescenta Valley High School Music Department offers students an opportunity to enhance their musical abilities by providing an outlet of creative and intellectual expression through musical instruments. Students will learn to manage time more effectively, the importance of enthusiasm, dedication, team work, poise, musicianship, proper care of their instrument, musical literature, and music terminology. They will also develop an understanding of good characteristic tone, style, and improve their intonation while enhancing playing techniques.

Please read this handbook with your parents, fill in and turn the last page to Mr. Schick by Wednesday, September 5th. A Copy of this handbook can be found at www.falconmusic.org

This handbook outlines the policies and requirements of the Instrumental Music Department.

Student Expectations

Attitude is perhaps the single most important thing that a person can have in order to be successful. A person with a good attitude will succeed and win the respect and admiration of those around him or her. If you do not have a good attitude, no matter how talented you are, success will always be a struggle. Do your best to maintain the following:

- *Be on time.* You must be in your seat ready to perform 2 min. *AFTER* the tardy bell. (-5pts)
- **(To be early is to be on time; To be on time is to be late, To be late is to be left behind)**
- *Always have YOUR music*, folder, and a pencil with you at every rehearsal. (-5pts)
- *Learn your part.* Practice daily and number each measure with a pencil.
- *Play musically* at all times. Warm up softly, create music and not noise.
- Follow directions the *FIRST* time. *Raise your hand* if you have questions.
- *Eat a meal* before coming to school on a performance day and remember to bring money for expenses.
- *Don't play instruments, which aren't your own.* (i.e. percussion, other people's instruments)
- *Stay healthy.* – If you are sick and choose to come to school, you must sit in your chair and follow the music.
- *Use your class officers and section leaders as resources.* Respect them and help them to make us better.
- When the director is working on a part other than yours, *sit quietly* and go over the music. **DO NOT TALK.**
- Leave all other jewelry and valuables at home. (We are not responsible for "lost" items)
- Stay with the group; do not "wander" on your own or in a smaller group without permission.
- Profanity or name-calling will not be allowed towards each other or students of other schools.
- The use of tobacco, alcohol, or any other drug is strictly prohibited and along with stealing, will be cause for potential dismissal from the group and severe consequences. Besides, It's illegal.
- Each member will at all times present himself/herself in a respectable manner and be courteous and considerate of others. Remember that you represent Crescenta Valley High School, the instrumental program, and yourself.
- Show SPIRIT! Whether it's a concert for the PTA, or a festival where you come in first, second, or 21st place, be proud. You did your best and that's what counts. Applaud those who did better than you and those who didn't do as well. Show everyone that Crescenta Valley High Students have class and pride.

Classroom Expectations

- All instruments and music must be stored in an *assigned music locker* during the day. Every student must sign-up for a locker. Each student is required to purchase a school lock from the student store or Instrumental music dept.
- It is your responsibility to put away all stands, chairs and instruments after each class and rehearsal. – (-5pts)
- *No food, candy, gum, or sugary drinks allowed in the music or **practice rooms**. Keep the music room clean! (-10pts)*

General Expectations for Students and Mr. Schick

I will be fair towards you and you will be fair to your peers and me.

I will listen to your concerns and you will listen to my instructions.

I will prepare you for performances and you will do your best during performances.

I will act professionally and you will act professionally

I will teach you how to be better musicians and you will help me become a better teacher.

Concert / Rehearsal Etiquette

- Maintain silence during all performances and rehearsals whether you backstage, onstage or in the audience.
- Do not chew gum or candy before or during a concert or performance. It detracts from our professionalism.

Audience Etiquette

- Concerts should be treated with respect. Do not yell at friends onstage or talk during performances.
- Cell phones, IPODS, and other electronic devices have no place at concerts, rehearsals or performances.

Concert Attire

In order for our concerts to look and sound professional, we require the following dress codes for performances. Check Class supplements for additional attire. It is your responsibility to make sure you are dressed appropriately. Removal from a performance and point deduction will occur if students don't follow the following dress requirements.

- Guys
 - Black dress shoes (no sneakers), black socks, black pants, white *long* sleeve dress shirt, long tie (any color). Black Sport Jacket is required.
- Girls
 - Black dress or black skirt with modest white blouse.
 - Both dress and skirt must be at least 6 inches **below the Knee when sitting down. NO SLITS**
 - Black dress shoes (no flip flops) with nylons

Crescenta Valley High Instrumental Music Grading Policy

Performances, concerts and rehearsals are graded events. Review the calendar provided so that you may add the dates to your family calendar. Participation is mandatory unless prior notice is given with a reasonable excuse.

Everyone in the instrumental music department will participate in school concerts. Most of the performances this year are already planned; yet as new events come up, I will pass out information at least two weeks prior to the event. Visit our web site (www.falconmusic.org) for current information.

Requirements	Percentage	Description
1. Attendance	40%	Rehearsals, Performances, class
2. Musical tests / Quizzes / Finals	25%	Written and performed
3. Sectionals	25%	Group work Required weekly
4. Attitude / Improvement / Cooperation	10%	Teacher evaluation per quarter

The final grade will be determined by dividing the points earned by the points possible

A=90%+, B=80%-89%, C=70%-79%, D=60%-69%, F=0%-59%.

Sectional Requirements – **IMPORTANT.**

- Sectionals are a time when the entire group (trumpets, saxes, percussion, etc..) practices during lunch or after school.
- Sectionals are Mandatory for every student and make up 25% of the student's grade.
- There are 16 sectionals each semester. Students CAN NOT do more than three sectionals per WEEK.
- Section leaders are carefully chosen by Mr. Schick and will schedule sectionals based on the scheduling needs of the entire section. (Mon-Fri) If a student has a problem with a section leader, please see Mr. Schick immediately for an alternative assessment.
- If section leaders chronically fail to schedule sectionals, they will loose credit for 2 sectionals per sectional missed.
- Signing the Sectional sheet under false pretenses will be considered cheating and subject to disciplinary action.

Procedures for Making up points

- Practice for **30** minutes at school. (10 points each session)– must sign in with Mr. Schick
- Concert reports or Composer/performer biography. (1 well written page = 10 pts.)
- Students must indicate where points should be applied (i.e. sectionals, musical tests, attendance)

Classroom Consequences

Tardy and truancy rules follow the CV handbook.

Each tardy = - 5 points (MB = 1pt for every minute tardy)

Violations -

1st time = Reminder (optional Classroom pick-up)

3rd time = Call home & hour detention - minus 30 pts

2nd time = minus 10 points & 30 min. detention

4th time = Removal from class

Fundraising expectations

In order for our department to succeed, we depend on a tremendous amount of fundraising. We need to raise around \$20,000 this year in order to establish and maintain our high quality of musical excellence. Expenses include: buses, instrumental purchase & repair, performance fees, supplies, scholarships, and more. With everyone helping to raise money, our music program will continue to grow and thrive.

Fees and costs

All instrumental music students are encouraged to join the Student Body. The Student body supports many of the music department's activities. (\$25 – It also provides discounts to many school activities.)

Costs	Replacement Costs (Fines)	
Instrumental Rental - \$45.00 per sem.	Alto / Tenor Sax Reed - \$2.00	Bari Sax Reed - \$3.00
Music Polo Shirt - \$20.00	Clarinet reeds - \$1.50	Lost Music - \$1.00 per song
Music T-Shirt - \$10.00	Oboe / Bassoon Reeds – 12.00	Strings - \$2.00 - \$50.00

If a student has trouble with any costs, please contact CVIM or Mr. Schick for alternative solutions.

All Checks written to the Music Department must be made out to "**CVHS**" unless otherwise stated and have the student's name written in the "memo" box.

Absence Form – (Example on other side of this page)

If a student is unable to attend a rehearsal or performance, they are required to fill out an "[Absence Form](#)" **two weeks** before an event. Not all absence forms will be excused. Performances are the result of long hours of preparation requiring the participation of everyone in the group.

We will only excuse students for the following reasons; Death in the family, serious illness, or other family emergency. I will evaluate each excuse on an individual basis and will make every attempt to be fair. If an emergency arises, I will accept a note the day you return to school following the absence.

In addition, it is your responsibility to call a class officer, or leave a message with Mr. Schick via email or a phone call if you are unable to make a rehearsal or performance. *Work is not a valid excuse for missed performances.*

A current calendar is attached to this form and located here <http://www.falconmusic.org/Instrumental/Calendar/calendar.htm> on the website. *Please study the calendar now to avoid all future conflicts.*

** An unexcused absence will result in no points for that event. / An excused absence will result in 1/2 points. **

An excused absence involving another School Activity (i.e. sport) will be negotiable and dealt with on an individual basis. I require calendars of all possible activities, which could present conflicts (sports, etc).

Please take the time to review the attached calendar and fill out the following forms by Wednesday, Sept. 5th :

- Acknowledgment of Handbook Guidelines

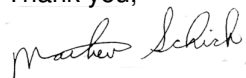
Field Trip Waiver/Student Insurance/Medical Authorization
(front and back)

Earn 20 extra credit points by turning in all forms to Mr. Schick by Wednesday, September 5th .

Thank you again for being part of the Crescenta Valley High Instrumental Music Department.

Please visit www.Falconmusic.org for all the latest news and information regarding the music program. I send out emails once a week to inform students and parents about music events and it is important that I have your correct email address so that you may be informed. Please fill out the information sheet provided and turn it by September 5th .

Thank you,



Crescenta Valley High School Instrumental Music Absence Form

Turn in 2 weeks prior to conflict

This is an example. Student can pick up form in class or can Xerox this one.

Student Name: _____ **Class:** _____ **Grad Year:** _____

will be absent from _____ **on** _____
Activity Date

for the following reason: (if this is a recurring event, e.g. tutor every Wednesday, please explain)

Signature of Parent: _____ **Signature of Student:** _____

Date: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of Director: _____

Excused **Unexcused** **Comments:**

----- Cut here ----- Fill Out and Return Bottom Half -----

Acknowledgment of Handbook Guidelines – 2007-2008

Period:

Please take the time to fill this out completely and accurately. Due September 5, 2007.

Student Email: _____ **Parent Email:** _____

Student Cell Phone: _____ **Parent Cell Phone:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Parent Work Phone:** _____

Mailing address: _____ **Apt.** _____

City _____ **Zip** _____

“I have read the attached handbook for the CVHS Instrumental Music Program and agree to abide by its guidelines.”

Print Student Name

Print Parent Name

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Date