

Crescenta Valley High School
Visual and Performing Arts Department
Student Handbook 2017-2018
Instrumental Music

Welcome to the 2017-2018 Instrumental Music program at Crescenta Valley High School. You are part of one of the most dynamic, energetic, and active groups at this school. While learning musical concepts such as style, phrasing and technique, we will apply those concepts at school concerts and performance festivals.

Over the past years, we have traveled for our Spring Trip to New York, Ensenada, San Diego, Hawaii, Florida and Las Vegas. This year we are considering a trip to San Francisco! More information about our Spring Trip will follow soon.

Research continues to demonstrate the importance of music in education:

- 1) "We need people who think with the creative side of their brains—people who have played in a band, who have painted...it enhances symbiotic thinking capabilities, not always thinking in the same paradigm, learning how to kick-start a new idea, or how to get a job done better, less expensively."—Annette Byrd, GlaxoSmithKline
- 2) "The greatest wealth of this nation is not only the mergers of giant corporations or the possibility of further globalization of the infrastructure of the world. In the United States, our greatest single source of wealth is the minds and talent of our young people. Not to use it is stupid - to waste it is a crime. "—*Isaac Stern, renowned musician*

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 using musical instruments. Students will learn discipline and effective time management, as well as the importance of enthusiasm, dedication, teamwork, poise, musicianship, proper care of their instrument, musical literature and terminology. They will also understand the value of Music and learn how it will assist them throughout their lives.

Student Expectations

ATTITUDE is perhaps the single most important thing that a person can have in order to be successful. People with good attitudes will succeed and win the respect and admiration of those around them. The goal of this class is to perform musically at the highest level possible.

You are responsible for the following:

- *Be on time.* You must have your instrument and music out and be ready to play at the start time of class.
- **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 class and rehearsal.*
- *Learn your part.* Number each measure with a pencil and write your name on your copies of music. Practice daily.
- *Play musically* at all times. Warm up softly, create music and not noise.
- Listen, and follow directions the *FIRST* time. *Raise your hand* if you have questions.
- *Don't play instruments, which aren't your own.* (i.e. percussion, other people's instruments)
- *Do not switch lockers or instruments* without clearance from equipment managers.
- *Take care of yourself.* *You play an integral role in this class. Stay healthy by getting sleep and eating healthy.*
- *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.* Look over your music. **DO NOT TALK OR PLAY.**
- Phones or distracting electronic devices are NOT permitted during class (no texting, social media, etc...)
- When away at events, stay with the group; do not "wander" on your own or in a smaller group without permission.
- Name-calling, taunting, or profanity will not be allowed towards each other, or students of other schools. Such behavior is absolutely unacceptable and will result in severe consequences.
- At away performances, leave all jewelry, electronics, and valuables at home. (We are not responsible for "lost" items)
- 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 including suspension
- 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.

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 should plan to use a school lock from the student store or Instrumental music dept. Keep your locker LOCKED.
- It is your responsibility to put away your stands, chairs and instruments after each class and rehearsal.
- *No food, candy, gums, or sugary drinks allowed in the music or practice rooms. Keep the music room clean!*

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.
- Use of Cell phones or distracting electronic devices of any kind are not permitted during rehearsals.

Audience Etiquette

- Concerts should be treated with respect. Do not yell to friends onstage or talk during performances.
- Cell phones and other electronic devices should be turned OFF at concerts, rehearsals or performances. They will be taken and turn in to the Administration. When you are at a concert, rehearsal or performance, you are "in class".

Concert Attire

In order for our concerts to look and sound professional, please apply the following dress codes for performances. Check Class supplements for your class attire (Jazz Band and Symphony have different concert dress standards). It is your responsibility to make sure you are dressed appropriately. Removal from a performance and/or point deduction may occur if students don't follow the following dress standards.

- Guys
 - Black dress shoes (no sneakers), black socks, black pants, white *long* sleeve dress shirt, long tie (any color), black sport jacket.
- Girls
 - Black dress, or black dress slacks or black skirt, with modest white blouse. No black jeans.
 - Dresses or skirts must be at least 6 inches **below the Knee when sitting down. NO SLITS**
 - Black dress shoes (no flip flops) with low quiet comfortable heels.

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 an approved 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 calendar and detailed information.

Requirements	Percentage	Description
1. Attendance	30%	Rehearsals, Performances, class
2. Musical tests / Quizzes / Finals	30%	Written and performed
3. Sectionals	30%	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 set time when the entire group (trumpets, saxes, percussion, etc.) practices during lunch or after school.
- Sectionals are Mandatory for every student and make up 30% of the student's grade. 17-19 sectionals are held per semester.
- Students MAY NOT make up more than 5 missed sectionals a semester by way of extra credit.
- 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, see Mr. Schick immediately for an alternative assessment.
- If a section leader repeatedly fails to hold a sectional in a week, the section leader will LOSE 20 points and each person in that section will receive 10 points.
- Turning in a 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.)
- Make-up points will be applied to Sectionals unless Student requests otherwise.

Classroom Consequences

Tardy and truancy rules follow the CVHS handbook.
Since the beginning of each class starts with warm-ups, there will be loss of point consequences for tardies and trancies.

1st time = Reminder (optional Classroom pick-up)
2nd time = 30 min. detention
3rd time = Call home & hour detention
4th time = Removal from class

Instruments may be available for use; however priority will be given to students who do not own their own. Please consider making a voluntary contribution to cover the costs of instrument maintenance, repair, and replacement. We suggest the following voluntary contribution amounts from families who have students using school instruments.

- Instrument - \$90 for the entire year (paid at the start of school), or \$50 per semester
- Percussion - \$50 for the entire year (paid at the start of school), or \$30 per semester
- Piano - \$30 year

IMPORTANT NOTE: Most of the expenses that CV Instrumental Music Department incurs are NOT covered by the School or the District. To pay for all the important components of our classes (adequate instruments, adjudicated Festivals, transportation, etc) we rely almost exclusively on donations from parents and families, as well as from various CVIMF fundraising events.

In order to continue the Instrumental Program at the current high level of musicianship and opportunities, we strongly encourage the families of Instrumental students to make a voluntary contribution to the Crescenta Valley Instrumental Music Foundation. CVIMF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation, so all contributions are tax-deductible.

Absence Form – (sample included in this packet)

If a student is unable to attend a rehearsal or performance, they are required to fill out an “Absence Form” **two weeks** before the event. Verbal notification is not acceptable. Not all absence forms will be automatically excused. Performances are the result of long hours of preparation requiring the participation of everyone in the group. Students will only be excused for the following reasons; Death in the family, serious illness, or other family emergency. I will evaluate other requests to be excused 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.** An events calendar is included in this packet, and available <http://www.falconmusic.org/Instrumental/Calendar/calendar.htm> on the website, as well as posted in the classroom. Please study the calendar now to avoid all future conflicts. I will make every effort to keep the calendar current

An unexcused absence will result in no points for that event. / An excused absence will result in ½ points.

A excuse request involving another CV School Activity will be negotiable and dealt with on an individual basis. I require calendars of all possible activities which could present conflicts (sports, choir, drama, mock trial, Biotech, etc).

Visit www.Falconmusic.org regularly 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.

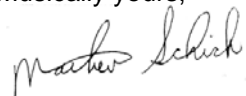
Please review this handbook and attached calendar, SIGN & RETURN acknowledgement forms, and **fill out the online ‘Instrumental Registration & Information’ Google doc** found on www.falconmusic.org. **DUE Monday, Aug. 21st**

- Acknowledgment of Handbook Guidelines
- Online “Google Form” – this will become student’s 2017-18 Medical Information & Emergency Contact form for Field Trips

Earn 20 extra credit points by submitting ALL completed forms to Mr. Schick by Friday, August 18th.
If all forms are not submitted by Friday, August 25th student will lose 20 points.

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

Musically yours,



Mathew Schick

Crescenta Valley High School Instrumental Music

Absence Form

Turn in 2 weeks prior to conflict.

Student Name: _____ Per: _____ Grad Year: _____ Inst: _____

will be absent from _____ on _____, _____.
Event or Activity Date Time

for the following reason:

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 – 2017-2018

Period:

Acknowledgement of Calendar of Events – 2017-2018

Please take the time to fill this out completely and accurately. Due August 21st, 2017.

"I have read the attached Handbook for the CVHS Instrumental Music Program and agree to abide by its rules and guidelines."

"I have reviewed the attached Calendar of Events 2017-2018 and I understand that all Instrumental class members are required to attend ALL events, rehearsals, and performance, and will make every effort to avoid scheduling conflicts."

Print Student Name

Print Parent Name

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Date