

## **Introduction**

Welcome to ARHS Music!

The Algonquin Regional High School music program offers students in grades 9-12 a comprehensive music performance education through band, chorus, and orchestra. The ARHS music program has been recognized on the local, state and national level, and we have many avenues and opportunities for students who are interested in learning about music and how to improve and utilize their musical skills. There are groups and courses that can accommodate students of all experience levels. Our music is shared with parents in public performances several times a year, and some groups take their music out into the community, at civic and charitable events. We participate in festivals and competitions at the district and state level. We strive to provide a nurturing environment in which students can build the skills and confidence to make sharing their music a lifelong passion. The variety of opportunities along with the growing demands on parents' and students' time and energy can be intimidating. This handbook is meant to answer some of the most common questions, offer important information, open lines of communication, and make the transition from grade to grade and ensemble to ensemble easier for parents and students.

In addition to the ARHS handbook, this is a living document that may change according to the needs of the program and provide the most up to date and appropriate information for Algonquin families. Please refer to this document, in conjunction with the ARHS handbook, throughout the year to answer your questions. Making this information available to you in this format is another step for the Algonquin Music Department to promote excellence, preparedness, and commitment among our teachers, parents and students. These three characteristics are what we strive for everyday working with your students and what we hope is instilled in every student that graduates from the Algonquin Music Department.

## **ARHS Music Faculty**

The key to any successful program is open communication between parents, students, and teachers. Should any questions or comments arise, please feel free to contact us:

Amy Collins, Department Chair- Fine & Performing Arts  
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## **Our Philosophy on Music Education**

Music is a basic form of human communication, providing an outlet for creativity and serves as a source of aesthetic satisfaction. Through music people can explore, express and understand thoughts, emotions and feelings. It provide a means for the enrichment of life through self-expression and response to the expression of others. However one participates in the arts, they are a source of great enjoyment, contributing significantly to one's quality of life. As one of the disciplines identified within the Massachusetts Common Core of Learning, the inclusion of the Music within the basic curriculum of every students is essential. It stands alone not only for its intrinsic value, but as a way of perpetuating our heritage and culture. As students work in music, they develop self-discipline, self-esteem, critical and creative thinking skills and motivation. Music enhances the student's ability to analyze emotional and intuitive responses, to solve problems, and to develop communication skills.

The basis of music education is to provide experiences, which will develop the ability of students to express themselves through music and perceive it at increasingly deeper levels of meaning. Education in music must also provide for the development of literacy in using signs, symbols and terminology. This knowledge is required to learn, describe, analyze and interpret music. Finally, learning music should provide students with knowledge of their cultural heritage as well as an awareness of the role and function of the music within our society and other cultures of the world. While we realize not all graduates will go on to be professional musicians, our hope is that the experiences that we provide here at Algonquin will support a lifelong appreciation for music making.

## **National Standards for Music Education**

1. Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
2. Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.
5. Reading and notating music.
6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.
7. Evaluating music and music performances
8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
9. Understanding music in relation to history and culture.

## **Code of Conduct**

The Algonquin Regional High School Music Program has several goals and objectives throughout the year. Our priority is to provide our students with quality educational experience. As we strive to be our best, our focus must be on setting new standards both creatively and through performance. With our hard work and dedication we will achieve success. In order to achieve our goals, there are rules and guidelines to which each member must adhere.

The ARHS music program follows the school rules at all times, as outlined in the Student Handbook. All rules apply when on trips as well. All transportation to and from events will be in accordance with Algonquin Regional High School policies. When traveling with the music groups, students will stay with the group for the duration of the activity. Failure to comply with these rules will result in disciplinary actions and potential loss of future privilege.

In all of our performing activities we are judged by our every word or action. Please be aware of how you act and speak when you are representing the ARHS music program. Students are expected to treat all volunteers with the same amount of respect and courtesy as they would staff members. Please take time to model this expectation, and to thank all the people who make things possible.

We want a positive learning environment at Algonquin and we all need to work towards that. Bullying, offensive language or harassment of any kind will not be tolerated. Everyone here needs to be treated with respect so our focus can be on music making.

## ARHS Music Course Offerings

*Students who wish to participate in after school musical ensembles, Districts, or All-States, and Tri-M must be registered as a member of one of the major in-school performing ensembles and must be in good academic, behavioral, and attendance standings.*

### ***Instrumental Ensembles (Full-year)***

**String Orchestra (H)** - Gr. 9, 10, 11, 12 - 5 Cr.

This course is an extension of the string instruction begun in earlier grades and is open to any student that plays violin, viola, cello, or string bass. A balanced repertoire of music of the classical composers and popular music is presented. This ensemble meets after school on a weekly basis to rehearse full orchestra music with wind, brass, and percussion players. Attendance at all concerts is required as well as attendance at music festivals. Students must be in attendance during the school day, or day before if on a weekend, in order to perform at the concert. The course meets five times per cycle for the entire year.

**Concert Band (H)** — Gr. 9 — 5 Cr.

The Concert Band performs music of the highest quality from the standard band repertoire as well as contemporary works. The literature selected is designed to provide a transition from middle school literature to the more difficult literature of the high school repertoire. Attendance at all public performances is required as well as attendance at music festivals. Students must be in attendance during the school day, or day before if on a weekend, in order to perform at the concert. The ensemble meets five times per cycle for a full year.

**Symphonic Band (H)** — Gr. 10, 11, 12 — 5 Cr.

This ensemble performs music of the highest quality from the standard band repertoire as well as contemporary works. This group performs music at grade level 4/5. Attendance at all public performances is required as well as attendance at music festivals. Students must be in attendance during the school day, or day before if on a weekend, in order to perform at the concert. The group meets five times per cycle for a full year.

**Wind Ensemble (H) – Gr. 11, 12 – 5 Cr.**

This is an ensemble of select instrumentalists who have the highest performance standards. Enrollment is limited and an audition is required. This ensemble performs music of the highest quality from the standard band repertory as well as contemporary works. Attendance at all concerts is required and there are frequent community concert appearances as well as attendance at music festivals. Students must be in attendance during the school day, or day before if on a weekend, in order to perform at the concert. This group meets five times per cycle for a full year. ***Prerequisite: Symphonic Band, and an audition in February.***

***Choral Ensembles (Full-year)***

**Mixed Chorus (H) —Gr. 9 — 5 Cr.**

Mixed Chorus is a vocal performing organization open to all voice ranges and levels of experience. This course prepares special programs for school and public performances. Members are given the opportunity to experience a wide range of choral music and to improve their music reading skills. Concerts are frequent and attendance is required at all concerts. Students must be in attendance during the school day, or day before if on a weekend, in order to perform at the concert. This group meets five times per week for the full year.

**Concert Choir (H) — Gr 10, 11, 12 — 5 Cr.**

Concert Choir is a vocal performing organization open to all voice ranges and levels of experience. This course prepares special programs for school and public performances. Members are given the opportunity to experience a wide range of choral music and to improve their music reading skills. Concerts are frequent and attendance is required at all concerts. Students must be in attendance during the school day, or day before if on a weekend, in order to perform at the concert. This group meets five times per week for the full year.

**Chamber Choir/Concert Choir (H) – Gr. 10, 11, 12 – 6 Cr.**

This is a chorus of select singers who have the highest performance standards. Music literature studied will include choral music from most all eras and musical styles including vocal jazz. Enrollment is limited and an audition is required. Attendance at all concerts is required and there are frequent community concert appearances as well as attendance at music festivals. Rehearsals alternate with Concert Choir. Each Chamber Choir student also performs and rehearses with Concert Choir and fulfills all Concert Choir obligations. Students must be in attendance during the school day, or day before if on a weekend, in order to perform at the concert. This group meets five times per week for the full year. In addition, two hours of after school rehearsals per week are scheduled and required (must attend school during school day to attend after-school rehearsals).

**Camerata Singers (H)** -- Gr. 10, 11, 12 -- 5 Cr.

This is a chorus of select singers who are interested in an intensive and challenging vocal music experience. Enrollment is limited, an audition is required, and there are very strict attendance requirements for rehearsals and performances. Students must be prepared to learn their music on their own and perform in concerts outside of school in the community. Students must be in attendance during the school day, or day before if on a weekend, in order to perform at the concert. This group meets five times per week for the full year.

***Ensembles for Vocal & Instrumental Students***

(Students alternate rehearsal days between two groups)

**Mixed Chorus/Concert Band (H)** - Gr. 9 –5 Cr.

The outline of both courses will apply. Students will split time between the two groups according to a schedule determined by the directors.

**Concert Choir/Symphonic Band (H)** - Gr. 10, 11, 12 – 5 Cr.

The outline of both courses will apply. Students will split time between the two groups according to a schedule determined by the directors.

**Chamber Choir/Symphonic Band (H)** – Gr. 10, 11, 12 – 6 Cr.

The outline of both courses will apply. Students will split time between the two groups according to a schedule determined by the directors.

**Camerata Singers/Wind Ensemble (H)** - Gr. 10, 11, 12 – 5 Cr.

The outline of both courses will apply. Students will split time between the two groups according to a schedule determined by the directors. ***Prerequisite: Auditions in February.***

***Music Electives***

**Beginning Guitar Class (CP)** – Gr. 9, 10, 11, 12 - 2.5 Cr. (semester long)

This course is a ‘hands on’ course designed for beginning students with some basic skills and for those who are interested in learning to play the guitar and have had no prior experience. The course will include familiarization with the guitar, music reading and basic theory, playing single note melodies as well as chords. By the end of the semester students should be able to play several popular songs. Student progress will be measured and graded by periodic performance exams. It is preferred that students have access to a guitar that they can bring to class, the school owns a limited number of guitars for students to use.

**Beginning Piano Class (CP)** - Gr. 9, 10, 11, 12 - 2.5 Cr. (semester long)

This course is a 'hands on' class designed for beginning students with some basic skills and for those who have had little or no prior piano instruction and would like to learn how to play the piano. The course will include familiarization with the keyboard, music reading, basic theory, playing single note melodies as well as melodies accompanied by chords. By the end of the semester students should be able to play well-known songs. Student progress will be measured and graded by periodic performance exams. It is preferred that students have access to a keyboard at home to practice, or are able to make themselves available to practice after-school on one of the school pianos, in conjunction/supervision of a music instructor.

**Music Theory (H)** – Gr. 10, 11, 12 – 2.5 Cr. (semester long)

Composition and arranging will be studied and a systematic study of the historical music styles will be stressed. Students will also learn solfege and sight singing techniques with the aid of computer based programs.

**AP Music Theory (AP)** — Gr. 11, 12 — 5 Cr. (year long)

This rigorous course expands upon the skills learned in Music Theory Honors. AP Music Theory is designed to develop musical skills that will lead to a thorough understanding of music composition and music theory and to prepare our young musicians who plan to further pursue music at the collegiate level. This class is intended for and is taught as a first year college level music theory course. Advanced composition, counterpoint and arranging will be studied and a systematic study of the historical music styles will be stressed. Students will learn solfège and sight singing techniques with the aid of computer-based programs, in addition to working on harmonic and melodic dictation and ear training skills. Students will be required to purchase a \$45 computer software ear-training program as part of the class. Students will follow a curriculum derived from the College Board Advanced Placement Program guidelines.

***Prerequisite: Music Theory (H) and/or permission of the Department Chairperson.***

**Jazz Improvisation Workshop (H)** – Gr. 10, 11, 12 – 2.5 Cr. (semester long)

A performance-based course for students who want to learn to improvise in the jazz idiom. Students will be taught chords, scales, patterns, and stylistic considerations for improvisation over chord changes on standard jazz pieces. Students will also study jazz history, influential jazz artists, and notable compositions. Students should be able to read and notate music and have an established proficiency on their instruments. Members of the class are expected to perform in all concerts and events as determined by the director. Students must be in school day of concert or day before if concert is on a weekend, in order to participate.

***Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Band, Chorus, or Orchestra, and permission of the instructor.***

## ***Co-curricular Ensembles***

(These ensembles are open to students in grades 9-12 and meet outside of the school day.)  
*Students who wish to participate in after school musical ensembles, Districts, or All-States, and Tri-M must be registered as a member of one of the major in-school performing ensembles and must be in good academic, behavioral, and attendance standings.*

### **Jazz I**

Jazz I is the school's top-level big band. Its members study and perform professional-level classic and contemporary big band arrangements. The group rehearses after school on Wednesdays from 2:00-2:45, and on Thursdays from 6:00-8:00pm. Students must be in attendance during the school day to attend evening rehearsals. Morning sectionals for trumpets, trombones, and saxes take place one morning per week from 6:45-7:15. The group performs at all instrumental school concerts, and at multiple jazz festivals throughout the year. Auditions for the group take place in September.

### **Jazz II**

Jazz II is an ensemble for students newer to the jazz style. It serves to introduce many horn and rhythm section players to the big band vocabulary through a variety of repertoire. The group rehearses on Monday evenings from 5:30-7:30. Students must in attendance during the school day to attend evening rehearsals. The group performs at all instrumental school concerts, and at multiple jazz festivals throughout the year. Auditions for the group take place in September.

### ***The requirements for enrollment in the jazz groups are:***

- Successful audition/placement in the ensemble
- Enrollment in a full-year, academic ensemble during the school day (Winds and percussion). Guitar, bass, and piano students do not have to be enrolled in a year-long ensemble, but preference will be given to those who are.

This longstanding practice was established to provide the students the opportunity to build upon their foundations of singing and music-making skills, during the school day, while they meet with their academic ensembles and their music instructors. It is essential that the members of these extracurricular groups participate in the school ensembles, as they continue to improve their musical skills. Students will then be able to use the skills they have learned and refined from their musical education and apply them to making music without direct direction from their music teachers. Students selected for the extracurricular ensembles must be in good standing in their academic music ensemble, and fulfill their performance/rehearsal requirements to remain in the group.

## **A-GENTS**

Our men's group, meets on Friday after school. It is a chance for our male singers to let their voices resound unencumbered and undiluted by sopranos or altos. They perform on our curricular concerts, and community outreach events. No audition is necessary.

## **Algoncappella**

A contemporary mixed a cappella ensemble that is student directed with a music faculty advisor. Rehearsal times, usually twice weekly, will be determined by the availability of membership. Members must be enrolled participants in one of our curricular ensembles. They perform on our curricular concerts, and community outreach events. Auditions take place in September.

## **Ladies First**

A contemporary treble a cappella ensemble that is student-run with a music faculty advisor. Rehearsal times, usually twice weekly, will be determined by the availability of membership. Members must be enrolled participants in one of our curricular ensembles. They perform on our curricular concerts, and community outreach events. Auditions take place in September.

## **Full Orchestra**

Full orchestra is a non-auditioned ensemble open to students in grades 9-12. Students will perform at least four times a year at school concerts. The group is open to students who play standard orchestral instruments (strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion). The ensemble meets after school on Tuesdays from 2-2:45pm. Attendance at all rehearsals is mandatory for concert performance preparation. String Orchestra students are required to play in Full Orchestra as part of their course requirements.

**Pep Band** is a non-auditioned ensemble open to students in grades 9-12. Students will perform at all home varsity football games, the annual Thanksgiving game, Applefest, Heritage and Memorial Day parades and at least one basketball and hockey game. Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 2-3pm and are mandatory for preparation for performance. Students must purchase the Pep Band pullover for \$30 at the beginning of the season and are loaned out a polo shirt to wear throughout the season. One or two summer rehearsals will be scheduled in late August, prior to the start of the school year.

### **Audition Expectations**

It is expected when you make the decision to sign-up to audition for a school music ensemble (Chamber, Wind Ensemble, Jazz, etc.) OR an outside music ensemble (ACDA, Districts, etc.), that you have explored the commitment to the group in advanced and are resolved to fulfill that commitment upon being selected for the group. These commitments are the rehearsal schedule and performance schedule, which you must be able to participate in if you want to be selected for an ensemble. This is an essential part of the audition process, as there are other students who may not be accepted and the school often supports your participation in these outside groups through registration fees and transportation costs.

## **Concert Dress Information**

The goal of concert dress is to look professional. By dressing in a uniform, conservative style, we show respect for the music, for our audience, and we are taken more seriously. The audience should focus on the music, not on your clothes. Wearing appropriate concert attire is part of your performance at the concert.

### **CONCERT ATTIRE FOR INSTRUMENTALISTS:**

Mandatory Concert Attire is as follows:

You should wear all black - shirts, pants, skirts, dresses, and shoes. No navy, dark gray, or other dark colors. We are looking for a formal look. You should look conservative and a little dressed up. Tri-M members are encouraged to wear their Tri-M pins!

Men: Black long-sleeve button-down shirt, black neck-tie, black slacks, black socks and shoes.

Women: An ankle-length skirt, black, full length dress slacks, or black dress is required. This is important because we sit on a stage that is above the audience. Wear a nice, long-sleeved or three-quarter sleeve black button-up blouse.

Tank tops or short-sleeves are not permitted. Make sure the top is long enough to fully cover you. There should be absolutely no stomach, cleavage, back, or other unnecessary skin showing. Therefore, make sure that shirts are long enough, bottoms are high enough, and the neckline is modest enough. Underwear is not outerwear. Wear a black dress shoe. Please be sure that it is a dress shoe, not a sandal, boot, etc. Heels should be two inches or less. Also, be certain that the entire shoe is black: no cork bottoms, colored designs, or any other dark colors. We suggest neutral, conservative pantyhose (sheer black). No white or colored socks, even if you think they don't show.

## CONCERT ATTIRE FOR VOCALISTS:

- The **CONCERT DRESS**, provided on loan, is required at all concerts except the Pops Concert.
- Dresses must be clean, wrinkle free and hemmed at ankle length.
- The dresses should be figure skimming but never tight.
- **Dark hosiery and black** shoes are required but not provided.
- Jewelry may be worn only if it is noiseless and petite.
- Hair must be arranged so that nothing hangs in the eyes.
- **Dress must be returned dry cleaned in the bag with the receipt attached.**

Replacement cost for the dress is \$59. Students are required to return the same pieces of apparel they checked out or pay for replacement, prior to end of year.

- The **TUXEDO JACKET AND TUXEDO PANTS**, provided on loan, must be worn at all concerts except the Pops Concert.
- They must be kept clean and wrinkle free.
- The tuxedos are DRY CLEAN ONLY, and must be returned in a dry cleaning bag with the cleaner's receipt attached.
- **A white shirt, black bow tie, black socks and black dress shoes are also required, but not provided.**
- Hair must be arranged so that nothing hangs in the eyes.

Replacement cost for a coat is \$125 and for pants is \$59. Students are required to return the same pieces of apparel they checked out in good condition or pay for replacement, prior to end of year.

## Districts, All-State, All-Eastern, & All-National Ensembles

Algonquin is a member of the Central District of the Massachusetts Music Educators Association. Students in grades 9-12 are eligible for Senior Districts. District festivals give students an opportunity to perform in an auditioned ensemble with a guest conductor. The Senior festival features concert band, jazz ensemble, orchestra, and chorus.

Audition materials, including scales for instrumentalists, are available on the Central District website (listed below) and are often available in June of each year. Senior district auditions are held in November and the festival is held in early January. Students prepare concert music prior to the event and rehearse Wednesday and Friday afternoons and Saturday morning. The concert is held at Mechanics Hall in Worcester on Saturday afternoon. Students must be in attendance during the school day to attend these afternoon/evening rehearsals. More information is available on the website: [www.cdmmea.org](http://www.cdmmea.org)

To participate in CDMMEA festivals, students must be members of a **curricular** school music performance group (with the addition of String Orchestra, starting with the ARHS Class of 2020 and beyond, *class of '18 and '19 string students remain eligible*). The audition for Districts is viewed as a commitment to participate in the entire festival. There is a \$7 audition fee per audition, and is the responsibility of the student. Students may only perform one audition, with the following exceptions:

- Harpists may double audition on another instrument or voice part.
- Jazz auditionees may choose to also audition for Band, Orchestra or Chorus.
- Each instrument must be designated and a separate fee paid for each audition. Each audition (not each student) counts toward the school's total limit and limits per voice part or instrument.

Students who achieve high audition scores at District auditions will receive recommendations to audition for the All State festival. The All State festival features a concert band, jazz ensemble, orchestra, and chorus, all with guest conductors. Audition materials are available on the MMEA website (listed below). Auditions are held in late January and the festival is held in March. The audition for All State is viewed as a commitment to participate in the entire festival. There is a \$20 audition fee per audition, and is the responsibility of the student. Students prepare concert music prior to the event and rehearse all day Thursday, Friday, and Saturday morning. Students stay overnight in a hotel in Boston, and are excused from school for their participation in the festival. The All State concert is held in Symphony Hall in Boston on Saturday. More information is available at the website: <http://www.massmea.org>.

Students who are selected for All State may also be eligible for All Eastern or All National festivals.

#### **Guidelines for Student Run Groups—Algoncappella and Ladies First**

- Students must be in good academic, behavioral and attendance standings at ARHS.
- Auditions take place with the advisor present. All accepted participants must be active, enrolled members of a curricular ensemble. This list is to be reviewed by the advisor before being posted.
- The advisor is made aware of all scheduling issues such as rehearsal times and locations and performance dates. No performance date shall be accepted without prior discussion with the advisor.
- Final rosters, including only active, enrolled members of curricular performance ensembles, will be submitted to the advisor by October 5th .
- Repertoire lists with soloist and composer listings will be submitted two weeks in advance of the concerts. (1 or 2 Songs per concert)

- Elections will be held at the end of the year to determine leadership for the following year.
- Changes to traditional procedures should take place after a group vote with the advisor present.

## ALGONQUIN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC EXPECTATIONS

**It is expected that all members of the Music Program will:**

1. Be courteous and respectful of their environment and of the people around them, refraining from the use of gum, food or cell phones in class.
2. Have respect for the composers, poets, and performers whose creative expressions are being experienced, rehearsing and performing with an attempt to represent the work with integrity and to one's fullest potential.
3. Come to class prepared for the work at hand with music, pencil and an attitude open to learning, marking scores, taking notes and completing written assignments, developing the physical habits and deportment that will allow the group to reach its fullest potential.
4. Take responsibility for one's own actions or inaction, making needed corrections to one's behavior as necessary, both in and out of the classroom.

### GRADING POLICY

Academic credit and grades are awarded in all ensembles. Honors credit is earned in Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Orchestra. The goals of the music program at Algonquin are ongoing and involve the daily improvement of technical skills, critical thinking and analytical skills, ear training, sightreading, and mature musical interpretation. This is achieved through the rehearsal process and the performance of a wide variety of instrumental literature. Along with the musical skills that students are expected to learn comes a tremendous opportunity to understand the responsibility that each member has to the entire group performance.

The following is an outline of considerations of the music department in awarding grades to students:

#### **30% - Attendance at all regularly scheduled performances.**

*Why is concert attendance so important, even though it is after school hours??*

Band and chorus are curricular subjects, for which students receive GPA points. The educational benefits of a public performance are an integral part of the curriculum that cannot be provided during the school day and cannot effectively be recreated or "made up" afterwards. Students who do not attend the performance miss completely the measurements of the ability to utilize higher critical skills such as making adjustments in balance and blend, response to audience feedback, and recovery from one's own and other musician's mistakes.

Performances are the exams for music students, and although some make-up credit could be earned some other way, the thrill and satisfaction of successfully presenting music that has taken weeks of work to prepare before a live and appreciative audience cannot be made up. It exists only in that space of time. The unique sound of an ensemble is developed with a certain number and quality of individual parts and is dependent on each student doing his or her part. **YOU WOULD BE SORELY MISSED!** Students must be in attendance during the school day in order to perform in the concert.

**Attendance at all concerts is required.** In the event of a conflict with the concert calendar:

- Written notification of the conflict must be submitted via parent or guardian at least 2 weeks in advance of the event.
- If the reason for the proposed absence is deemed excusable by the director, the student will be assigned a make-up assignment to earn credit.
- Unexcused absences will result in complete loss of credit for that particular performance grade, and no make-up assignment is possible.
- Missing a concert due to illness will require written notification from a parent or guardian and a doctor note, and the student will be responsible for a make-up assignment.

All changes to the ARHS Fine & Performing Arts Schedule will be posted on the bulletin boards in the band and chorus rooms, and on teacher websites.

**20% - Attendance at all rehearsals, including evenings and after school when called for. Absence is reason enough to be dropped from the ensemble.**

If you do have to miss a rehearsal, either during the day or after school, you must make arrangements to get the material missed before the next rehearsal. You must report to rehearsal on time, and with all of your materials, remain an engaging and active participant, and not be disruptive to the rehearsal process. The success of all music ensembles is dependent on the participation of every member of the group.

**30% - Individual practice and preparation. This is evaluated constantly during rehearsals and sectionals and practice videos.**

Students are expected to have their own equipment in working order in each rehearsal. *This includes reeds, valve oil, snare sticks, tuners, warm up books, pencils, music folder, etc.*

***All woodwind and brass players are required to have a working tuner on their stand at every rehearsal.***

When necessary, students may be asked to make an appointment with their ensemble director after-school to perform prepared music ensemble music or have an extra-help session. Written work will also be graded in this category.

Remember that every time a section is asked to play alone, each individual's performance is being tested. Individual ability and effort can be assessed quickly during each rehearsal. The success of ALL Instrumental Music ensembles is dependent on the participation of every member of the group.

**20% - Attitude and cooperative spirit; rehearsal skill, enthusiasm, dedication, pride, and positive leadership.**

It is the student's obligation and responsibility to return all music, instruments, and uniforms at the end of each school year. All materials are expected to be cared for appropriately throughout the school year. Students issued school-owned instruments will be held responsible for repairs needed for anything beyond normal "wear and tear" and must submit a completed loan contract

## ENSEMBLE REP INFORMATION

In collaboration with NSMA, every music ensemble at Algonquin will have a volunteer parent liaison or representative. The purpose of this program is:

- to foster better communications between the music faculty and parents of music students.
- to open up communication between parents.
- to support our music program most effectively, including students, their families and faculty

Families are asked to share the desired email address(es) you would like added to the group ensemble rep email list on the annual course expectation sheet sign-off forms.

## STAY UP TO DATE!

Please check out the following lines of communication in order to stay informed and “in tune” to all that is going on in the music department.

[www.gonkarts.org](http://www.gonkarts.org)

@GonkArts

@ARHS\_Pepband

@arhs\_Tri\_M

@ARHSJazz

## WHAT IS TRI-M?

The Tri-M<sup>®</sup> Music Honor Society is a program of the [National Association for Music Education](http://www.nafme.org)(NAfME), which focuses on creating future leaders in music education and music advocacy.

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- Tri-M is the only music honor society for junior/middle school and high school students in the country.
  - Tri-M recognizes students that have gone above and beyond both academically and musically.
  - Tri-M also provides students leadership opportunities to make a difference in their community through music-based service projects.
  - There are more than 2,100 chapters across 50 states and 15 countries.
  - Tri-M involves more than 84,000 students in grades 6-12.
  - Each year, student members contribute more than 750,000 service hours to their school and local communities and raise nearly \$1 million for causes they care about.

Algonquin’s Tri-M Chapter 2137 has been in existence since 1990. Our senior chapter is open to students grade 10-12. All music students enrolled in a full-year music performance ensemble are invited to apply for membership in the fall. Students attend regular meetings and complete required service projects to maintain membership. A formal induction takes place annually for new members. There are five student leaderships positions within Tri-M.

## **ARHS Tri-M Chapter 2137 By-laws**

### **Preamble**

We, the members of the Algonquin Regional High School music department, in an effort to inspire music participation, create enthusiasm for scholarship, stimulate a desire to render service, and promote leadership in the music students of our school, accept these bylaws for the establishment and operation of our Tri-M Music Honor Society chapter.

### **Article I—Chapter Name and Location**

The name of this chapter will be known as:

Tri-M Music Honor Society Chapter 2137 at Algonquin Regional High School

### **Article II—Division**

This chapter will be a Senior chapter of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Members will be Senior division members of Tri-M.

### **Article III—Purpose**

The purpose of this chapter will be to:

- Provide an appropriate method for recognizing the musical achievements of our members.
- Strengthen our school’s music program.
- Help our members reach their full musical potential.
- Motivate and recognize our members’ musical and personal achievements, credits, and grades.
- Encourage our members to work together toward the same goal.

- Inspire and challenge our members.
- Focus public attention on our school's music program through community service.

## **Article IV—Active Membership**

Candidates for active student membership shall be chosen by a faculty committee made up of any number of faculty members as appointed by the faculty advisor. Candidates for active student membership shall be chosen from those students enrolled in the music department at Algonquin. Candidates, at the time of their selection, shall meet the following requirements:

### REQUIREMENTS FOR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

#### A. General

- They must have enrolled in a full year music performance elective for every year of active Tri-M membership. Those inducted prior to the 2012-2013 school year, are grandfathered in under the previous rule of a ½ year class.
- They must exhibit leadership, service, and character in their activities while at Algonquin.
- They must have maintained for the previous semester at least a B average grade or equivalent in music with at least a C average grade or equivalent in other academic subjects. A student will be put on academic probation if his/her grades fall below these averages.

#### B. Tri-M Dues

- The fees are \$10 for returning members in good standing (i.e. those who paid their dues the previous year) and \$15 for new members and returning members not in good standing (i.e. did not pay dues from last year).
- Dues *must* be paid by the date one week before the current year's Tri-M Induction.

#### C. Attendance

- Attendance to all meetings is mandatory; meetings are regularly scheduled on a biweekly basis.
- Two unexcused absences will result in a letter of probation being sent home that will warn the student of his/her missed meetings.

- A third meeting absence or more will result in the revocation of Tri-M membership.
- Students are expected to also be in good attendance standings with the school attendance policies.

#### D. Service

- Performing a minimum of three music-related volunteer activities (sponsored or endorsed by Tri-M) is a requirement for every member over the course of the year.
- Service forms must be submitted no later than fourteen days after the completed service, in order to receive service credit. Services are submitted via Google Form.
- A minimum of one performance attendance service: attending any musical or theatrical production at the ARHS or in the community.

## NSMA

The Northboro- Southboro Music Association is a parent volunteer organization dedicated to supporting the music faculty and students of the Northboro-Southboro school district.

- We are a non-profit 501c3 organization.
- Our mission is to enhance your child's musical experience as part of our school District's amazing band and choral programs.
- We award thousands of dollars in music enrichment and senior scholarships every year
- We help fund necessary music department expenses that are non-budgeted or unexpected.
- We organize music festivals and special events, raise funds, manage social media, photograph events, promote accomplishments, celebrate successes and much more!
- Volunteering is fun, easy and membership has it's perks!!!

We welcome you and encourage you to become a member today!

For more information:

<https://sites.google.com/view/nsmusica/about-nsma?authuser=0>

On facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nsmusicassociation>

**ALGONQUIN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL UNIFORM UTILIZATION AGREEMENT**

**ENSEMBLE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **GRADE:** \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby acknowledge receipt of the following school property:

COAT SIZE: \_\_\_\_\_ PANT SIZE: \_\_\_\_\_ DRESS SIZE: \_\_\_\_\_

1. All uniforms are property of the ARHS High School Music Department. There is no rental fee for the use of the uniform.
2. This property was received in excellent condition. Students agree to return the uniform in the same condition as received. If tuxedo needs to be cleaned during the year it is the responsibility of the student. The tuxedos and dresses are DRY CLEAN ONLY.
3. School-owned uniforms will be issued to students when this contract is signed by parent and student and returned. School-owned uniforms will be issued before the first performance and collected at the end of the school year. Students agree to pay the replacement fee of \$100 for tuxes \$59 for dresses if the uniforms are NOT returned in their original condition. To be paid by the end of current school year.
4. Tuxedos should be returned dry-cleaned (please provide a receipt WITH THE STUDENT'S NAME).
5. The student agrees to return the uniform, in its original condition, no later than the last day of classes at the high school. At that point, the condition will be assessed, and student deficiency forms will be filed with the main office if necessary. Any uniforms not returned at this point will be considered missing and deficiency forms will be filed with the main office. Students who fail to return specific parts of the uniform will be charged the replacement cost for those parts. **Seniors must turn in uniform BEFORE graduation.**
6. In addition to the uniform provided, should wear a white shirt, black bow tie black to be worn with tuxedos, and dress shoes and black socks or stockings.

\_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT SIGNATURE & DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT SIGNATURE & DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL

# Algonquin Regional High School Instrument Loan Contract

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Student) (Street Address) (City) (Zip)

\_\_\_\_\_, have received one \_\_\_\_\_ which belongs  
(Phone) (Name of Instrument)

to Algonquin Regional High School. I hereby agree to give it the very best of care, and I will assume the financial responsibility of repairing or replacing the instrument should it become damaged, lost, or stolen.

MAKE OF INSTRUMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_

SERIAL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

ACCESSORIES INCLUDED / CONDITION: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Student)

## PARENTAL ENDORSEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledge my responsibility in the care of  
(Name of Parent / Guardian)

the instrument loaned to \_\_\_\_\_ by Algonquin Regional.  
(Name of Student)

I will see that the above instrument is given the best of care and will assume the responsibility of keeping it safe and be responsible for any damage outside of normal use. I will assume the financial responsibility for replacing the instrument should it become lost or stolen.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent or Guardian)

