

Norwood Public Schools

Grade 6-8 Instrumental Music Curriculum Overview

Description:

Band and Orchestra are instrumental music ensemble electives offered to students at the Coakley Middle School. Ensembles are scheduled by grade and meet every other day for 50 minutes. The primary objective of this course is to develop musicianship and music literacy through performance. Each semester culminates in a public concert.

Learning Experiences:

Students will develop their musicianship skills through the rehearsal and performance of repertoire, individual playing assessments, journaling of home practice, performance reflection and discussion and music theory. In addition to the performance repertoire, students will develop ensemble skills through drills, exercises and activities.

Content Outline:

6th Grade

- Two-octave major scales up to 1 sharps/flats
- One-octave chromatic scale starting on Concert F
- Grade 1/1.5 repertoire
- Dynamics consistent from piano to forte with crescendos/decrescendos, differentiated articulation and rhythmic mastery of all combinations of 8th notes/rests

Strings: Two-note slurs, hooking, introduction to 3rd position and introduction to tuning

Continued reinforcement of intonation, tone production and music navigation skills

7th Grade

- Two-octave major scales up to 2 sharps/flats
- Two-octave chromatic scale starting on Concert F
- Grade 1.5/2 repertoire
- Forte-piano and sforzando dynamic markings, accents, differentiated style and rhythmic mastery of all combinations of 16th notes/rests

Strings: Four to six-note slurs, reinforcement of shifting to 3rd position, reinforcement of tuning, introduction to relative pitch tuning

Continued reinforcement of intonation, tone production and music navigation skills

8th Grade

- Two-octave major scales up to 3 sharps/flats
- Full-range chromatic scale
- Grade 2/2.5 repertoire
- Expanded dynamic range to pianissimo and fortissimo, mastery of differentiated styles and rhythmic mastery of syncopation and triplets

Strings: Six to eight-note slurs, mastery of shifting to 3rd position and relative-pitch tuning

Continued reinforcement of intonation, tone production and music navigation skills

Resources Used:

Repertoire is selected from Norwood Public Schools Instrumental Music Library or acquired through instrumental music distributors and includes marches, lyrical works, competitive concert works, folk songs, multicultural pieces, a patriotic songs and music from popular culture. Much of the literature selection is informed by the National Band Association's *Selected Music List for Bands* as well as works selected in the *Teaching Music through Performance in Band* series compiled and edited by Richard Miles.

Drills, exercises and activities are selected or interpreted from numerous sources including, but not limited to, Leonard B. Smith's *Treasury of Scales*, Bruce Pearson's *Great Warm-Ups for Young Bands*, Louis Bergonzi's *Rounds and Canons* for string orchestra, Eddie Green, John Benzer and David Bertman's *Essential Musicianship for Band* series, Raymond C. Fussell's *Exercises for Ensemble Drill*, Joel Rothman's *Teaching Rhythm* and Robert J. Garofalo's *Improving Intonation in Band and Orchestra Performance*.

As of 5/11/12

Norwood Public Schools

Grade 6-7 General Music Curriculum Overview

Description:

The purpose of the CMS General Music program is to expose students to the humanities through music. The ultimate goal of the general music course is to have students become intellectually active consumers of a variety of musical styles and genres.

Learning Experiences:

Students will take an intellectually active role in their music consumption through a variety of activities including listening journals, vocabulary, quizzes, research and creative projects, discussions, presentations, unit exams, and timelines.

Content Outline:

The course content is divided into units that may be executed independently of one another due to the transient population of the class. Students will participate in discussion and exploration of the purposes and meanings in the arts, roles of artists in communities, concepts of style, stylistic influence, and stylistic change and inventions and technologies as they pertain to the arts.

Resources Used:

The resources that are utilized in the general music classroom come from a variety of audio and video recordings as well as teacher generated worksheets and projects.

As of 5/11/12