

# Deerpark Middle School Orchestra

*Come join an award winning group for music, friendship, and fun!*

## WHAT INSTRUMENTS ARE TAUGHT IN THE ORCHESTRA CLASS?

### **Violin:**

As do all stringed instruments, the violin comes in several sizes, so to fit all players comfortably. Whether you call it a violin or fiddle, it is the string family's soprano or highest voice. It has a beautiful, lovely tone.

### **Viola:**

The viola is slightly larger and tuned differently from the violin. The larger tone chamber gives the viola a rich and somber tone that makes it the alto voice of the string family. The viola adds depth and richness and is vital to any string ensemble.

### **Cello:**

Officially known as the violoncello, the cello represents the tenor voice of the string section. Unlike the violin and viola, the cello is supported on the floor by the endpin while the seated performer steadies the instrument with his or her knees. The cello produces deep lower pitches and subdued higher ones.

### **Double Bass:**

The bass is the string family's largest instrument. It may be played with a bow or plucked by hand in either standing or sitting positions. The bass can be found in jazz and swing bands as well as in the orchestra. It can function as rhythmic accompaniment or a solo instrument. The bass is the foundation of the orchestra.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING IN THE ORCHESTRA?

- The opportunity to be a part of a team of creative and fun young people.
- Builds a sense of belonging to something unique - a special group working together.
- Teaches self-confidence, cooperation, personal discipline, and concentration.
  - Provides excitement through performance of beautiful music.
  - The opportunity to perform for family and friends.



## **DO I NEED ANY PREVIOUS MUSICAL EXPERIENCE TO JOIN ORCHESTRA?**

No previous musical knowledge or experience is needed to enroll in orchestra, but it is very helpful. We start from the very beginning-how to open the case, care of the instrument, learning the names of strings, how to bow and where to put the fingers, and read notes and rhythms. Pretty soon your child will be making beautiful music!!!

## **HOW DO I KNOW WHAT INSTRUMENT TO PLAY AND HOW DO I GET AN INSTRUMENT?**

You decide what instrument you would like to play!

There will be an opportunity to try all the instruments out at a special student/parent orientation in April. Information will be mailed to you from the DEERPARK ORCHESTRA!

Most parents rent an instrument in the beginning. Violas, Cellos and Bases can be rented from the school. Information about getting an instrument will be explained at the April Orientation Meeting.

## **WHAT DO YOU DO IN ORCHESTRA?**

Learn how to play an instrument!!

Play exciting music!!

Give Concerts

Solo and Ensemble Festival

Compete in UIL Competition

Audition for All-Region Orchestra

Socials

End-of-Year Trip

**Need More Information?**

Contact David Chisum at 464-6661 or email:

david\_chisum@roundrockisd.org

