

Director's Note

Orchestra students are back up and running after what felt like a very short winter break. East students began our first week back pivoting to their unit on chamber music (WSMA solo & ensemble) and started rehearsing music for All City String Festival.

Speaking of hitting the ground running, on January 8th, Dr. Benjamin Whitcomb, cello and music theory professor from UW-Whitewater joined East orchestra students to talk about music post high school, work with a few student volunteers, and to play some unaccompanied Bach on his cello.

On another note:

Now that we're in the middle of the winter, it's important to remind our students of the best ways to keep instruments safe during the cold season.

- Keep instrument in the case
- Try to avoid extreme temperature changes
- Don't leave instruments in the car
- Try to maintain a consistent humidity level. [Dampit](#) makes an inexpensive humidifier.
- Remove rosin dust after every use
- Keep instrument away from heat vents
- Keep extra strings on hand
- Allow instrument time to "warm up"

As always, should you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask!

Stay Warm!

Upcoming Events

March 3rd, 2018

District Solo & Ensemble Festival
Wauwatosa West High School

March 18th, 2018

Wauwatosa All City String Festival
Brookfield East Fieldhouse
1:45pm & 3:30pm (perform both times)

Chamber Music Unit

Every year, students in East orchestra perform a solo and as a member of a small ensemble at the District Solo & Ensemble Festival, held on March 3rd at Wauwatosa West High School. The festival runs all day however students will only need to be at Tosa West during their assigned time (and with enough time to warm up.

Student schedules come out typically two to three weeks prior to the event with the final schedule coming up one to two weeks prior to March 3rd. Should you have pre-existing commitments scheduled for March 3rd please have your student communicate those to me so we can either 1. Schedule around them or 2. Find another festival location/day.

This event is run entirely by Wauwatosa music teachers AND parent volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering please click the link to the right.

East Orchestra YouTube

Wauwatosa East Orchestra Parents
[YouTube Channel](#).

East Orchestra Parents YouTube page has been up and running for about a month now. Use the link above or search "Wauwatosa East Orchestra" on the YouTube home screen.

More videos will be added at our performances this year. Please pass along the page link to your friends and family so they too can enjoy the beautiful music being made by East Orchestra Students.

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

[CLICK THIS LINK TO VOLUNTEER](#)

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~Michael Hayden

ORCHESTRA NEWSLETTER

January 2018



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