

ORCHESTRA NEWSLETTER

November 2018

Teacher's Corner

As I sit down to write the first quarter orchestra newsletter, it is hard to believe that leaves have fallen off most of the neighborhood trees and temperatures are starting to get below freezing at night. The first quarter has flown by and was filled with too many amazing happenings and tremendous student growth to mention in this short newsletter.

The fall orchestra concert was such a wonderful way to kick off the orchestra performance calendar. Concert and Symphony orchestras each performed three beautiful string works, which included *In the Hall of the Mountain King* and *Night on Bald Mountain*. To cap off the evening, we hope you enjoyed our *Monster Mash* tag at the end! And while there may have been a few technical glitches, the show went on and the students on stage as well as those flanking the audience had a great time!

In other news, trip registration for next year's Austria and Czech Republic adventure is now complete. Stay tuned for our next steps which include more fundraising, lots of paperwork, and if your child doesn't already have one, getting a passport. The next orchestra fundraiser will be rolled out in a week so that all students have time to participate. Also coming up at the end of this month (November) is another trip payment. Check your mygateway.musicfestivals.com account for payment schedule information.

Finally, fall conferences will be held starting this week Thursday, November 8th, and are by appointment only. Due to a prior conflict, I will only be at Thursday night's conference. If you are unable to attend this evening please send me an email and we can set up another time more convenient for your schedule.

~Michael Hayden
Orchestra Director

Upcoming Events

December 14th, 2018

Admirals Game
National Anthem - East Fiddle Only
7:00pm

December 19th, 2018

Winter East / Longfellow Orchestra Concert
Dale K. Hidde Theatre
Wauwatosa East High School
7:00pm

In the classroom

The major themes covered thus far in the school year are:

Tone: Performing with a clear and resonant sound

Technique: Perform with proper right and left hand technique, posture and playing position.

Expression: Perform with accurate style elements, interpretation, phrasing, and dynamics.

Terminology: This year all orchestras are taking an in depth look at appropriate terminology. So far, the Tosa orchestra teachers have identified the most common words found in school music and we have been finding ways to connect them more with the music being played in class.

At East, students recently completed their second (of five) vocabulary summative assessments.

Winter Concert Preview

The theme of this year's winter concert is "An Enchanted Winter Evening." All string orchestra music also is inspired by famous literary works. In addition to these enchanted winter works, all orchestra students will combine with winds, brass, percussion to perform holiday favorites *Sleigh Ride* and *A Christmas Festival*. *A Christmas Festival* will once again be performed as an audience sing-a-long and all are encouraged to join in singing.

The Winter orchestra concert also will feature East Fiddle Ensemble, who will be fresh off of their National Anthem performance at a Milwaukee Admirals Game and all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade orchestras from Longfellow Middle School.

Finally, Orchestra Parents of Tosa East will be hosting/organization our annual holiday cookie reception for post concert delight. Stay tuned for more information.

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