

Instrumental Music Program



Welcome to the Poudre School District Instrumental Music Program!

As students enter middle school, they have a wide variety of classes they can take. One of the most exciting for many students is the prospect of playing in band or orchestra. Not only is it fun, but instrumental music is a good tool to develop “whole-brain” thinking, blending creativity with the mathematical logic of music.

No Experience Necessary

We welcome all students in the music program. Students that have never read a note of music are taught the basics. We teach them every aspect of their instrument from how to put it together to how to clean it when they are done. If your child has already played an instrument (you moved in from another district or gave your child private lessons), we have plenty of opportunities for them as well. Financial concerns should not be a deterrent. All the middle schools have many instruments which are available for no cost, and for families who qualify for free/reduced lunch; we can even help with the costs of music and accessories.

Now's The Time

Since middle school is the entry point into the instrumental music program, now is the time to start this life-long adventure that will

take you into high school and beyond. We realize that your child will want to explore a lot of different electives—by taking an instrument next year, they will still have the opportunity to explore many other electives later in their school career.

Jump Right In

To get a jump on playing, we offer a free six-week summer music program for all students who are learning an instrument. We consider this the foundation for our beginning classes and highly recommend that every student participate. Our summer classes are held daily and are less formal than regular school. Students have more time to practice in the summer, which is very important at this stage. This also gives them the chance to be sure the instrument they have chosen is what they want to play.

Music Leads To Success

Music students also have opportunities to play all the sports offered at the school where they attend. Many of our finest musicians are also All-State, or even nationally ranked athletes. The disciplines learned with an instrument lead to success in all areas of the student's life.

Let's Get Started

The first step is to choose an ap-

propriate instrument. The director at your child's middle school will be happy to help you make a good decision about the best instrument—taking into account things like braces, hand size and arm length.

Instrumental music is not only fun, but has a lasting value for students!

Learning to play a musical instrument is a rewarding experience for anyone at any age, but music is especially helpful to the development of our children.

Music develops mental skills, builds teamwork and is an activity that can bring joy for a lifetime, helping your child be more successful in life.

“The word is out: Researchers have discovered a way to make kids smarter. And savvy parents are signing their children up for private music lessons while school boards debate the role of music in the public school curriculum,” according to Joan Schmidt, National School Boards Association.

Statistics indicate that if your child participates in music, he or she is likely to earn higher grades and score better on standardized tests. Now there is powerful evidence of a cause-and-effect link between music instruction and intelligence.

Become a part of the music program

We encourage you to discuss the option of playing an instrument with your child, and, if you agree that it is in the best interest of your son/daughter, follow the steps listed to the right to enroll them in band or orchestra.

Where to begin...

1. Decide on an instrument.
Contact the director at your middle school if you have trouble choosing.
2. Choose beginning band or orchestra on your Course Selection Form:
 - **Beginning Orchestra** for violin, viola, cello or string bass.
 - **Beginning Band** for flute, clarinet, French horn, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba or percussion (*If you are considering percussion, please contact your middle school band director as some schools require some piano proficiency.*)
3. Complete the yellow Instrumental Music Interest Form.
4. Mail your yellow form to the address below or have your child give it to their elementary music teacher.

Scott Schlup
1300 W. Swallow Road
Fort Collins, CO 80526
5. If you plan on participating in the Summer Music Program and will be playing a school-provided instrument (cello, string bass, French horn, baritone or tuba), contact your middle school music director to reserve an instrument.

Get a good instrument!

"Attic" or hand-me-down instruments should be inspected by a member of the middle school instrumental music staff or an instrument repair shop. Buying or renting "brand name" instruments from a reputable dealer insures equipment that will help a child succeed and gives you options like rental insurance or instrument maintenance contracts.

The following music stores offer rental and purchase plans in our area:

Boomer Music Company,
223-2424
2721 S. College Avenue

Mountain Music, 482-4308
640 S. College Ave.

Accessorize!

Accessories such as reeds, strings, shoulder rests, cleaner, valve oil, etc., can also be purchased at music stores.

Percussion students must have a drum/bell kit which includes a practice pad, one pair of 2B snare drum sticks and a set of practice bells with mallets. (NOTE: Many schools have an entrance requirement of piano proficiency for playing percussion. Contact your middle school before getting percussion equipment.)

Required textbooks

A Summer Music textbook is required for each student. These are available at local music stores.

Band Members:

Best in Class, Volume 1

Cost: \$5.45

Orchestra Members:

Essential Elements 2000 for Strings, Book 1 • Cost: \$7.95

Questions, concerns, comments

For questions about the program, please contact the music teacher at the middle school where your child is registered to attend next fall (see contact information on back page). Or, contact Scott Schlup, Summer Music Program coordinator: phone 488-7204, e-mail sschlup@psdschools.org.

With just a few clicks on the web, you can find a myriad of reasons to be part of the middle school music program. Studies have shown that students in music score higher on standardized tests, do better in math and science, are less likely to have discipline issues and will have more of the skills that employers will be looking for in the future. To see for yourself, visit any of the following sites:

www.childrensmusicworkshop.com/advocacy

www.schoolmusicmatters.com

www.amc-music.org

Summer Music Program 2009

The Poudre School District Summer Music Program, free to current PSD fifth and sixth graders, is a wonderful opportunity to learn an instrument before entering the middle school band or orchestra program.* Students are responsible for instrument or rental costs and accessories.

Taught primarily by PSD music teachers, students try out an instrument, learn the basics and gain practice—preparing them for success in the instrumental music program and a lifetime of music enjoyment.

Students are encouraged to attend the site closest to the middle school in which they will attend. This way, they'll have classes with the students who are going to the same middle school and learn from teachers who they will be learning from in future years.

*Charter or private-school students of the same age may register provided there is space available. Fee for these students is \$50.

Class Schedule

All classes are held Mondays through Fridays, June 1 – July 10, one hour each day. No classes July 3. Concerts are held during the final week of class. Students missing a part of class time for vacation, etc., may arrange for help sessions with their teachers.

ORCHESTRA	Instrument	CLP Middle School	Fort Collins High School	Fossil Ridge High School	Poudre High School	Rocky Mountain High School	Wellington Middle School
	Violin	8:45am	9 or 11am	10am or 12pm	11am	8 or 9am or 12pm	10am
Viola	8:45am	9 or 11am	10am or 12pm	11am	8 or 9am or 12pm	10am	
Cello	8:45am	10am	8 or 11am	12pm	8 or 9am	10am	
String Bass	8:45am	10am	8 or 11am	12pm	8 or 9am	10am	
BAND	Flute	9am	8am	9 or 10am	11am	8 or 9am	9am
	Clarinet	9am	9am or 12pm	8 or 9 or 10 or 11am	11am	10 or 11am	9am
	French Horn	10am	9am	12pm	8am	11am	9am
	Trumpet	10am	11am or 12pm	8 or 11am or 12pm	8am	10am or 12pm	9am
	Baritone	10am	10am	8am	8am	8am	9am
	Trombone	10am	10am	11am or 12pm	8am	9am	9am
	Tuba	10am	10am	9am	8am	8am	9am
	Percussion	10am	10 or 11am	10 or 11am	9am	8 or 9am	9am

For your records...

Poudre School District Summer Music Program (June 1 through July 10)

Instrument: _____ Class Location: _____ Time: _____

If you complete the yellow instrumental music interest form and include a parent e-mail you will receive a confirmation email by May 1. If you do not receive a confirmation, call Scott Schlup at 488-7204 to check on your status.

First day of class: Come to the school site you have selected, at the listed time. There will be signs to direct you to your class.

Note: If you need to make changes AFTER you submit the yellow form, please call Scott Schlup to update your registration. Phone: 488-7204 or e-mail: sschlup@psd-schools.org

Questions, concerns, comments?

Contact the music instructor at the middle school where your child will be attending (all e-mail addresses end in @psdschools.org):

Blevins

Band: Mark Bretting, 488-4021, mbrettin
Orch: Brian Floyd, 488-4029, bfloyd

Boltz

Band: Kenyon Scheurman, 372-3762, kscheurm
Orch: Tom Bittinger, 472-3768, tbitting

CLPJH

Band: Tony Gezzi, 488-7445, agezzi
Orch: Ben Stucky, 488-6116, bstucky

Kinard

Band: Mike Perez, 488-5477, mperez
Orch: Shawn Murphy, 488-5483, smurphy

Leshner

Band: Rob Borger, 472-3813, rborger
Orch: Tom Bittinger, 472-3768, tbitting

Lincoln

Band/Orch: Gino Panepinto, 484-3073, ginop

Preston

Band: Andrea Hollenbeck, 488-7316, andreah
Orch: Louis Silvestri, 488-6286, lsilvest

Webber

Band: Jana Webster-Wheeler, 488-7892, jwebster
Orch: Mike Schaefer, 488-7879, mschaefer

Wellington

All Music: Linda Anderson, 568-3944, lindaa

As researchers provide us with an understanding of how we learn, we know that music is a vital part of a complete education!

Self-Discipline: A maturity to handle responsibility as an individual and as a team player.

Social Interaction: A family—we grow together for six years, forming a lasting relationship!

Use of Gifts and Talents: A chance to use a natural gift to the best of our abilities.

Pride and Achievement: To see the growth from the first day to the last concert in 12th grade, performing a Beethoven symphony, a difficult concert suite or a great Sousa march is one of the greatest feelings you will ever know!

Lasting Fun: Sure, it takes a while to learn the basics, but the whole spectrum of music is opening up to you for personal enjoyment.

*Our children can
benefit greatly from
making music.
Now is the time to
enroll your child in the
Poudre School District
Instrumental Music
Program!*

Scott Schrup
Summer Music Program Coordinator
1300 West Swallow Road
Fort Collins, CO 80526

POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT



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Permit No. 45



Instrumental Music

Interest Form and Registration for the Summer Music Program 2009

Interested in the Instrumental Music Program?

If you are interested in learning a musical instrument—or you currently play—and would like to join your middle school band or orchestra this fall, please complete this form. **Once you have filled out the form, deliver to your elementary music teacher, or mail to:**

Scott Schlup, 1300 West Swallow Road
Fort Collins, CO 80526

Students who are unsure whether they would like to sign up for band or orchestra this fall are encouraged to attend the Summer Music Program. By participating in the summer program, you can get a head start on learning an instrument and find out exactly what the Instrumental Music program is all about.

If, during the summer, your school schedule needs to change and you choose to either drop or add a band or orchestra class, please contact your middle school counselor before fall schedules are distributed.

Even if you cannot attend the Summer Music Program, but are interested in joining your middle

school music program this fall, indicate your interest by completing the information below.

How do I begin?

1. Decide on an instrument. Contact the director at your middle school if you have trouble choosing.
2. Choose beginning band or orchestra on your Course Selection Form:

Beginning Orchestra for violin, viola, cello or string bass

Beginning Band for flute, clarinet, French horn, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba or percussion
(If you are considering percussion, please contact your middle school band director as some schools require some piano proficiency.)
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5. If you plan on participating in the Summer Music Program and will be playing a school-provided

Complete this form and deliver to your elementary music teacher or mail to:

Scott Schlup, 1300 West Swallow Road, Fort Collins, CO 80526

Student Name _____ Date _____

Current school (elementary) _____ 5th- or 6th-grade teacher _____

Instrument choice _____ Middle school _____

Parent/guardian name _____

Address (street, city, state and zip) _____

Parent's e-mail _____ Phone (home) _____ (work) _____
Confirmation is sent through e-mail.

On my Course Selection Form, I signed up for: Beginning Band Beginning Orchestra
Choose one:

I will be attending the Summer Music Program at _____ school for the _____ (time) class—see the Instrumental Music Program packet for schedule and times.

I will not be attending the Summer Music Program, but plan on participating in the music program this fall.

Students who miss part of the Summer Music Program for vacations, etc., are still welcome and can simply inform their summer music teacher of their absence.