

Music Program Handbook

Tavis Schlicker: Choir, Handchimes, and Handbells
Brandon Eiler: Strings and Band Becky Rohde: Ukulele

The Purpose of the Music Program at Concordia

The purpose of the music program is to train students in God’s gift of music, which serves as a universal language of *worship* and a means of *creativity* and *self-expression*. Students will have opportunities to strengthen spiritual growth, increase self-confidence, and learn the essential skills of being part of a team.

Membership Expectation: A Year-Long Commitment

Enrollment in all music groups is for the entire school year, beginning in the middle of August and concluding in late May. **Each member is expected to remain active and committed for the entire year.** This serves to:

- help children understand commitment
- allow time for students to develop their skills
- teach group members to rely on one another

Please contact the teacher if an unusual situation occurs that prohibits a handchime or choir member from honoring this one-year commitment.

Rehearsals

Choir, Bells and Chimes groups meet twice a week for 35 min. Ukulele will meet for 45 minutes once a week.

Performance Attire

A well-dressed and well-groomed ensemble exudes class and discipline. **ABSOLUTELY NO** athletic shoes or jeans are to be worn in performance by any member.

Grade 5-8 Church Dress:

- Dress Code for our church performances is Monday-Thursday school dress code OR BETTER.

Grade 5-8 Concert Dress:

- **Girls**—White OR Black blouse, black pants or skirt (below the knee), black dress shoes (closed-toed) with a back. **No flip-flops or tennis shoes!**
- **Boys**—White OR black polo or button-up shirt, black pants, black socks, black dress shoes. **No flip-flops or tennis shoes!**

GRADING

Please note that music courses count toward a student's GPA.

Your quarter grade is determined from an average of:

1. Assignments and in-class performance quizzes: singing, playing, or rhythm counting 20%
2. Daily Citizenship 40% (daily behavior, work ethic, and participation)
3. Performance Grade 40%

1. Assignments and Quizzes - There may be worksheets, singing/playing tests in groups, and solfege or rhythm assignments throughout the year. If given as *homework*, these are due the next class period, unless otherwise specified. Homework in music classes is included in the 5-8th grade homework policies.

2. Daily Citizenship Grading Guidelines

Each day of rehearsal is worth 10 points. Your citizenship grade is based on attitude, active participation, preparation, timeliness, and respect to the teacher and the group. See your teacher for a specific points sheet for a picture of our expectations.

A (9-10) B (7-8) C (6-7) D (4-5) F (0-3)

3. Performances - church services *and* concerts

Performances are 40% of the quarter grade for all ensembles.

To earn an "A":

1. Be in your place BEFORE the assigned time.
2. Wear appropriate concert attire.
3. While performing, focus is 100% on the music at all times. Appropriate behavior on stage is expected for all members of all choirs. Inappropriate behavior will consequently lower your grade.
6. As an audience member, the students' attention is directed to the ensemble or soloist performing.

Talking is not acceptable during ANY performance.

PERFORMANCE RESPONSIBILITIES AND ATTENDANCE

Attendance at all scheduled church services and concerts is mandatory. The entire group has worked very hard in rehearsals to prepare a wonderful concert to glorify God and showcase the talents given by Him. We have a limited number of performances per year, and we're asking that these take priority over other games or practices. *Work, babysitting, non-school club activities, or not having a ride are UNEXCUSED.* PLAN AHEAD! In order to receive a rare consideration for an absence from a performance (such as an unexpected illness or death in the family), a written excuse from your parent/guardian is required PRIOR TO or IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONCERT. **A phone call or e-mail to the teacher is required as soon as the condition is known.** In the case of Handbells/chimes, a *substitute* needs to be acquired for the rest of the group to be successful.

- If an absence is considered "excused", the student may make up the performance with a separate conversation and document from the teacher.
- Special note: You have been given plenty of notice to clear your schedules. CHECK NOW if you are in activities to determine possible conflicts. If you come to us the week

before a performance with an “oh, by the way,” the likelihood of your being excused from either conflict will be significantly reduced. Respect your obligation to each program and give at least 2 weeks notification so a resolution can be made.

Contacting Us

Your child’s growth and success are extremely important to us. We realize that this is a lot of information to take in at once, but please know that enrolling your child in music will have a profoundly positive effect on their future.

Communication is key to a successful music program. We always welcome and appreciate hearing your questions or concerns.

Please feel free to contact us at any time by FastDirect or email:

Mr. Schlicker

tschlicker@concordiachurch.org

Mr. Eiler

beiler@clhscadets.com

Mrs. Rohde

brohde@clscubs.org

We are looking forward to an INCREDIBLE year of making music and serving the Lord!

“It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High.” Psalm 92:1

In His amazing grace,

Mr. Tavis Schlicker

Mr. Brandon Eiler

Mrs. Becky Rohde

Music Directors

2023-2024 Performance Dates

Please mark these dates on your calendar

*Note: CYC is 7/8th Grade Choir (Concordia Youth Choir)

Sunday, September 24	9:00 am	7th-8th Concordia Youth Choir (CYC)
Sunday, September 24	11:00 am	6 th Chimes
Saturday, September 30	5:00 pm	7/8 th Handbells
Sunday, October 1	11:00 am	5 th AND 6 th Choir
Sunday, October 8	8:30 am	5 th Chimes
Sunday, October 29	11:00 am	CYC
Thursday, November 9	After school through 7:00 concert <u>CHORfest at CLHS</u> - CYC	
Sunday, December 3	9:00 am	5 th AND 6 th Choir
Wednesday, December 20	1:30/7:00 pm	Christmas Musical at CLS, <i>All 1st - 6th grades</i>
Saturday, January 27	times TBA	Band/Strings ISSMA Solo and Ensemble, optional
Sunday, January 28	9:00 am	Ukulele Ensemble
Saturday, February 3	times TBA	Vocal/Piano ISSMA Solo and Ensemble, optional
Sunday, February 11	8:30 am	6 th Choir
Sunday, February 25	8:30 am	5 th Choir
Sunday, March 3	8:30 am	6 th Chimes
Sunday, March 3	11:00 am	5 th Chimes
Sunday, March 10	8:30 am	7/8 th Handbells
Saturday, March 16	time TBA	ISSMA Organization, CYC
Sunday, March 17	11:00 am/2:00 concert	Church Service, Lunch, Fine Arts Festival at CLHS, CYC
Friday-Saturday, March 22-23	7:30 shows	DEAR EDWINA Middle School Musical at CLHS, optional
Sunday, March 24	9:00 am	5 th AND 6 th Choir

Sunday, April 21

11:00 am

Ukulele Ensemble

Tuesday, May 14

7:00 pm

Celebration of Talents - ALL GROUPS 5-8th

Statement of Understanding

My student and I -

- have read and discussed the Concordia Choir/Ukulele/Belsl/Chimes Policies.
- understand the grading procedure, the assignments, and work that must be put in to become a successful musician and ensemble member
- understand that ***attendance at all services and concerts is mandatory.***

I also know that if any questions or concerns should arise about my child’s participation in music throughout the year, contacting the music director as soon as possible is essential, and he/she will answer any questions I may have.

- Please sign below with your student and return to your homeroom teacher by **Monday, September 11** . This is your first assignment!

Parent/Guardian’s signature Date

Student’s signature Date

I may be able to help in the following areas.

This does not obligate you to help. We will call for volunteers as needed.

- Concert Usher:** Hand out programs at a concert
- Photographer:** Take digital pictures at events and email them to Music Directors
- Videographer:** Be willing to record the performance
- Musician:** If you play an instrument or sing and would like to help us out when needed (please specify your instrument) _____
- At-Large Parent Helpers:** Be willing to consider helping where needed most

We are looking forward to a wonderful year of making music to the glory of God!