

# The Howard HS Orchestra Program

*Benjamin Denne*

*Director*

# Program Structure

*Group Performance*

*Individual Development*

# Group Performance Highlights

## *Concerts*

*October 19th*

*December 8th*

*March 21st*

*April 25th*

## *Assessment*

*March 27th-29th*

## *Spring Trip*

*April 12-16*

*Chicago*

# Individual Development

## *Components of the skills curriculum*

- ~ *Performance of major and minor scales*
- ~ *Rhythm reading and performance*
- ~ *Tuning*
- ~ *Sight reading*
- ~ *Solo literature*

*These skills are assessed through the use of individual  
~ video recordings made weekly during class time.*

# Playing Journals

*Students are asked each week to turn in a journal documenting their practice at home. This journal is comprised of four elements:*

- 1. A chart listing the times practiced*
- 2. A statement of the student's goals for the week*
- 3. A plan for accomplishing those goals*
- 4. A reflection of the level of success for that week's practice.*

# Website:

# www.howardmusic.net



## Howard High Music



8700 Old Annapolis Road Ellicott City, MD 21043 | Phone: [410.313.2867](tel:410.313.2867)

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### Welcome to Howard High Instrumental Music

#### Upcoming Events:

- Tuesday, September 13, 2011 - Marching Band Rehearsal - 5 -7:pm - CHANGE
- **Tuesday, September 13, 2011 - DANCE TEAM FUNDRAISER @ CHICK FILA - [Click here for flyer](#)**
- Wednesday, September 14, 2011 - Back to School Night
- Friday, September 16, 2011 - Marching Band Performance (Home Football Game) - 7:00pm, Call time for Students, 5:30 pm.
- Wednesday, September 21, 2011 - Marching Band Rehearsal - 6-8pm.
- Saturday, September 24, 2011 - HOMECOMING @ HHS
  - 8:15 am - Students report
  - 9:00 am - Pancake Breakfast Performance



# The Orchestra Page

## Howard High Orchestra 2011-2012

- Download the 2011-2012 orchestra syllabus: [PDF](#)
- View our [orchestra calendar](#)
- [All-State Audition Requirements](#) - Auditions are on November 13th for 9th graders and November 20th for 10-12th graders. You need to inform Mr. Denne of your interest in auditioning by September 24th.
- [Practice Journal Assignment](#)

## Important Dates

- Fall Concert: Oct. 19, 2011
- Winter Concert: Dec. 8, 2011 (snow date Dec. 14, 2011)
- Festival Preview Concert: March 21, 2012
- County Orchestra Festival: March 27-29, 2012 (time and specific date to be determined)
- Spring Trip: Tentatively April 12-16, 2012 - Chicago
- Spring Concert: April 25, 2012
- State Orchestra Festival: April 30- May 4, 2012 (time and specific date to be determined)
- Instrumental Music Awards Night: May 8, 2012 - HHS Cafeteria

# Howard Music Boosters

*We are blessed to have a wonderful organization of parents that support our music department. Come to the next meeting on Wednesday, October 12th.*

# Fundraising

*UNO's night on Sept. 27th*

*Restaurant Raffle*

# Course Numbers

## *String Ensemble Courses*

*6462 - 1st year*  
*6465 - 2nd year*  
*6468 - 3rd year*  
*6471 - 4th year*

## *String Orchestra Courses*

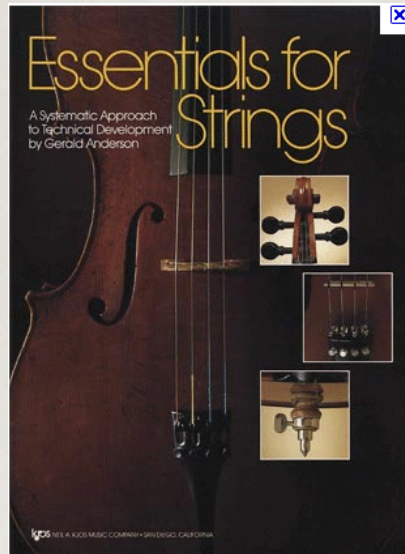
*6410 - 1st year*  
*6420 - 2nd year*  
*643M - 3rd year*  
*646M - 4th year*  
*626M - 1st year G/T*  
*627M - 2nd year G/T*

# 1st Quarter Testing Schedule

Assignment	Due Date
G major scale requirement	9/12-9/16
Quarter 1 rhythm requirement	9/19-9/23
D major scale requirement	9/26-9/30
Quarter 1 tuning test	10/3-10/7
C major scale requirement	10/10-10/14
Piece Selection Due	10/20
Quarter 1 sight reading	10/24-10/28

# Scales

## *Essentials for Strings by Gerald Anderson*



	SE1-6462	SE2-6465	SE3-6468	SE4-6471			
1st Q	one-octave major scales in C, G, & D	two-octave major scales in C, G, & D	two-octave major scales and one-octave minor scales in C, G, & D	two-octave major scales and two-octave minor scales in C, G, & D			
			SO1-6410	SO2-6420	SO3-643M	SO4-646M	SOGT-626M
			two-octave major scales and two-octave minor scales in C, G, & D	three-octave major scales and two-octave minor scales in C, G, & D	three-octave major scales and three-octave minor scales in C, G, & D	three-octave major scales and three-octave minor scales in C, G, & D	three-octave major scales and three-octave minor scales in C, G, & D

One-Octave		Two-Octave	
One octave scales are found on pages 26-34	For one octave scales, Major scales include exercises 1-2 and	minor scales include exercise 3-6	Two octave scales are found on pages 35-44
			For two octave scales, Major scales include exercises 1-2 and the major arpeggio in #3 and
			minor scales include the minor arpeggio in #3 and exercises 4-5

# Scale Rubric

## Scale Test Rubric

### Posture

#### Left Hand Position:

- 3 - Using fingertips for all notes, tapping (no squeezing), relaxed hand shape, thumb in correct position
- 2 - One of the above is missing, or scroll is falling down.
- 1 - More than one problem, or one problem and falling scroll
- 0 - The left hand is collapsed completely

#### Right Hand (bow hold):

- 3 - Bow hold is correct
- 2 - Close, but not quite
- 1 - A couple of problems
- 0 - Death grip in place

#### Bow arm:

- 3 - Relaxed wrist leads the hand. Water could flow from the shoulder through the arm to the bow
- 2 - Close, but not quite
- 1 - A couple of problems
- 0 - Wrist is locked in place

#### Bow Placement:

- 3 - Whole bow is used, in proper position between the finger board and bridge
- 2 - Partial bow is used, or bow is too far over fingerboard
- 1 - Both problems exist or bow is crooked
- 0 - Not enough bow or bow is too crooked to evaluate placement

### Shifting

- 3 - Hand moves fluidly to the next position
- 2 - Hand moves correctly but not fluidly
- 1 - Incorrect movement (hand changes shape during shift or shift is not in the correct place)

### Tone

- 5 - Tone is warm and full
- 4 - Tone is warm and full except in the upper or lower ranges, or during shifts
- 3 - Could be a bit more beautiful
- 2 - Thin or forced tone
- 1 - Inconsistent or wobbly tone

### Intonation

- 5 - All of the notes are perfectly in tune
- 4 - Missed a couple
- 3 - Missed a few more
- 2 - Missed a bunch
- 1 - Got a couple right
- 0 - Use the tuning notes every time you play

### Bowing

- 2 - Notes are slurred 2 per bow for 2 8va, 3 for 3 8va
- 1 - Some slurs are omitted or reduced
- 0 - Slurs are omitted

### Rhythm

- 3 - Rhythm is solid and consistent
- 2 - Inconsistent
- 1 - No relation to steady beat

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Key \_\_\_ 8va \_\_\_ Pg. \_\_\_ # \_\_\_ Score \_\_\_/30

# Rhythm

Rhythm Reading (all rhythm levels correspond to <b>Essentials for Strings</b> by Gerald Anderson, p. 4-17)										
	SE1-6462	SE2-6465	SE3-6468	SE4-6471	SO1-6410	SO2-6420	SO3-643M	SO4-646M	SOGT-626M	SOGT-627M
1st Q	Demonstrate clapping and counting rhythm A	Demonstrate clapping and counting rhythm C	Demonstrate clapping and counting rhythm E	Demonstrate clapping and counting rhythm G	Demonstrate clapping and counting rhythm I	Demonstrate clapping and counting rhythm K	Demonstrate clapping and counting rhythm M	Demonstrate clapping and counting rhythm O	Demonstrate clapping and counting rhythm M	Demonstrate clapping and counting rhythm O

# Rhythm Test Rubric

Name:		Section:		Scale:	
Date:					
<i>Category</i>	<i>1 Point</i>	<i>2 Points</i>	<i>3 Points</i>	<i>4 Points</i>	<i>5 Points</i>
<b>Clapping Accuracy</b>	8+ Errors	5-7 Errors	2-4 Errors	1 Error	No Errors
<b>Counting Accuracy</b>	4+ Errors	3 Errors	2 Errors	1 Error	No Errors
<b>Bowing (for played examples)</b>	8+ Errors	5-7 Errors	2-4 Errors	1 Error	No Errors
<b>Tempo Consistency and Speed</b>	Tempo is much too slow	Tempo is somewhat slow	Tempo fluctuates	Tempo is good	Tempo is solid and consistent
<i>Suggested Tempo ♩=92</i>					
Total Score	_____/30				
Grading Scale	27-30 = A				
	24-26 = B				
	21-23 = C				
	18-20 = D				
	5-15 = E				

# Tuning

*How to practice*

*1. Tune by ear to a pitch on the tuning page (website)*

*2. Check your accuracy using an electric tuner.*

*3. 1 cent is 1/100 of a half-step*

	SE1-6462	SE2-6465	SE3-6468	SE4-6471
1st Q	Demonstrate the ability to change pitch fluently using fine tuners while creating a consistent tone	Demonstrate the ability to tune each string to a given pitch within 10 cents	Demonstrate the ability to tune each string to a given pitch within 5 cents	Demonstrate the ability to tune each string to a given pitch within 5 cents

SO1-6410	SO2-6420	SO3-643M	SO4-646M	SOGT-626M	SOGT-627M
Demonstrate the ability to tune each string to a given pitch within 5 cents	Demonstrate the ability to tune each string to a given pitch within 2 cents	Demonstrate the ability to tune the entire instrument to a given 'A' within 5 cents	Demonstrate the ability to tune the entire instrument to a given 'A' within 2 cents	Demonstrate the ability to tune the entire instrument to a given 'A' within 2 cents	Demonstrate the ability to tune the entire instrument to a given 'A' within 2 cents

# Re-do Policy

*Students will have the opportunity to retake performance tests.*

*The goal of the program is to establish a set of skills for our students, not to penalize them for a bad day or a bad test.*

# Sight-Reading

*Students will be tested in increasing difficulty on their ability to read and perform music throughout the year. We will work on this in class through the use of sight-singing and adaptations of sight-singing literature.*

# Solo Literature

*All students will be required to prepare and perform one piece of an appropriate difficulty during the course of the school year.*

*Performance Venues Include:*

- Solo and Ensemble Festival (HHS Music Boosters have covered the entrance fee in past years)*
- In-class performance*
- Private teacher's recital*

# G/T Curriculum

*In addition to adding increased difficulty to the level of performance, the G/T curriculum adds a research and extra-curricular ensemble requirement.*

*Requirements are divided into the following categories:*

- 70% Primary Ensemble Requirement (HHS Orchestra)*
- 10% Solo Recital Performance*
- 10% Extra-curricular ensemble performance*
- 10% Research, Critical Thinking, and Reflection*