

Modern Music Program 2016-17 - Spencer Reed, director

Notre Dame School System - East Stroudsburg, Pa 18301

Notre Dame JHS, HS and Msgr. McHugh School

We offer a comprehensive program that provides an opportunity for all students to participate in the school concert/rock band and/or orchestra. Currently, all classes and performance groups consist of mixed instruments.

Goals

- Playing the full standard range of notes on their instrument.
- Reading standard notation. Fluency with rhythms from whole notes to eighth notes. Introduction to sixteenth notes and triplets.
- Guitars and piano to include chord construction.
- Concert performances in Winter and Spring and additional performances including the Red Cross Telethon at ESU and Notre Dame Open House
- Studies and repertoire include Classical, Jazz, and Rock styles.
- Introduction to Folk, Country, Latin and other culturally based styles.
- Introduction to music theory
- Improvisation

Great importance is placed on the spirit of cooperation and team effort that is necessary for a successful ensemble performance. We emphasize that music is much more than notes on a page. The studies and repertoire are presented in an historical and cultural context.

The orchestral experience of our program is not designed to replace private instruction, however, many beginning students without private teachers have experienced success. It is recommended that students receive private instruction to get the most out of their ensemble experience. But please know that ALL students are invited to participate, even those that do not receive private instruction. Great care is taken to ensure a positive musical experience for all but especially for beginners.

Performance groups are arranged by grade level and instrumentation. Some schools may have enrollment allowing for one school-wide band. It is possible that with sufficient enrollment we could offer, as we have in previous years, Senior Orchestra, Junior Orchestra, Senior Rock/Jazz Band and Junior Rock/Jazz Band and ensemble classes of like instruments. Techniques master classes with guest section masters for Brass, Woodwinds and Strings will occur as situations permit.

When do the musicians rehearse?

Some class/rehearsals are held after school until 3:30 or 3:00, some from 3:30 until 4:30, and others in the morning from 7:30 until homeroom. The exact weekly schedule will be posted through email or direct contact from the parents committee. Additional rehearsals may be scheduled within two weeks of a performance.

We will begin the first week of October. With 4 - 10 opportunities to attend each month students have the ability to adjust their schedules for conflicts that will, no doubt, arise especially in coordination with other school events.

Parents Committee and participation

All parents are invited and encouraged to attend any and all rehearsals. Your input is important and welcome. Whenever a parent attends a rehearsal it can be inspiring to the students. We also have an active and growing Parents Committee. Please contact any band/orchestra parent to become an active member of the parents committee. The parents run the band regarding scheduling outreach, logistics and set up, participation in open house, and many other functions (like providing after school snacks!).

Please feel free to address any concerns, exclusions or time preferences and attach them to this form.

What is the cost and how do I pay?

The fee for the program, which includes materials, for the months October 2016 through May 2017 is \$360 and is due upon enrollment. All payments are made to Spencer Reed. The fee is not adjustable by the number of weeks in a month, the attendance of the student, school schedule, snow closings or other acts of God as are customarily delineated in a standard business contract as ample opportunity for make up lessons is provided.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Reed at reedjazz@verizon.net or notredamemusic@reedjazz.com or call 570-421-5696 with any questions, concerns, requests or suggestions.

Name of student _____

Grade _____ Age _____ School _____

Instrument _____ Years played or beginner _____

Name of parent or guardian _____

Signature of parent or guardian _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ Email _____

Additional comments: