

Welcome Back to Band!!!

Hello prospective band students and parents,

I'd like to take a moment to welcome you all back to what is sure to be our most exciting year yet here in the Fine and Performing Arts department! This year will be unlike any other after having revamped our band program to better the musical experience for your child.

We are excited to welcome two new after school lesson teachers! Taking over our after school orchestra lessons will be Mr. Aaron Gooding! Mr. Gooding earned his Bachelor of Arts in Music Degree from Mansfield University on viola. Since graduating from Mansfield, Mr. Gooding has taught in various after school instrumental music programs. In 2007, he taught along with Tanya Murphy, of Eboni Strings, at the Discovery Charter School in Philadelphia. In 2008 Aaron began to teach at the Philadelphia Clef Club for the Performing Arts. At the Clef Club, he teaches Music Theory and individual violin and viola lessons in their Saturday Education Program. Mr. Gooding performs frequently throughout the area in churches, at weddings and social functions, and in Broadway musical productions. He continues to perform with the St. David's Orchestral Society of Eastern University. In addition to Mr. Gooding we will be adding Nativity's own Mrs. Sharron Ferrio, who will be teaching our after school trumpet and trombone lessons. Mrs. Ferrio is an accomplished French horn and trumpet player and has offered to help grow our brass program here at Nativity!

In addition to our growing faculty we will also be restructuring lesson times. Wind lessons and Orchestra lessons will meet after school on Thursdays, Guitar will meet Mondays and Drums on Fridays. This will limit or eliminate the need for children to miss crucial class time with the fast pace of instruction. It will also allow us to provide a more structured schedule for your students.

Attached to this letter is all the information you will need to make an informed decision regarding your student's participation in the music program. However, if you're still not convinced, there will be a parent information night on

SEPTEMBER 30th @ 6:30pm

in the Music Room 118 (please use "D" door entrance around back of school) to answer any and all questions regarding the program!

We will also be using Coles Music again for our rental program. If your student is interested in playing a Wind or Orchestra instrument please visit colesmusicservice.com and you can rent one right from the website and it will be delivered to Nativity!

Sincerely,

Mr. Myers

What's New This Year?

As you will soon see our program has been slightly redesigned. This year you will be required to select your student's instrument as well as their after school lesson time. This will cut down on student's confusion and help them to remember their instruments for their lessons. We also are attempting to eliminate removing students from classes.

Our **lessons** are held entirely after school. **Any student whose parent is NOT present at the end of their lesson will be sent directly to C.A.R.E.S.** where you may pick them up any time before 6:00pm. Please contact our C.A.R.E.S program for their policies and rates. ***Please understand that if you are not registered for C.A.R.E.S. and you're not present to pick up your student they will charge you their registration fee when you pick up your student.*** Our program is not an afterschool care service. We offer instrumental group lessons, which last 30 minutes. We cannot be responsible for watching students after their lessons are finished.

Band, Orchestra, and Guitar ensemble tuition payments are paid on a **trimester basis**. We have implemented a billing process, which will include receiving a paper statement at the beginning of each trimester. Each bill will include a due date that is two weeks from the statement date. Any tuition received after the date posted on the statements will be charged a \$10 late fee. It is pivotal to the success of the program to submit your tuition on time. Portions of these funds are used for instruments, equipment, and music for your student's lessons. Without it we are unable to grow our program and your child's experience learning an instrument. Any students with delinquent tuition payments over 4 weeks late will not be permitted to receive lessons until tuition is collected.

Students registering for Wind Ensemble and Orchestra are encouraged to rent their instruments, STUDENT CALIBER instruments are fairly expensive to purchase. If you see one on the Internet for cheap... there is probably a reason. If you wish to purchase please contact Mr. Myers for a recommendation. Guitar students **must** purchase an instrument, since there is nowhere you may currently rent one. Please ask Mr. Myers or Mr. Dair for recommendation on brands and models.

What does your tuition cover? Each trimester's tuition covers **ONE TRIMESTER** worth of lessons and ensembles (Approx. 10 weeks). If school is canceled due to in-service, weather, or national holiday, those lessons may not be able to be made up. We do our best to make sure that your students receive as much lesson time as possible. However, with limited space at the school and scheduling conflicts, sometimes rescheduling lessons is just impossible.

Thank you again for your unwavering support of our Fine and Performing Arts Programs!!! I hope to see you all at our parent meeting on **September 30th**, In the Music Room at 6:30pm.

Band Registration Form 2013-2014

If you have multiple students please fill out one form for each and include payment with oldest student's information. ****If registering multiple students in one family please include check with oldest student***

Family Name: _____

Student Name: _____ Instrument: _____

Parent Contact
Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Does your student have any medical conditions we should be aware of? Yes ____ No ____

If yes:

Step 1: Understand Tuition and Fees

Please check this box if your tuition information and payment are on another form.

Tuition Rates:

- a.) Single Student- \$200per trimester
- b.) Two Students- \$300per trimester (total for both)
- c.) Three Students-\$350per trimester (total for all three)

Choose Tuition

\$ _____
\$ _____
\$ _____

One time family registration fee of \$20

+ \$20 _____

MAKE CHECKS OUT TO "NATIVITY BANDS LLC"

Total: \$ _____

Step 2: Pick an Ensemble that fits your student.

- A.) Wind Ensemble – Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, (4th -8th Grade)
- B.) Orchestra – Violin, Viola, Cello (3rd – 8th grade)
- C.) Guitar Ensemble – Guitar, Bass, Drum set (4th - 8th grade except for drum set which is 6th-8th)

Please check one.

A.) _____

B.) _____

C.) _____

NOTE: Double check to make sure your student's grade falls within the accepted age groups.

Instrument: _____

Step 3: Pick a lesson time. This will be your child's lesson time each week!

Winds with Mr. Myers & Mrs. Ferrio

A.) Beginner Wood Wind (Flute/Clarinet/Saxophone)
NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED meets Thursday @ 3:30-4:00

B.) Beginner Brass (Trumpet/Trombone)
NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED meets Thursday @ 3:30-4:00

C.) Intermediate Wood Winds (Flute/Clarinet/Saxophone)
1-2 Years experience required meets Thursday @ 4:00-4:30

D.) Advanced Winds
MUST BE APPROVED BY Mr. Myers meets TBA (lessons will be organized on individual basis)

Band Ensemble will rehearse on Thursday from 12:25-12:55

Please check one.

A.)____

B.)____

C.)____

D.)____

Orchestra with Mr. Myers & Mr. Gooding

A.) Beginner Strings (Violin/Viola/Cello)
NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED meets Thursday @ 3:30-4:00

B.) Intermediate/Advanced Strings (Violin/Viola/Cello)
1 YEAR EXPERIENCE meets Thursday @ 4:00-4:30

Orchestra Ensemble will rehearse on Tuesday from 12:55-1:25

Please check one.

A.)____

B.)____

Guitar Ensemble with Mr. Dair

A.) Beginner Guitar 1 (Guitar and Bass)
NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED meets Thursday @ 3:30-4:00

B.) Intermediate Guitar (Guitar and Bass)
1 year experience required meets Thursday @ 4:00-4:30

C.) Drum Set (grades 6th-8th only)
NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED meets Monday @ 3:30-4:00

Guitar Ensemble will rehearse on TBA from 12:25-12:55

Please check one.

A.)____

B.)____

C.)____

STOP!!!

Have you done everything?

- Read all material included in Band packet.
- Filled out Band registration form.
- Selected an Ensemble.
- Selected an Instrument.
- Choose a lesson time.
- Included a check made out to “Nativity Bands LLC” for the total amount due for Trimester 1.
- Made plans to attend the Parent Meeting on September 30th @ 6:30pm