

September 2023

Director's Note

Welcome back East Orchestra families! I am thrilled to start my 8th year teaching in Wauwatosa and my 18th year teaching orchestra.

The 2023-2024 school year is already off to an incredible start! It was great to see many of you at the East open house as well as the Italy Trip meeting. I am reminded of this point last school year when we held the kick off meeting for this upcoming performance tour, which is now only a month away.

As our trip to Italy approaches, please keep an eye on your favorite weather app to help with your child's packing. In general, weather in Italy during the month of October is very pleasant, highs in the low 70s and cooler at night. It does rain but not every day. Each student also needs to pack their concert attire and will need to ensure they have at least one outfit that covers both shoulders and knees for our visit to St. Marks and St. Peters Basilicas. What is East concert attire? [CLICK HERE](#)

In class, all students have been working towards their first performance of the year as well as their upcoming tour of Italy. You'll be delighted with large orchestra works by all orchestras, a showcase of each orchestra's musicianship, and hopefully some spooky treats. Our fall performance this year will take place in the **Dale K. Hidde Theatre at Tosa East on October 25th at 7:00pm**. The concert will also be streamed live for those families unable to join us in person.

We look forward to seeing you on tour and/or at our fall performance next month.

~Michael Hayden

Upcoming Events

October 8th - 17th

East Orchestra Performance Tour
Rome, Florence, Venice, Italy

October 25th

Fall Orchestra Concert
7:00 pm Performance
Tosa East High School

Orchestra Parents of Tosa East (OPTE)

Orchestra Parents of Tosa East (OPTE) is a volunteer organization designed to support and highlight the happenings of the Wauwatosa East Orchestra. OPTE supports our guest artists and clinicians, trip fundraising, solo & ensemble organization, and organizes volunteers for our concerts.

To continue our mission of offering the best orchestra experience and strongest musical education possible, a fee is asked from every orchestra student in the amount of \$50. In the 2023-2024 school year, this fee, along with other private donations and OPTE fundraising, covered the costs for:

- District and State Ensemble student fees, Spirit wear for all State and Ensemble participants
- Private lesson scholarships for Tosa East and Longfellow orchestra students.
- End of year luncheon for all orchestra students
- Scholarships for graduating Tosa East orchestra seniors

If you have already paid your student's \$50 orchestra fee, thank you. If not, it's easy to do so now. Simply [CLICK HERE](#) for the form. If you're not sure whether or not your family's already paid, you can ask our treasurer, Maureen Millmann at maureen.millmann@gmail.com.

Italy Trip Meeting

For those students and families who were unable to attend our Italy trip meeting on September 6th, you can find our trip handouts as well as the meeting slide deck [HERE](#).

Italy Trip Rehearsals

Due to the HUGE scale of our upcoming tour, we have scheduled before school rehearsals on the dates below. Students are required to come to at least 4, including the final.

Rehearsals are September 12th, 15th, 26th, 29th, and October 3rd and 6th.

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TosaEastSideStrings