



# ORCHESTRA NEWSLETTER

February 2020

## Director's Note

Happy Valentine's Day!

One of my favorite units of the school year in East Orchestra is our two month unit studying chamber music. During this time, students have been working three days per week on their solo or small ensemble for the Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA) District Solo & Ensemble Festival.

The amount of growth students make during this unit is remarkable. I am certain you have noticed an increase in practicing and the solos/ensembles you've been hearing at home have greatly improved in a short amount of time. This is a testament to the hard work of the orchestra students and to the powerful experience of making chamber music.

Each solo and small ensemble will be showcased at our Solo and Ensemble Festival, held on February 29th at Longfellow MS. If you haven't already signed up to volunteer, please consider doing so to help ensure that our event continues to run as smoothly as possible.

## **SOLO AND ENSEMBLE VOLUNTEER SIGN UP**

[CLICK HERE TO VOLUNTEER](#)

As always, should you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask!

~Michael Hayden

## Upcoming Events

### **February 29th, 2020**

District Solo & Ensemble Festival  
Longfellow Middle School

### **April 19th, 2020**

Wauwatosa All City String Festival  
Brookfield East Fieldhouse  
1:45pm & 3:30pm (perform both times)

#### **SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL**

A few reminders regarding Solo & Ensemble Festival.

Our annual event features nearly 1,000 performances from students around the Milwaukee area. While most are from Wauwatosa schools, others schools join because of the high quality festival that we offer. This year there are also 10 string rooms!! Go Tosa orchestra!

Please arrive at least 30 minutes prior to your child's scheduled performance. This will allow time to get into the building, find the warm up area, locate the performance room, warm up, and not feel rushed. All students should plan on getting to their scheduled room (also called site) 5-10 minutes prior to performance to check in.

Tosa string teachers will be on site with extra judges copies if you need one.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW SOLO & ENSEMBLE SCHEDULE](#)

#### **ALL CITY STRING FESTIVAL**

Also approaching is the Wauwatosa annual All City String Festival.

This year, high school students will be playing *Themes from Dvorak's American Quartet, Power Shift, and Trailblazer Fanfare*.

Students have been working on music for the String Festival two days per week, alternating with their chamber music unit days.

As listed above, All City String Festival is on April 19th and will again be at the Brookfield East Fieldhouse. High school students have two performances, 1:45pm and 3:30pm.

See you at one of the upcoming events.

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