

Course and Grading Information 2017-2018

for all Lower Merion HS ensemble music classes

Class	Teacher	Email
Concert Band (H) <i>(includes Percussion Ensemble)</i> <i>also Orchestra Wind Ensemble</i>	Mr. Datsko	datskoa@lmsd.org
Concert Choir (H) <i>(includes Chamber Choir)</i>	Mr. Hunnex	hunnexj@lmsd.org
Symphony Orchestra (H) <i>(includes Chamber Strings and</i> <i>Symphonic Strings)</i>	Mrs. Villante	villanj@lmsd.org

Grades in all ensemble classes are broken down into two categories:

- Musical Proficiency
- Program Responsibilities & Performance Attendance

Musical Proficiency

Musical Proficiency assessments measure growth in musicianship and technical ability. Musicianship refers to applied musical knowledge as it manifests itself in their ensemble skills. Technical ability refers to the skill with which they manipulate their instrument (including voice).

Musical Proficiency scores will be determined through regular performance evaluations each quarter, as well as other assessments (e.g. Mighty 100s). Assessment details will vary and are tailored to the needs of each class.

A written midterm and/or final exam may be given during the regular school exam period, but is unusual. Check with your teacher to find out if there is a midterm and/or final exam.

Program Responsibilities

Daily Participation - All students are expected to participate fully in ensemble rehearsals and activities every day. Students should model self-discipline, responsibility, and exhibit a positive attitude during classes and rehearsals.

Daily Preparation - All students should arrive prepared for class with the appropriate materials and all assignments completed. To be considered prepared for class, students must have their music, a pencil, and their instrument in good working order.

Class & Rehearsal Attendance - While class attendance is mandatory, absences can have a serious negative effect on the ensemble as a whole. Cutting class (in whole or in part) will have a negative effect on a student's grade. This also applies to rehearsals scheduled outside of class time.

Performance Attendance

All curricular ensemble members are required to attend all performances of their ensemble and a grade is attached to each performance. Performances are considered to be part of the class, and any absences are handled as if the student had missed a day of class. If a student is absent from a performance, one of two things will happen:

- excused absence - student will have the opportunity to complete an alternate assignment to make up the points from the performance.

- unexcused absence - students with an unexcused absence do not have the opportunity to make up the points from the performance.

In accordance with LMHS and Music Dept. policies regarding unexcused absences and making up missed work, missing a required performance without making up the work will result in a maximum grade of a "D" for the quarter.

Students must also come to required performances wearing appropriate concert dress. For curricular ensembles, there is a uniform concert dress that can be purchased through the music department. If available, lightly worn or like-new concert dress may be obtained at a discounted cost.

This year's required performances are listed on below. Any additional required performances will be announced to both students and parents with as much advance notice as possible.

Concert Choir

- **Concert Choir Backstage** - Thursday 10/19/2017, 7:00pm @ LMHS (*no concert attire required*)
- **Fall Concert (Part 1)** - Tuesday, 12/5/2017, 7:00pm @ LMHS
- **Music Department Open House** - Tuesday, 1/30/2018, 7:00pm @ LMHS (*no concert attire required*)
- **Spring Concert (Part 1)** - Tuesday, 5/8/2018, 7:00pm @ LMHS

Concert Band

- **Fall Concert (Part 1) (Perc. Ensemble only)** - Tuesday, 12/5/2017, 7:00pm @ LMHS
- **Fall Concert (Part 2)** - Thursday, 12/14/2017, 7:00pm @ LMHS
- **Music Department Open House** - Tuesday, 1/30/2018, 7:00pm @ LMHS (*no concert attire required*)
- **LM A Cappella Spring Concert (Perc. Ensemble only)** - Saturday, 5/5/2018, 7:00pm @ LMHS
- **Spring Concert (Part 1)** - Tuesday, 5/8/2018, 7:00pm @ LMHS

Symphony Orchestra

- **Fall Concert (Part 1) (Sax Quartet only)** - Tuesday, 12/5/2017, 7:00pm @ LMHS
- **Fall Concert (Part 2)** - Thursday, 12/14/2017, 7:00pm @ LMHS
- **Music Department Open House** - Tuesday, 1/30/2018, 7:00pm @ LMHS (*no concert attire required*)
- **Spring Concert Dress Rehearsal (Wind Ens. only)** - Thursday, 5/3/18, 6:00-8:00pm @ LMHS (*no concert dress*)
- **Spring Concert (Part 1) (Wind Ens. only)** - Tuesday, 5/8/2018, 7:00pm @ LMHS
- **Spring Concert (Part 2)** - Wednesday, 5/9/2018, 7:00pm @ LMHS
- **Senior Collage Concert (Cham. Strings & Wind Ens. only)** - Thursday, 5/17/2018, 7:00pm @ LMHS
- **LMHS Graduation** - Wednesday, 6/6/2018, 7:00pm @ Hagen Arena (St. Joe's)

EXTRACURRICULAR ENSEMBLES

Jazz Band - Mr. Neu, director (andrewneu@aol.com)

- **Fall Concert (Part 1)** - Tuesday, 12/5/2017, 7:00pm @ LMHS
- *Through the winter and spring Jazz Band performs at numerous festivals, most on Friday evenings.*
- **LM Jazz Festival** - Friday, 3/9/2018, 6:00pm @ LMHS
- **Spring Concert (Part 2)** - Wednesday, 5/9/2018, 7:00pm @ LMHS

LM A Cappella (Ace Harmony & Soulace) - Mr. Hunnex, director (hunnexj@lmsd.org)

- **Fall Concert (Part 2)** - Thursday, 12/14/2017, 7:00pm @ LMHS
- **LM A Cappella Winter Invitational** - Wednesday, 2/14/2018, 7:00pm @ LMHS
- **LM Jazz Festival** - Friday, 3/9/2018, 6:00pm @ LMHS
- **LM A Cappella Spring Concert** - Saturday, 5/5/2018, 7:00pm @ LMHS

Pep Band (Football Games) - Mr. Cooperstein, director (cooperj@lmsd.org)

- **LM vs. Springfield (Home)** - Friday, 9/1/2017, 10:00am @ Arnold Field LMHS
- **LM vs. Strath Haven (Home)** - Friday, 9/8/2017, 7:00pm @ Harriton HS
- **LM @ Conestoga (Away)** - Friday, 9/15/17, 7:00pm @ Conestoga HS
- **LM vs. Upper Darby (Home)** - Saturday, 9/23/2017, 1:00pm @ Arnold Field LMHS
- **LM @ Marple Newtown (Away)** - Thursday, 9/28/2017, 7:00pm @ Marple Newtown HS
- **LM @ Haverford (Away)** - Friday, 10/6/2017, 7:00pm @ Haverford HS
- **LM vs. Ridley (Home)** - Saturday, 10/14/2017, 1:00pm @ Arnold Field LMHS
- **LM @ Penncrest (Away)** - Friday, 10/20/2017, 7:00pm @ Penncrest HS
- **LM @ Harriton (Away)** - Friday, 10/27/2017, 7:00pm @ Harriton HS
- **Radnor Week Pep Rally** - Friday, 11/3/2017, 2:00pm @ LMHS Bryant Gymnasium (*during the school day*)

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Please sign this form and return it to your music teacher no later than

Friday, September 15, 2017

as an acknowledgement that you have been informed about and agree to abide by the course and grading policies outlined on the previous page.

Return ONLY this page. Keep the first page for your reference.

We look forward to another wonderful year of music at Lower Merion High School with our students!

Student Name (please print): _____

Class and Set: _____

Parent signature: _____

Student signature: _____