

Rushing Orchestra

December Update

Mark Wood Carol of the Bells

Since October, orchestra students across the district worked on learning Carol of the Bells. Students got to have a virtual clinic with Mark Wood in November. Mark is a Julliard-trained, Emmy award-winning electric violinist. He is a founding member of the Trans Siberian Orchestra and he invented the electric violin. He has performed with Lenny Kravitz, Celine Dion, Kanye West, and Billy Joel, among others.

Below is the Prosper ISD Orchestras performing Carol of the Bells with Mark Wood. Please enjoy!



[Prosper Carol of the Bells Fin...](#)

drive.google.com

All-District Orchestra Concert Videos

Below is the final video compilations of our All-District Orchestra. These students competed against all string students in Prosper ISD and earned a place in the 2nd annual All-District Orchestra. The students rehearsed and recorded their individual parts and we had them compiled to create a full ensemble. Congratulations to these students! Please enjoy!

Middle School - Gargoyles by Doug Spata

High School - Folk Song and Shanty by Richard Meyer



[Final Video Middle School.mov](#)

drive.google.com



[Final Video High School.mov](#)

drive.google.com

Thanksgiving Practice Sheet Winners



Maya Nieves - 1st Period

Practiced 242 minutes



Pierson Towns - 2nd Period

Practiced 220 minutes



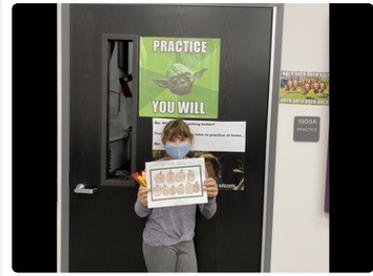
Rylee Bailey - 3rd Period

Practiced 804 minutes



Crisha Elvambuena - 5th Period

Practiced 3,445 minutes



Devyn Rose - 6th Period

Practiced 2,039 minutes



Patrick Corbett - 8th Period

Practiced 150 minutes

Winter Break Practice Challenge



Winter Practice Challenge Sheet.pdf

[Download](#)
1.3 MB

There is no required practice over Winter break, but there is an extra credit opportunity. If students practice the minimum amount listed on the practice sheet, they will get a free 100 and 3 stickers. There are several opportunities for prizes with the grand prize being a \$25 amazon gift card.

Students will need to write down the minutes they practice, color an animal for each day they practice, and then get a parent signature to be considered for a prize.

Orchestra Fee

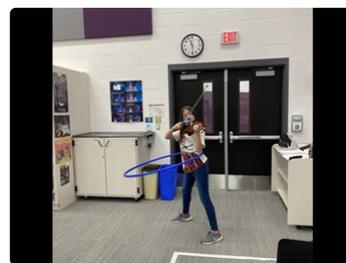
For those of you who have not paid the \$50 orchestra fee yet, you may [click here](#). This will take you to my school bucks. You may also pay via check, cash, or money order and bring that to the school for students to put in the dropbox by my office door. This \$50 fee includes the orchestra shirt, online subscription to smartmusic and breezin thru theory, and a clinician fee for the spring.

Beginner Orchestra Update



The beginners did a fantastic job at the winter concert playing with their bow. Right now, students are still perfecting posture and using their bow. They are learning playing in minor with F natural and working on perfecting eighth notes. This has been a struggle, so please encourage your beginners to practice their 8th note lines.

Students should be practicing 5 days a week, 20 minutes a day





Beginner Violins



*Beginner Violins and
Violas*



*Beginner Cellos and
Bass*

Philharmonic Orchestra Update



**Rushing Middle School
Philharmonic Orchestra
2020-2021**



Philharmonic did a great job at the winter concert! Since then, students have been working hard on vibrato, shifting, and advancing their reading skills in the green book. Students got to play a fun game of Play or Dare after the concert where they had to complete challenges while playing their music. Students also read and picked their UIL concert music. They will be playing: Burst! by Balmages, Medieval Kings by Newbold, and March of the Meistersingers by Wagner/Dackow.





Philharmonic Violins



*Philharmonic Violins
and Viola*



*Philharmonic Cellos
and Bass*

Chamber Orchestra Update



Eagleton



**Rushing Middle School
Chamber Orchestra
2020-2021**



The chamber orchestra did an amazing job at the winter concert. Since then, they have been sight-reading potential pieces for UIL. We have chosen three: Toccata by Frescobaldi, Ablaze by Bernotas, and Contrasts in e minor by Feese. UIL will be a virtual experience this year and we are still waiting on details for when the exact date will be.

Crisha Elvambuena was the Thanksgiving practice challenge winner with an astounding 3,445 minutes practiced.

These students are going to be playing some challenging literature next concert; I am very excited!



Chamber Violins



Chamber Violins and Viola



Chamber Cellos and Bass



Rushing Orchestra

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