



August, 2019

Dear Student and Parents,

The summer break is a great chance to relax, recuperate, and prepare for the upcoming year. For the music directors here at Delbarton School it is also a time to reflect on last year's performances, pick new repertoire for the fall, and get to know a whole new group of student musicians. It is exciting to think of the talented students who will be coming back in the fall, and endeavor to strike the right balance with fun and diverse music that will entertain, inspire, and challenge the performers, and our audiences as well. I hope everyone joins us in September feeling refreshed and also just as excited as I am to begin another great year of Delbarton music!

Again this year I have posted all the materials for music participation online. Please be sure to read all of the posted PDF files since each individual file will contain very different information including ensemble descriptions, music calendars, private lesson information, etc. I also ask you all to take a moment to think of others who would like to participate in the ensembles here at Delbarton. Students from other schools are welcome to take part in some of our ensembles, and for students passionate about the arts or have trouble scheduling music into their lives, the programs at Delbarton School are a great addition. You can send them an e-mail, forward them a link, tweet them, or whatever means you have of spreading the word about music at Delbarton.

In this document you will find a description of the Delbarton music program. We invite you to participate. It is important that all students (both new and returning) who plan to participate in ensembles and/or private lessons register using the online form provided through the Delbarton webpage, www.delbarton.org/music. Please complete this as soon as possible, as it helps us to better plan for the upcoming year. Complete online registrations by **Friday August 30th**.

We are blessed to have an exceptionally talented, friendly, and passionate group of professional musicians directing the ensembles here at Delbarton School. Feel free to approach them and learn all you can from them in and out of the rehearsal room. With our beautiful performing spaces, our talented faculty, and our exceptional group of student musicians the Delbarton School music program is an incredible experience from year to year.

As we look ahead to the fall I would ask both students and parents alike to mark their calendars with the dates of all the various concerts and rehearsals. Your directors and private teachers will give you additional information about the specifics for each ensemble, but core dates, events, and policies are crucial. I look forward to seeing everyone at the opening day picnic and hearing the first notes of the year ring out in the Fine Arts Center.

Sincerely,

Mr. David Blazier

For further information about any of our ensembles, the private lesson program, or any other questions contact Mr. Blazier by e-mail @ dblazier@delbarton.org (preferred) or by phone @ 973-538-3231 x3077

Delbarton School Performing Arts Department First Rehearsals and Picnic

You are invited to attend the **opening picnic** on Tuesday, September 3rd starting at 5:00 PM. All students and families wishing to take part in after school performing arts programs should attend this event. Parents are encouraged to come this evening to meet the faculty members, get important information, and ask questions.

The following ensembles will have their first rehearsal after the picnic on Tuesday night:

Wind Ensemble

Brass Ensemble

Woodwind Ensemble

Percussion Ensemble

Orchestral Musicians will meet with Ms. Davis and Ms. Tomblin in the Auditorium and hold auditions for seat placements that evening.

If you are new to the arts at Delbarton, attending this event is the way to initiate your involvement in the arts programs. If you are a returning member of the arts community, come to enjoy some good food, reconnect with old friends, and welcome some of our newest members.

Our afternoon will kick off with a picnic dinner at **5:00 pm** in the Senior Garden, adjacent to Old Main and the Fine Arts Center. (In the event of rain, we will move into the Fine Arts Center lobby.) After dinner, we will follow the following agenda:

6:15 PM: String players will proceed with Ms. Davis and Ms. Tomblin to the Fine Arts Center Auditorium for an abbreviated rehearsal and placement auditions.

Small Ensembles (Woodwind, Brass, Percussion) will proceed to their respective rehearsal spaces in the FAC. These *abbreviated* rehearsals will end at 6:45 PM.

6:45 PM: Performers in the Woodwind, Brass, and Percussion Ensembles will proceed to the large instrumental rehearsal room on the ground floor for the first rehearsal of the Wind Ensemble. This *abbreviated* rehearsal will end at 7:30 pm.

So come with your instrument and your appetites on the first day of school! We look forward to seeing all of you and starting a great year. Please do not hesitate to contact me in the Performing Arts Department at any time if you have questions:

dblazier@delbarton.org or (973)- 538-3231 x3077.

Requirements for Participation

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Delbarton Performing Ensembles

It is our desire that every student has a quality and positive musical experience at Delbarton. Performing in an ensemble is very much a team effort. The ensemble simply cannot be at its best without everyone present. It is not enough to merely know your own part. Being a musician involves knowing your part and how it interacts with everyone else. With this in mind, the Performing Arts Department has decided upon the following attendance requirements for participation in our ensembles:

There are four major concert “seasons” each year: Fall, Christmas, Winter and Spring. For the Fall, Winter and Spring concerts, students may miss no more than two rehearsals in preparation for each concert. (Typically there are eight or nine rehearsals in preparation for each concert.)

For the Christmas concert, no rehearsals may be missed. (Typically there are three rehearsals in preparation for the Christmas concert.)

In addition, students must attend *all* dress rehearsals and pre-concert warm-ups.

Please be conscious of these requirements when you schedule other commitments. Rehearsal and concert schedules are attached. You should place all rehearsals and concerts on your calendar as soon as possible so that conflicts can be avoided.

Unlike ensembles which rehearse daily, Delbarton Ensembles rehearse only once a week. That makes each rehearsal critical since missing a single rehearsal is the equivalent of missing a week’s worth of preparation.

Ensemble directors will supply students with additional details about concert dress, important dates, and expectations for behavior and rehearsal preparation.

The most important requirement for participation in the performing arts is a curious and enthusiastic spirit and the desire to work hard together towards a common goal!

** Players with regular sports conflicts should speak to their coach and ensemble director immediately to try and find an acceptable compromise.*

Notes to Students and their Parents

Schola Cantorum and Jazz Ensemble

Musicians who wish to perform with the **Schola Cantorum**, Delbarton's Men's Chorus, or the **Delbarton Jazz Ensemble** should refer to the attached information on first rehearsals. Announcements will also be posted in weekly newsletters and morning announcements regarding rehearsals and first meetings.

Participation Fee – (Non Delbarton School Students)

When you register for ensemble participation your contact information is submitted to the Delbarton School and St. Mary's Abbey Business Office. You can either submit a check during the month of September (preferred method), or as a courtesy our business office can generate a bill in the fall for the year's enrollment. When writing a check please include your son/daughter's full name in the memo line. Delbarton School students do not pay a participation fee for any ensembles.

The participation fee is a single flat price whether a student participates in one ensemble or several. Please take advantage of all we have to offer here at Delbarton School!

- The fee for many instrumental ensembles (Wind, Brass, Percussion, Woodwind, etc) is \$300 for the 2019 – 2020 school year which amounts to \$75 per concert cycle. If families have more than one student participating in ensembles additional student registrations will be at a reduced fee.
- The fee for orchestral ensembles is \$375.00 for the Young Abbey Orchestra and \$475.00 for the Abbey Orchestra for the 2019 – 2020 school year. This higher price for orchestral ensembles is to defer the significantly higher cost of running these programs.
- The music participation fee is non-refundable.

Other Responsibilities

Students are responsible for their folders and music. If materials are lost or otherwise need to be replaced it will be at the expense of the musician.

Scholarships and Financial Assistance

If you would like to be considered for financial assistance for ensemble participation or private lessons, please contact Mr. David Blazier directly. We have a small scholarship program and an arts booster organization that may be able to assist. All requests are kept confidential. We never want a student to pass up an opportunity in the arts because of financial impediments, and we make every effort to meet each family's needs.

Private Music Lessons

This is a *critical* part of any young musician's development. We **strongly** encourage each of our musicians to study with a private teacher to further the student's musical development, increase individual confidence, and experience the discipline necessary to achieve excellence in his art. This one-on-one mentoring relationship is an extremely important teaching tool to show a student what it means to be a musician.

Private instruction is available on all stringed, woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Piano, organ, guitar, and voice instruction is also available. Instruction takes place after 2:45 PM. Non-Delbarton students may also sign up for private lessons. A student cannot be excused from an ensemble rehearsal to attend a private lesson.

Tuition for private lessons is typically \$35 for 30 minutes, \$50 for 45 minutes and \$70 for 60 minutes. Some instructors have alternate rates which they will inform you prior to your first lesson. All billing is handled by the Delbarton School Business Office at the end of each month. Please see the previous page regarding requests for financial assistance.

Participation in Multiple Extracurricular Activities at Delbarton

Students are often concerned that participation in other extracurricular activities at Delbarton will interfere with participation in music. While this can be the case, the Performing Arts Department endeavors to keep conflicts between activities to a minimum. Many, many musicians at Delbarton also play on athletic teams, participate in academic clubs, act in school plays, write for the school newspaper, contribute to the yearbook, and are otherwise involved in multiple activities. What we ask of our musicians is that they respect the commitments they have made to their ensemble as they plan other activities, trips, appointments, etc. One of our goals is for students to learn to manage their time and develop the communication necessary as they face inevitable schedule challenges.

Starting a New Instrument?

Students who wish to begin to learn to sing or play a musical instrument while at Delbarton are enthusiastically encouraged to do so. Please contact Mr. Blazier.

Other Important Information

Virtually all musicians who choose to perform with the Wind Ensemble at Delbarton also perform with the small ensemble appropriate to their instruments and vice-versa. For example, trumpet players in the Wind Ensemble perform also with the Brass Ensemble and vice-versa. We strongly encourage this level of involvement since rehearsing with different ensembles broadens a student's musical experiences and helps him/her grow as a musician. Also, since small ensembles rehearse on Tuesday evenings, involvement in both the large and small ensembles is logistically simple.

String players who are unsure if they should play with the Abbey Orchestra or the Young Abbey Orchestra should attend the picnic and first *Abbey Orchestra* rehearsal on September 4, 2019. Ms. Davis and Ms. Tomblin will begin to determine proper placement at these times.

Students who wish to attend two or more overlapping rehearsals on this first day (e.g. Percussion Ensemble and Brass Ensemble) should speak with each of the ensemble directors during the picnic.

Please note that the schedule of rehearsals on this opening day is different from that which will be followed during the rest of the year for all groups. **Rehearsals for the rest of the school year will follow the schedules on the attached documents or provided by their ensemble director.**

During the year, student musicians at Delbarton who are not otherwise committed after school typically stay at school in the interim between the end of classes and the beginning of rehearsals. Most students use this time to practice or do homework. The Fine Arts Center lobby and picnic tables outside are common gathering spots and serve as a second home to many of these musicians. Food is also made available for purchase in the late afternoons by our dining service. This can be a convenient and inexpensive way to eat before an evening music rehearsal.

Performing Arts Ensembles

Delbarton School

2019 – 2020

Schola Cantorum

Director Mr. David Blazier (973)-538-3231 x 3077

The Men's Chorus at Delbarton School pursues an active concert schedule throughout the school year performing alone and with choirs from other schools. In addition to seasonal concerts, Schola Cantorum performs at school liturgies, and other campus events. The Schola Cantorum is intended to provide new singers all they need to discover their voice and grow in their ability as well as challenge and inspire our advanced singers. Repertoire for this ensemble includes sacred and secular music in a variety of styles, historical periods, and languages.

Open to Delbarton students in all grades

Get Involved Attend the opening kick-off picnic on September 3rd. The chorus will also host a reception to welcome new and returning members on Thursday, September 5th at 5:00 PM in the Choral Room, FAC Rm. 171. Students with limited or no singing experience who wish to join are encouraged to do so at the start of the year and should speak with Mr. Blazier during the opening picnic or at the first rehearsal. New members are welcome throughout the year, or during an "off-season" from another obligation.

Rehearsals Tuesdays 2:45 – 3:45 PM and Thursdays 5:30 – 7:00 PM, and occasional rehearsals during the school day in preparation for school masses.

The "Benedictones"

Director Mr. David Blazier (973)-538-3231 x 3077

This is a smaller auditioned vocal group focusing on a cappella vocal music from pop, jazz, rock, and barbershop influences. This ensemble is geared towards more experienced singers capable of reading music well and singing confidently without accompaniment. Students in this ensemble are also encouraged to study, write, and prepare arrangements in order to teach and direct them with the ensemble.

Open to Delbarton students in all grades, audition required.

Get Involved Look for announcements during the first two weeks of school for our first meeting and audition times.

Rehearsals Tuesdays 4:00 - 4:30 PM and Thursdays 7:00 – 8:00 PM in FAC Rm. 171. *(subject to change)*

Wind Ensemble

Director Mr. John DiEgidio, jdiegidio@delbarton.org, or *Contact:* Mr. Blazier (973)-538-3231 x3077

The Delbarton Wind Ensemble performs varied music from the Wind Band Repertoire. Selections are meant to challenge, educate, and inspire our musicians. This ensemble is a wonderful mix of Delbarton students, surrounding schools and musicians from the community. The ensemble presents four concerts throughout the year.

Open to Students in 7th grade and beyond. Musicians from surrounding schools and communities are encouraged to join!

Get Involved Come to the first rehearsal and picnic on September 3rd at 5:00 PM in the Senior Garden, adjacent to Old Main. Students with limited or no experience on their instruments who wish to join should speak with Mr. DiEgidio or Mr. Blazier at or before the Rehearsal/Picnic regarding placement in the ensemble.

Rehearsals Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:00 PM in FAC Rm. 065

Abbey Orchestra

Director Ms. Norma Davis, ndavis@delbarton.org, or *Contact:* Mr. David Blazier (973)-538-3231 x3077

The Abbey Orchestra numbers some seventy players including both Delbarton students and community musicians. The group performs works from all corners of the traditional orchestral repertoire at four concerts each year. This is a very unique ensemble because it draws from the talents of students, adults, and professional musicians to produce an exquisite concert each season performing film scores, movements from concertos and symphonies as well as complete symphonic masterworks.

Open to A placement audition is held for new members. Musicians from surrounding schools are encouraged to join!

Get Involved Come to the picnic on September 3rd at 5:00 PM in the Senior Garden and come to the first rehearsal in the Auditorium on 9/4. Further information on placement auditions available online at www.delbarton.org/music

Rehearsals Wednesdays 6:30 – 8:30 PM in the FAC Auditorium.

Young Abbey Orchestra

Director Ms. Samantha Tomblin stomblin@delbarton.org, or *Contact:* Mr. Blazier (973)-538-3231 x3077

The Young Abbey Orchestra is a non-auditioned ensemble catering to less experienced string players seeking a great ensemble playing experience. The repertoire for this ensemble challenges these developing musicians to read music at a higher level, count rhythms independently, and to sensitively follow a conductor. The group gives four concerts each year.

Open to Students in all grades

Get Involved Come to the picnic on September 3rd at 5:00 PM in the Senior Garden and the first rehearsal on Thursday 9/5. Speak with Ms. Tomblin and Ms. Davis to determine proper placement.

Rehearsals Thursdays 7:00 – 8:00 PM in the FAC Rm. 065

Jazz Ensemble

Director Mr. Nathan Eklund neklund@delbarton.org, or *Contact:* Mr. Blazier (973) 538-3231 ext3077

The Delbarton Jazz Ensemble is a traditional Big Band of approximately 16 pieces. This incomparable ensemble performs the works of Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Thad Jones and other great composers of jazz. Students will learn how to swing in this ensemble, and will also study the jazz theory and techniques to help them improvise.

Open to Delbarton students in all grades

Get Involved Attend the opening picnic on September 3rd and speak with Mr. Eklund. New students should speak to Mr. Eklund or Mr. Blazier during the picnic to get more information.

Rehearsals Wednesdays 5:30 - 7:30 PM in FAC Rm. 065. First Rehearsal is Wednesday, September 4th.

Percussion Ensemble

Director Ms. Celine Fitzpatrick, cfitzpatrick@delbarton.org or *Contact:* Mr. Blazier (973) 538-3231 ext3077

The Delbarton Percussion Ensemble numbers approximately 12 musicians who perform on a wide variety of percussion instruments. In addition to experienced percussionists, musicians who have played other instruments, especially the piano are welcome. This can be a great opportunity for students who have no musical experience if they are willing to take private percussion lessons. The Ensemble performs at the Instrumental Concerts throughout the year.

Open to Delbarton students in all grades

Get Involved Come to the first rehearsal and picnic on September 3rd at 5:00 PM in the Senior Garden. Students with limited or no experience who wish to join should speak with Ms. Fitzpatrick at or before the Rehearsal/Picnic regarding placement in the ensemble.

Rehearsals Mondays 5:30 – 7:30 PM in FAC Rm. 065

Woodwind Ensemble

Director Mr. John DiEgidio, jdiegidio@delbarton.org, or *Contact:* Mr. Blazier (973)-538-3231 x3077

The Delbarton Woodwind Ensemble performs various repertoire from the Woodwind Quintet, and Saxophone Quartet Repertoire.

Open to Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, and Saxophone students.

Get Involved Come to the first rehearsal and picnic on September 3rd at 5:00 PM in the Senior Garden. Students with limited or no experience on their instruments who wish to join should speak with Mr. DiEgidio at or before the first rehearsal regarding placement in the ensemble.

Rehearsals This group rehearses Wednesdays from 5:30 – 6:15 PM in FAC 167.

Brass Ensemble

Director Mr. Nathan Eklund, neklund@delbarton.org, or Contact Mr. Blazier (973)538-3231 x3077

The Delbarton Brass Ensemble consists of trumpet players, trombonists, tuba players and all other brass instrumentalists. The group performs a repertoire that ranges from the ancient to the modern, tackling the unique technical challenges of the brass instrument family, and bringing to life its majesty and beauty. This ensemble performs throughout the year.

Open to Students in all grades

Get Involved Come to the first rehearsal and picnic on September 3rd at 5:00 PM in the Senior Garden. Students with limited or no experience on their instruments who wish to join should speak with Mr. Eklund or Mr. Blazier at or before the Rehearsal/Picnic regarding placement in the ensemble.

Rehearsals Tuesdays 5:15 – 6:15 PM in FAC Rm. 065

“Arma Lucis” (Liturgical & Early Music Ensemble)

Director Mr. Chris Hatcher, chatcher@delbarton.org, or *Contact:* Mr. Blazier (973)-538-3231 x3077

This early music ensemble performs on several concerts throughout the year with music ranging from the 12th to the 16th century. This ensemble is also a great chance to work in a smaller chamber group and develop music reading skills and confidence holding a part. The ensemble will focus on performing chant and preparing sacred music for school masses and regular masses at St. Mary’s Abbey.

Open to Delbarton students in all grades

Get Involved Look for announcements during the first two weeks of school regarding an organizational meeting and rehearsals.

Rehearsals TBA

Rock Band

Director Mr. Dan Pieraccini and Mr. Rose; *Contact* DPieraccini@delbarton.org

This group meets afterschool throughout the school year and combines the talents of singers, pianists, guitarists, bassists, and other instrumentalists to learn rock music and prepare for performances at morning meetings, and the Delbarton coffeehouses.

Open to Delbarton students in all grades

Get Involved Look for announcements during the first few weeks of school regarding an organizational meeting and rehearsals.

Rehearsals TBA

Performing Arts Faculty

David Blazier, B.M. Ithaca College	Chair of the Performing Arts Department, AP Music Theory, 11 th Grade Music Theory, Class Piano, Schola Cantorum, Benedictones, Private voice and piano teacher
Matt Corica, B.A. George Washington University	7 th Grade Music, 11 th Grade Music, Class Piano, Drama Director
Rick Loebrenz, B.A. University of North Carolina	Technical Director
Dr. Rachel Carlson, B.A. Reed College, M.A. , Ph.D. University of Washington	One Act Festival Moderator
Greg Wyatt	One Act Festival Moderator
Norma Davis, B.M. Mason Gross School of the Arts, M.A. Steinhardt School, New York University	Abbey Orchestra Director, Private violin and viola teacher
John DiEgidio, B.M.E. Mason Gross School of the Arts, M.M. The Cali School of Music, Montclair State University	Wind Ensemble & Woodwind Ensemble Director, Private Clarinet & Saxophone Teacher

Nathan Eklund, B.M. William Patterson University, M.M. New Jersey City University	Wind, Jazz and Brass Ensembles, Private Brass instruction
Celine Fitzpatrick, B.M. William Patterson University	Percussion Ensemble, Private Percussion Teacher
Chris Hatcher, B.M. Southern Illinois University, M.M. Westminster Choir College	Arma Lucis Director, Piano Teacher, Accompanist
Dan Pieraccini	Rock Band Club
Sean Rose, B.A. Kean University	Rock Band Club
Samantha Tomblin, B.M. Mason Gross School of the Arts	Young Abbey Orchestra Director