

# Orchestra



**STEVENSON HIGH SCHOOL**  
DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS  
[www.d125.org/arts](http://www.d125.org/arts)



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[www.d125.org/arts/orchestra](http://www.d125.org/arts/orchestra)



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<https://vimeo.com/user84213691>



The Orchestra program focuses on the development of total musicianship and the building of community through the study, preparation and performance of varied, high-quality literature with an emphasis on an authentic understanding of the language and culture of music from around the world. Orchestra members have the opportunity to participate in a variety of curricular and non-curricular concerts throughout the school year both with their classes and with clubs that allow for smaller and more intimate performance goals.



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ADLAI E. STEVENSON HIGH SCHOOL  
**ORCHESTRA**  
PROGRAM



# Four-Year Orchestra Program

**Stevenson High School offers four levels of orchestra curriculum classes as described below.**

**Stevenson Orchestra** | *No audition required; Open to all grades*  
Stevenson Orchestra is the non-auditioned orchestra ensemble open to all incoming freshmen and transfer students. Students will develop performance techniques and comprehensive musical skills and concepts. This orchestra explores a variety of string orchestra music repertoire in smaller classes, combining to form one larger ensemble for our curricular concert events.

**Concert Orchestra** | *Director approval required; Open to grades 10-11-12 only*  
Concert Orchestra is open to grade levels 10 and above with director approval. Students must be able to demonstrate proficiency on all two-octave scales and sight reading. All students will be recommended after performing for the directors. Violin, viola, cello and bass players with previous orchestra experience are required to enroll in this ensemble. This orchestra explores a variety of string orchestra and chamber music repertoire.

**Symphonic Orchestra** | *Audition required; Open to all grades*  
Symphonic Orchestra is open to all grades by audition. Students must be able to demonstrate proficiency on all three-octave scales and sight reading. Repertoire includes chamber works, string orchestra and full orchestra from advanced and commonly performed works, focusing on music of the Baroque, Classical and early Romantic eras. This ensemble combines with members of the Advanced Symphonic Band for several concerts each year for performance of the full orchestra repertoire.

**Patriot Orchestra** | *Audition required; Open to grades 10-11-12 only*  
Patriot Orchestra is open to grades 10 and above by audition. Students must be able to demonstrate mastery of all three-octave scales and sight reading. Repertoire includes chamber works, string orchestra and full orchestra from advanced and common works for schools, focusing on music of the late Romantic era, mid-19th century and living composers. This ensemble combines with members of the Honor Band for several concerts each year for the performance of the full orchestra repertoire. Seniors may earn accelerated credit in this course.

**In addition, chamber ensembles, outreach activities and special cultural and social activities are developed to enhance the orchestras and enrich the orchestra members.**

# Private Lessons



Stevenson's music faculty believes that student musicians interested in getting the greatest possible enjoyment from their involvement in Stevenson music ensembles should supplement their classroom experience with private one-on-one lessons held in the school.

While student classroom experience at the high school level focuses on ensemble performance skills, as well as music theory and overall musicianship, involvement in a private lesson program provides additional assistance in further developing individual technique and solo performance skills.



## To learn more about private lessons:

Visit the Stevenson website at:  
[www.d125.org/arts/private-music-lessons](http://www.d125.org/arts/private-music-lessons)



Or visit the PREP website at:  
[www.d125.org/prep](http://www.d125.org/prep)



# Opportunities

## Auditions

Incoming freshman auditions are Monday, April 15, 2024, from 3:45 to 5:30 p.m. in the Orchestra Room (2200). The audition sign-up form can be found on the Stevenson Fine Arts webpage: [www.d125.org/arts/orchestra](http://www.d125.org/arts/orchestra).

## Freshman Welcome Orientation

Incoming freshman and transfer students participate in a one-day summer Strings Welcome Camp, on Monday, August 5, 2024. Camp times are 9 a.m. to noon and take place in the Orchestra Room (2200). There is no fee for the camp. All strings students are encouraged to attend.

## Travel

Orchestra students have the opportunity to travel on domestic and international tours on a rotating cycle. In the 2024-25 school year, students will have a Chicago experience, visiting sites, seeing performances by the Chicago Symphony and attending collegiate-level orchestral clinic sessions.

Past tours have included Italy, Sicily, Rome, Spain, Canada, Portugal, Poland, Czech Republic, Austria, Disney, Universal Studios and Switzerland.



## Co-Curricular Opportunities

- Pit Orchestra (requires director's approval)
- [Baroque Ensemble](#) (by audition only)
- [Strings Board](#) (student leadership club)