

**Rachel Malara - SMS Band, Music, Drama Director**

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**Miles Gilbert – SMS Orchestra, and Music Teacher**

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**Marie Williams - SMS Choir Director/ General Music Teacher/ Drama Director**

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### **Chamber Orchestra - Mr. Gilbert**

Chamber Orchestra is an enrichment group which prepares advanced string orchestra repertoire for performances in the school and greater community. This is a performance based, non-graded club that will challenge your string playing.

### **Rockestra - Mr. Gilbert**

All instruments are welcome to join. Rockestra learns and performs non-traditional styles of music (anything outside of the classical music world). Students create their own cover bands and learn and arrange songs by ear. This is a performance based, student-driven opportunity to learn new styles of music.

### **Advanced Choir – Mrs. Williams**

Advanced choir is an auditioned group that will meet on Wednesdays before school, from 7:35 – 8:10 AM. The group is open to EVERYONE who loves to sing. There is an interest meeting/ audition date of **Thursday, 12 September during WIN** in room 111. Please email Mrs. Williams with any questions [MWilliams@Somersschools.org](mailto:MWilliams@Somersschools.org)

### **Drama Club – Mrs. Williams / Mrs. Malara / Mrs. Racioppo / Mrs. Astrologo / Mrs. Bieber**

Drama club is open to all students! Drama Club is for students interested in learning about the aspects of musical theater. This includes stage terminology, acting skills, singing and movement which culminates in a Spring production. Our first interest meeting will take place on **Tuesday 24 September**, and auditions will be held during the first week of November. All meetings take place after school in the auditorium. This year rehearsals will start in December. Students should expect to rehearse 1-4 times per week, depending on their role. Please email Mrs. Williams with any questions [MWilliams@Somersschools.org](mailto:MWilliams@Somersschools.org)

### **Bell Choir - Mrs. Malara**

Love to sing?! The Bell Choir is open to all SMS students who are interested in joining. Our purpose is to spread holiday cheer throughout our school and community and even go on a bell choir tour! We sing while playing mostly holiday carols on the hand bells. The bells are very easy to learn and lots of fun! Tuesday mornings at 7:35am. November 14-December 19

### **Fife and Drum - Mrs. Malara**

Fife and Drum consists of middle and high school percussionists and fife players.

Please note that the percussion section fills up quickly, but we are always accepting

fife players!! The fife is like the recorder and the flute, is simple to learn, and is a lot of fun! We will prepare traditional and patriotic music for the Somers town Veterans Day parade, Memorial Day parade, and other events throughout the year. Tuesday mornings at 7:35am. September-November AND April-May

### **Jazz Band - Mrs. Malara**

Jazz Band consists of wind/brass instruments, keyboard, guitar, bass (electric or upright), and percussion. We will prepare grade-appropriate jazz music to be performed at the winter and spring concert, along with a few other school events. All instrumentalists in good standing with the performance ensembles at SMS are encouraged to join. This is a performance based, non-graded class that includes the learning of jazz history, style, and improvisation. Tuesday mornings before school at 7:35a. January 9-May 14.

### **NYSSMA (New York State School Music Association) Prep**

At solo festivals, students are given a performance evaluation that involves playing a graded solo from the NYSSMA Manual, playing scales and sight reading. All NYSSMA registration is done through the student's school music program. Please look for more information in January.

Meetings are by appointment either before school or during lunch periods, January – April.

**Mr. Gilbert – String Instruments**

**Mrs. Malara – Band Instruments**

**Mrs. Williams – Voice and Piano**

### **All-County Prep - Mrs. Malara, Mr. Gilbert, and Mrs. Williams**

The All-County festival is a concert comprised of students from all districts in Westchester County. Every fall, WCSMA (Westchester County School Music Association) asks teachers to nominate exemplary students from their building to take part in this experience. Students will attend two after school rehearsals, and then a final performance.