



INSTRUMENTAL

Instrumental Music

The Instrumental Music program provides students with the opportunity to develop their musical skills, creativity, and appreciation for music through performance and study. Students engage in both individual and ensemble experiences that strengthen technical ability, artistic expression, and collaboration.

Location: Rosa L. Parks School of Performing Arts

Courses

Applied Woodwinds Brass and Percussion I

This yearlong course is designed for high school students seeking to deepen their proficiency on woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments through a comprehensive and performance-based approach. Students will build technical skills, explore a variety of ensemble literature, and develop musical expression through full ensemble and chamber music experiences. The curriculum integrates fundamental music theory, historical context, and reflective practices to support well-rounded musicianship. Students will engage in rehearsals, performances, and individual practice routines while exploring potential careers in music, including education, performance, and production. Emphasis is placed on collaboration, discipline, and the development of artistic voice. The course aligns with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Music Ensembles and culminates in public performances and a student portfolio. Students will also develop sight-reading capability, technical and performing skills, and knowledge of repertoire. They will begin to solidify a repertoire of selections derived from the standard band literature for use in auditions and performance, stressing artistic interpretation. technical proficiency and interpretation.

Applied Woodwinds Brass and Percussion II

This yearlong course is designed for high school students who wish to advance their skills on woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments through a comprehensive, performance-centered program. Students will strengthen their technical abilities, expand their knowledge of ensemble repertoire, and refine their musical expression through both full ensemble and chamber music experiences. The curriculum integrates music theory, historical context, and reflective practices to foster well-rounded musicianship. Students will participate in rehearsals, performances, and structured practice routines while also exploring career pathways in music such as education, performance, and production. Emphasis is placed on collaboration, discipline, and the development of each student's unique artistic voice. In addition, students will improve their sight-reading skills, broaden their repertoire, and focus on artistic interpretation and technical proficiency. By the end of the course, students will have prepared a portfolio of performance experiences and repertoire selections from standard band literature, supporting audition readiness and showcasing their growth as musicians.

Applied Woodwinds Brass and Percussion III

This yearlong course is designed for high school students interested in advancing their skills on woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments through a performance-focused program. Students will develop technical proficiency, strengthen sight-reading, and explore a wide range of ensemble literature through both large and small group settings. The curriculum blends music theory, historical context, and reflective practice to support well-rounded musicianship. Students will engage in regular rehearsals, public performances, and independent practice while preparing a portfolio of standard band repertoire to use for auditions and future opportunities. Collaboration, discipline, and artistic interpretation are emphasized, as students refine their unique musical voice and gain insight into potential career pathways in music, including education, performance, and production.

Applied Woodwinds Brass and Percussion IV

This yearlong course is intended for high school students seeking to advance their proficiency on woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments through a rigorous, performance-based curriculum. Instruction emphasizes the development of technical facility, sight-reading skills, and interpretive ability while engaging students in both large ensemble and chamber music settings. The curriculum integrates core components of music theory, historical and stylistic analysis, and reflective practice to promote comprehensive musicianship. Students will participate in structured rehearsals, formal

performances, and independent practice routines, culminating in the preparation of a repertoire portfolio representative of standard band literature. Through sustained study, students will strengthen artistic expression, ensemble collaboration, and professional discipline. The course also introduces pathways in music-related fields, including education, performance, and production, while aligning with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Music Ensembles.

Symphonic Band I-IV

Students continue to work in the sequence of band courses, which range from basic knowledge of theory and instruments to advanced study in band literature from early music genres to contemporary compositions. Students will also develop sight-reading capability, technical and performing skills, and knowledge of band works from early composers to the contemporary masters. They will begin to solidify a repertoire of selections derived from the standard band literature for use in auditions and performance, stressing artistic interpretation, technical proficiency and interpretation. This course provides students with instruction in the application of musicianship and technical skills through the study of varied band literature. The course content includes the following: interpreting difficult music; developing independent musicianship, tone production and performance techniques; analyzing form, style, and history in the performance preparation of varied band literature; and formulating critical listening skills and aesthetic values. It also includes conducting. Attendance is required for rehearsals and performances beyond regular school hours. Students will be able to:

- Perform 1st, 2nd and 3rd parts of advanced literature;
- Perform selections from standard solo instrumental repertoire appropriate for college auditions and recital performance;
- Demonstrate sight-reading skills.

Skills Developed

- Technical proficiency on an instrument
- Ensemble collaboration and leadership
- Sight-reading and ear training
- Performance confidence and stage presence
- Discipline, practice habits, and time management

Careers & College Pathways

Graduates of an instrumental program may pursue further studies or careers in:

- *Performance (solo, ensemble, or orchestral)*
- *Music education and conducting*
- *Music composition and arranging*
- *Sound engineering and music production*
- *Arts administration and music therapy*