

Laing Orchestra



We are pleased to offer string orchestra classes in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. This is a full year course that develops each student's skills on violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Other skills that are developed through the program include discipline, responsibility, teamwork, and general musicianship. We are building something great, and we want YOU to be a part of the music and fun!

Did you know?:

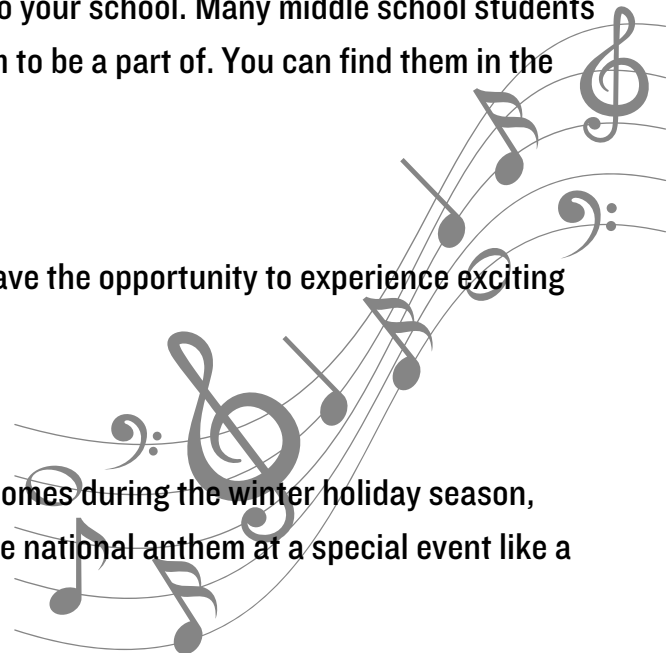
- Orchestra class meets every day in middle school for 45 minutes. We are able to learn so much great music! Fiddling, classical, rock, pop, and more! We even have electric instruments.
- When signing up for classes, students can still take several other electives. For example, students can take Orchestra along other subjects like Chorus, Art, P.E., Pre-Engineering, Drama, Spanish, Marine Science, and more. Check with the guidance department for more details.
- You can sign up for Orchestra with little or no experience. Some of our students started in the 5th grade, but we accept beginners or students who want to rejoin even if they have less than one year experience.
- Students can also change instruments if they started on a different one.
- School cello, basses, and music stands are available to use during class so that students do not have to carry the large instruments or music stands from home. Violin/Viola students bring their instruments to school and have a locker to store it during the school day. All students usually rent instruments from a local store. Information will be sent home the first week.
- Being in string orchestra provides a great social connection to your school. Many middle school students are looking for a group of friends and a strong support system to be a part of. You can find them in the orchestra!

Concerts and Trips:

We will host a winter and spring concert at Laing! Students also have the opportunity to experience exciting trips to Carowinds Amusement Park and Orlando, Florida!

Possible Community Involvement:

Previous community events have included caroling at retirement homes during the winter holiday season, performing at local stores/shops like Barnes and Noble, playing the national anthem at a special event like a River Dogs game, a Stingrays' game or other sporting event.



Meet The Director

Margaret Selby is the orchestra director and 2020-21 Teacher of the Year at Laing Middle School, where she grew the program from 42 to over 200 students in five years. Mrs. Selby's orchestras have participated in SCMEA Concert Performance Assessment and other festivals in the southeast, earning superior ratings.

Mrs. Selby was the 2022 Featured Clinician for the Orchestra Division of the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA), is a coauthor of the Habits of a Successful Young String Musician, a beginner method book (GIA), and is a contributing author of Rehearsing the Middle School Orchestra, published by Meredith Music and distributed by GIA.



She has been a guest conductor for the Interlochen Arts Camp, All-State Orchestras in Florida and West Virginia, and multiple regional orchestras in Texas and across the Southeast.

Ms. Selby has presented sessions for the 2022 Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, multiple national ASTA conferences, and state music educator conferences in Ohio, New Mexico, Georgia, and South Carolina. She has adjudicated orchestras in Las Vegas and South Carolina, and will be a clinician at the 2024 Ohio State String Teacher Workshop. She served as the President for the SCMEA Orchestra Division and is currently the SCMEA Orchestra Division Region 4 Representative. Mrs. Selby is the 2017-18 String Educator of the Year awarded by Southern String Supply.

Mrs. Selby lives in Mount Pleasant, SC with her husband and has two great kids. She enjoys running and sampling Charleston's many amazing restaurants.

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HOW DO I SIGN UP?

It's easy! Head over to www.laingorchestra.org or
Scan the QR code to the left to complete this form online

Student's name: _____ Current school: _____

Parent name (please print clearly): _____

Parent email (please print clearly): _____

Phone: _____ Address: _____

Which Instrument? (please circle one)

violin viola cello bass undecided

Circle one: Beginning Student Continuing Student

Please email, mail, or fax this form to: Laing Middle School Orchestra, Margaret Selby, Director
2705 Bulrush Basket Lane, Mount Pleasant, SC 29466

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