Sinfonietta Orchestra
7th Period, 2026-27
Instructional Plan

8/10/2026

Contact Information

Teacher Name: Robert Colley
Email: robert.colley@midlandisd.net
Phone: 432-240-8765

Sinfonietta Orchestra

The Sinfonietta orchestra is a beginner-intermediate orchestra, generally with students with 1-3 years of experience. This class is a stepping stone for many students before they make it into the more advanced orchestras. We build on our fundamentals and strive to be successful. This success is driven by you as the student to keep a high level of professionalism and expertise in orchestra. The Symphony orchestra consistently aims to push our personal understanding and skill in orchestra.

Moreover, the students will champion all other students by encouraging and setting the example of what it means to be in the Sinfonietta Orchestra both inside and outside of the classroom.

Expectations for being in the Sinfonietta Orchestra

Being a member of the Sinfonietta orchestra all members need to exemplify what it means to be a member of the orchestra. We share a commitment to excellence and comradery to push the boundaries of our knowledge, skills, and musicianship to have better performances on and off the stage.

Shared principles:

- **Be Respectful** - We must respect our peers, teachers, ourselves, our equipment and our instruments. Treat everyone with kindness and consideration, especially when they are making mistakes or learning something new.
- **Be Prepared** - Come to class with your instrument, materials, and the right mindset to have a successful rehearsal. Practicing is essential for our success and being prepared for our rehearsals and performances.
- **Be Disciplined** - Good Musicianship is routed in successful daily routines and effort. Always strive for improvement everyday, no matter how small it may be. Discipline will help you stay consistent especially when you don't feel like practicing.
- **Be a Team Player** - We succeed together and we fail together. Support your section, listen actively, and offer encouragement to your peers
- **Take Ownership** - Students are responsible for their own progress, preparation, and behavior. We all must take ownership of our mistakes rather than making excuses. Apologizing and fixing behavior without being forced and helping our peers who are struggling.

Sinfonietta Orchestra
7th Period, 2026-27
Instructional Plan

8/10/2026

COURSE DESCRIPTION

We will have weekly rehearsals covering technique, musical nuances, and collaborating to create the best music performances we can. We will be working together to achieve the goals determined by the director as well as a class as a whole.

COURSE ACTIVITIES (What we will be doing)

Below you will find descriptions of the most common activities that students will participate in during the course of each semester.

Throughout the year, students will:

- Practicing at home Daily
- 2-3 Rehearsals per week
- Multiple Performances/Concerts throughout the year
- Before or After school rehearsals
- Chair tests

GRADES - Click here for → YWLA Grading Policy

Major (Chair Tests, Concerts)	60%
Minor (Participation in rehearsals)	40%

Classroom Resources (examples below)

- Musictheory.net
- Youtube
    - Tonebase Violin/violin/cello
    - Discover Double Bass
    - ViolinClass - Julia Bushkova
    - Bayla Keyes

Concert Dates (Major Grades)

October 17th- All City Auditions
October 20th - Fall Concert
November 12th - 14th - All City Clinic and Concert
Dec 8th - Christmas Concert
January 22nd and 23rd - All Region Concert in San Angelo
February 15th - Pre-UIL Concert
March 2nd - UIL @ Bonham MS
April 1st - String Fling
May 13th - Orchestra and Guitar Combined Spring Concert

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. We are excited to work together to make this a successful year of learning!