Sinaloa Middle School
2026-2027
Music Department

Teacher's Name: Isaac Arias

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Music education plays a crucial role in a well-rounded education, offering invaluable benefits like building self-confidence and discipline. It also provides exceptional opportunities for self-expression and creativity. We offer a range of musical opportunities for students of all interests and experience levels. Our program includes:

- **Choir (Vocal Ensemble)**: Open to any student who enjoys singing or wants to learn.
- **Beginning Band**: Designed for those who are new to playing an instrument and reading music.
- **Entertainment Ensemble** (formerly Concert Band): For students with one or more years of music reading experience.
- **Jazz Band**: Perfect for those eager to explore a new musical style and performance technique.
- **Middle School Drumline**: We proudly introduce the only middle school drumline in Simi USD.

Course Standards and Objectives

Throughout the year, students will engage with various musical genres and work towards the following objectives:

- **Identify Music Notation**: Discuss common music notation and its application in a piece of music.
- **Instrument Mastery**: Develop a deeper understanding of their instrument's nuances.
- **Collaborative Performance**: Work as a team, combining individual skills in performance.
- **Musicianship Skills**: Enhance abilities in aural perception and sight-singing/reading.
- **Constructive Criticism**: Offer and accept feedback constructively.

Class Expectations

1. **Respect**: Show respect for the teacher, yourself, and your peers at all times.
2. **Practice**: Practice your music at home AT LEAST twice a week; more practice is encouraged.
3. **Come to class prepared**:
    a. Instrumentalists: Your instrument, accessories, pencil, and music
    b. Vocalists: Water bottle (recommended but not required)
    c. A positive attitude, ready to make and correct mistakes
4. **Respect for School Property**: Music equipment is expensive and should always be treated with care. Please do not write on whiteboards, walls, music stands, drum heads, or other classroom surfaces. Never touch or play an instrument that does not belong to you unless you have permission. Before leaving, clean up your area and return all materials to their proper place. Take pride in our classroom.
5. **Following Directions**
6. **Questions**: Ask questions— if you're wondering about something, others likely are too.
7. **Kindness**: Be kind to everyone

Class Rules

1. **NO food and drink**: No food or gum allowed, and no beverages except water can be consumed while playing an instrument. Food and drinks can damage instruments and are a choking hazard. ***Violations will result in after-school detention and a professional cleaning fee ($85-$150).***
2. **NO disruptions to the learning environment**: Actions that disrupt teaching or learning will not be tolerated and will result in:
    a. Warning
    b. Loss of class points for the day
    c. Lunch detention
    d. After-school detention
    e. Contact with home
3. **NO talking during rehearsal**: Raise your hand if you have a question.
4. **NO cell phones**: Phones should be off and out of sight unless used with permission (Bandmate App/Chromatic Tuner App). Phones will be sent to the front office if used without permission.
5. **NO working on other classwork**: Do not work on other assignments or personal tasks during class.

Grading Policy

- **Performances** (50%): All performances are mandatory. Absences must be reported in advance and may be excused for family or medical emergencies, or religious commitments. Unexcused absences will result in an "F" for the semester.
- **Class Assignments** (15%): Completed in class; unfinished work becomes homework.
- **Playing/Singing Tests** (15%): Students will receive a one-week notice before any performance tests.
- **Daily Participation** (20%): Earned daily by staying on task and adhering to class rules/expectations.

Late work is always accepted for full credit until the end of the semester.

Pictures/Videos for Social Media

Pictures and videos will be taken at all performances to promote the music department. If you would not like pictures or videos taken of your child, please email me at isaac.arias@simivalleyusd.org.

Uniform

As performers, we must look as professional as we sound. Orders for uniforms will be placed by the school. Please do NOT send uniform payment at this time. Payment will be collected once the order arrives. For your convenience, uniforms can be paid for in installments. If affordability is a concern, please let me know, and I will ensure you receive a uniform.

Entertainment Ensemble	**Vocal Ensemble**	**Beginning Band**
Option 1: White Tuxedo Shirt* ($20) Black DRESS pants Black DRESS shoes LONG black socks *Option 2:* Black Choir Dress* ($77) Black DRESS shoes	*Option 1:* Black Choir Dress* ($77) Black DRESS shoes *Option 2:* Black Tuxedo Shirt* ($20) Black DRESS pants Black DRESS shoes LONG black socks	Beginning Band T-shirt* ($10) Black or Blue Jeans

Items marked with an asterisk (*) are purchased through the school. For remaining items, please look into "hand-me-downs", Goodwill, Ross, Marshalls, etc. Most students will outgrow their uniform by next year so please do not overspend on clothes they will only use a handful of times.

Performances

The Sinaloa Music Department participates in a range of events throughout the year, and attendance at all performances is **MANDATORY**. If a student is unable to attend a performance, please inform me in advance. Performances marked with an asterisk (*) take place during school hours. All other events are scheduled for the evening, and you will receive additional details as the dates approach.

Entertainment Ensemble	Jazz Band	Vocal Ensemble	Beginning Band
Royal Middle School Football Night Friday, October 23rd **Sinaloa Home Basketball Games** October 5, 6, 7, 8 **Winter Concert** Monday, December 14th **SVUSD Band Festival** Wednesday, March 10 **Renaissance Rally** TBA* **Spring Concert** May TBA	**Winter Concert** Wednesday, December 9th @Royal HS **Renaissance Rally** Spring Semester TBA* **Jazz Madness** April/May 2027 TBA **Spring Concert** May TBA	**Simi Community Christmas Concert** Friday, December 4th **Strathearn Park Holiday Open House** Sunday, December TBA **Winter Concert** Monday, December 7th **SVUSD Choir Festival** Friday, March 12th* **Spring Concert** May TBA	**Winter Concert** Monday, December 14th **Spring Concert** May TBA

(Please sign and return this signature page. Keep the rest for your record)

FOR THE STUDENT

I have reviewed and understand the Music Department's rules, expectations, and grading policy. I have discussed these details with my parents. I acknowledge the importance of practicing my music at home weekly and attending all scheduled events. If I have any questions, I know I can email Mr. Arias at isaac.arias@simivalleyusd.org.

Student Name (Print) _____

Student Name (signature)_____

Date_____

FOR THE PARENT/GUARDIAN

As a parent/guardian, I have reviewed and understand the Music Department's rules, expectations, and grading policy. I acknowledge that my child is responsible for attending all events and practicing their music at home on a weekly basis. If I have any questions, I know I can contact Mr. Arias at isaac.arias@simivalleyusd.org.

Parent/Guardian Name (Print) _____

Parent/Guardian Name (signature)_____

Date_____

SINALOA MIDDLE SCHOOL—MUSIC DEPARTMENT

INSTRUMENT RENTAL & POLICY AGREEMENT

Type of Instrument:_____

Instrument Case Number:_____

Period/Block:_____

STUDENT NAME_____

LAST name **FIRST name**

We are pleased to provide your child with a school-owned musical instrument for the 2026-2027 academic year. To assist with end-of-year maintenance and any potential repairs, we kindly ask for a suggested contribution of $40.00 for each instrument borrowed.

Repairs required from normal wear and tear will be performed at no additional cost. However, repairs required due to damage beyond ordinary wear and tear, or due to negligence, will be the financial responsibility of the parent/guardian. Should repair costs exceed the $40.00 contribution, any additional expenses will be incurred by the parent or guardian. <u>All repairs must be conducted by the designated teacher or our appointed repair technician.</u> Unauthorized individuals are prohibited from attempting repairs. Please report any damage immediately to ensure prompt repair. Below you will find an estimated cost of replacing an instrument due to negligence.

Instrument Name	Estimated Cost to Buy NEW
Flute	$900
Clarinet	$1,200
Oboe	$3,900
Bassoon	$5,000
Alto Saxophone	$2,350
Tenor Saxophone	$3,200
Bari Saxophone	$4,400

Instrument Name	Estimated Cost to Buy NEW
Trumpet	$1,550
French Horn	$3,700
Trombone	$1,570
Baritone/Euphonium	$2,400
Tuba	$4,700
Electric Bass	$350
Percussion Kit	$400

Agreement Terms:

Care and Responsibility: I acknowledge and agree that it is my responsibility to ensure that my child properly cares for the instrument, its case, any accompanying accessories. Proper maintenance is crucial to avoid unnecessary damage.

Parent INITIAL _____

Instrument Return Due to Repeated Negligence: In the event that the student demonstrates repeated negligence or misuse of the instrument, as determined by the teacher or school administration, the instrument must be returned to the school. The parent or guardian will then be required to obtain a rental instrument through an external music store for the remainder of the academic year.

Parent INITIAL_____

Financial Liability: I understand that I am fully responsible for any loss of, or damage to, the instrument, its case, and its accessories, whether the instrument is at home, at school, during transportation to or from school, or at any time while in my child's possession.

Parent INITIAL_____

Return of Instrument: I agree to return the instrument, along with its case and accessories, to the school office or to Room M-6 at the end of the school year or upon request by the teacher.

Parent INITIAL_____

By signing this Instrument Rental & Policy Agreement, I confirm my understanding and acceptance of the terms outlined above.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

_____ I am <u>able</u> to donate, the donation is attached.

_____ I am <u>unable</u> to donate at this time, but can donate at a later date

_____ I am <u>unable</u> to donate

(Cash or Check. Donation checks should be made payable to Sinaloa Middle School)