



# Aylen Orchestra

Todd Giltner - Director

101 - 15th St. SW

Puyallup, WA 98371

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## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Orchestra is a select, performance oriented group, designed to provide instruction in string instrument skills for musical preparation and performance at the high school level. Emphasis will be placed on the fundamentals of music, listening, and the performance of quality literature.

## COURSE GOALS

By the completion of Junior High, the student will be:

1. Able to play with vibrato.
2. Able to play simple parts in upper positions (violins and violas: III and V; cellos: through IV; basses: 1/2 through IV).
3. Able to play appropriate junior high literature with orchestral ensemble concepts.
4. Able to follow appropriate conductor gestures.
5. Exposed to different styles and periods of music and be able to play appropriately.
6. Able to use different kinds of bowings to achieve orchestral phrasing, dynamics, style and coloring.

## UNIFORM:

In an effort to promote unity and ESPRIT DE CORPS in the orchestra, each student is asked to wear a white, long-sleeved dress shirt or blouse (with a collar), black slacks (NOT JEANS) or skirt (below the knee), black socks and black shoes (not tennis shoes) at all performances. Boys must wear a tie.

## ATTENDANCE AND GRADING POLICY

Your final grade will be determined by your record of prompt attendance at rehearsals and your demonstration of musical proficiency and a professional attitude. All members of the ensemble begin the semester with an "A". That grade is lowered only when he/she fails to fulfill requirements or exhibits a poor attitude by demonstrating poor effort. You must expect some individual playing in front of the class from time to time during the term. If you and the group are to grow musically you must exercise your ability to the maximum at each and every rehearsal. Observable behavior indicates your input to the group. You are expected to:

1. maintain exemplary attendance (ten or more absences in any semester may lower your semester grade in orchestra.)
2. arrive on time to your assigned seat, with all needed equipment, prepared to rehearse.
3. participate in every rehearsal in a cooperative way.
  - accept part and solo assignments graciously.
  - be attentive during rehearsal.
  - avoid distracting behavior during rehearsals.
  - keep noise to an appropriate level.
  - refrain from eating, drinking, and chewing gum during rehearsal.
  - cooperate with section leaders.
4. learn your assigned music as quickly as possible.
5. practice! Class time is for rehearsal; practice is expected on your own time.
6. attend all performances.
7. attend all extra rehearsals.
8. treat each other, all music, materials, instruments, facilities, and all properties with consideration and respect. Do not play or touch another person's instrument, including percussion instruments. Loss or damage of music and/or school equipment will result in an appropriate fine. Negative comments about or to another person will not be tolerated

If you consistently adhere to the above and participate in the ensemble program, you may expect an "A" or "B" grade.

Continuous violation of the class rules will result in suspension or expulsion from the class. Any major disruptions will result in immediate suspension from the class and referral to the Vice-Principal.

## SECTIONALS:

Sectionals will be called as needed, at the discretion of the conductor or the section leaders. Your grade will be lowered one-half grade for any scheduled sectional rehearsal that you miss. Sectionals missed for excused absences may be made up by special arrangement with Mr. Giltner.

## PERFORMANCES:

Attached is a copy of this year's performance schedule. Performance is an integral part of the music learning experience and provides an opportunity to display achievement. It is the responsibility of the orchestra member to attend all scheduled performances. Excused absences may be accepted only under unusual circumstances. Requests for excused absences must be made a minimum of three weeks in advance. This lead time is vital due to performance demands. Excuses will not be granted for social purposes. In case of an emergency, the director must be notified immediately (school phone number: 841-8723, home phone number: 841-3760). The student's grade will be lowered a maximum of two levels for any unexcused absence from a performance. SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY also states "students must attend all classes on the day of a performance or concert. Attendance in all classes the following day is also expected. Any exceptions to the above (including doctor and dentist appointments) must be cleared with Mr. Mensonides and the director in advance, or the student will not be allowed to perform." This is the student's responsibility.

Additional opportunities also exist for involvement in ensembles and solos. All students are encouraged to develop qualities of responsibility, leadership, and involvement. Experience has shown that students with high ambition and a strong work ethic prove to be the moving force in music. I look forward to an exciting and rewarding year in orchestra. If you have any questions feel free to call me either at school or at home. Thanks for your support.

Todd Giltner  
Orchestra Director

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE ATTACHED SLIPS BY SEPTEMBER 5, 2014.

PLEASE KEEP THESE POLICIES AND SCHEDULES FOR FUTURE REFERENCE DURING THE YEAR.

## ORCHESTRA CALENDAR 2014/2015

Tue.	Oct. 28	Aylen	Fall Concert
Thu.	Dec. 11	Aylen	Holiday Concert
Fri.	Dec. 12		Elementry Tour
Tue.	Feb. 24	PHS Gym	Regional Concert
Sat.	Mar. 7	Kalles	Jr. High Instrumental Solo/Ensemble Contest
Tue.	Mar. 17	Aylen	Winter Concert
Wed.	Mar. 18	PHS	SPSL Orchestra Festival
Fri.	Mar. 27	Olympia	Evergreen Orch. Fest
Tue.	June 9	Aylen	Spring Concert

SCHOOL CONCERTS BEGIN AT 7:00 PM

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN IMMEDIATELY

I have read and understand the attached expectations for Aylen Orchestra which includes the Puyallup School District Procedure regarding attendance at out-of-school performances.

I, as a member of the orchestra, knowing that all successful and enjoyable performance groups need policies and guidelines do hereby make my personal commitment to accept and fulfill the responsibilities and expectations as mentioned in the attached attendance and grading policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Student's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Parent's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

COMMENTS:

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## Field Trip Permission Form

Transportation to and from music performances off campus is regularly scheduled by school bus or van. Occasionally, situations might arise where transportation by private vehicle and driver will be necessary.

Your signature below indicates approval for your son/daughter to travel with the Aylen Orchestra as described above. It also authorizes school personnel to apply all necessary emergency first aid and seek a doctor's care if so warranted.

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

The following special health concerns should be noted:

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