

MS Symphonic Band

Course Description:

Symphonic Band is designed to reinforce the rehearsal and performance requirements of a Middle School Band to incoming students. It is open to 8th Grade students who have successfully completed the technical and lyrical material comparable in difficulty to a 2nd year band method book. Emphasis is placed on developing and refining basic musical skills and the techniques required for advancement to a High School Band. Participation in concerts will be required.

Standards and Benchmarks:

ACS numbers correspond to Alaska Content Standards for the Arts

The student will demonstrate technical skills on his/her instrument appropriate to experience level.

Standard 1 (ACS: A1-A5)

The student will:

- ♪ 1.1 Play major and minor scales in the concert keys of C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb, B, E, A, D, G and a chromatic Scale
- ♪ 1.2 Play exercises and band literature in the keys of Concert Bb, Eb, F, Ab, Db, C, G and D
- ♪ 1.3 Articulate cleanly while playing sixteenth note patterns at a tempo of quarter note = 80
- ♪ 1.4 Play technical etudes comparable in difficulty to those found in the Standards of Excellence Book 3
- ♪ 1.5 Play lyric/melodic etudes comparable to those found in the Standards of Excellence Book 3
- ♪ 1.6 Play simple rhythm combinations using sixteenth, eighth, quarter, half, whole and dotted notes or rests
- ♪ 1.7 Demonstrate the ability to sight read music at a level comparable to exercises found in a 2nd year method book

The student will play band music from a variety of styles/periods/cultures.

Standard 2 (ACS: B1-B8; C1-C2)

The student will:

- ♪ 2.1 Play band literature in variety of styles (march, overture, homophonic, contemporary, etc.)
- ♪ 2.2 Play band music from a variety of musical periods (Renaissance, Classical, Romantic, 20th century, etc.)

- ♪ 2.3 Play and/or listen to music from a variety of cultures (as available)
- ♪ 2.4 Understand basic historical and thematic context of literature

The student will demonstrate basic understanding of the musical terms and symbols used in the music they are studying.

Standard 4 (ACS: A1-A5; C2)

The student will:

- ♪ 3.1 Perform music with appropriate dynamic and stylistic interpretation
- ♪ 3.2 Perform music according to indicated tempi
- ♪ 3.3 Identify and use appropriate terms, symbols and meters for literature being studied
- ♪ 3.5 Identify and use duple, triple meter where appropriate

The student will demonstrate proper sound production skills for his/her instrument(s), appropriate to experience level.

Standard 4 (ACS: A1-A5)

The student will:

- ♪ 4.1 Demonstrate understanding of proper breathing/stick techniques
- ♪ 4.2 Play long tones of 20 seconds duration with varying dynamics with no change in pitch center or tone quality (winds only)
- ♪ 4.3 Play long rolls of 20 seconds duration with varying dynamics with maintaining an evenness between hands (percussion only)
- ♪ 4.4 Demonstrate the ability to play with proper posture and/or playing position

The student will demonstrate basic critical listening skills

Standard 5 (ACS: C1-C5; D1-D4)

The student will:

- ♪ 5.1 Reflectively listen and adjust during performances
- ♪ 5.2 Give a written/verbal evaluation of performances

The student will acquire tools for life-long learning through musical participation

Standard 6 (ACS: A4-A7; B9; C6; D1-D8)

The student will:

- ♪ 6.1 Identify the multiple presence of music in society
- ♪ 6.2 Identify areas and methods of musical influence in societies/cultures

- ♪ 6.3 Recognize and identify the following specific tools developed through participation in musical performance: teamwork, self-expression, initiative, self-discipline, language, mathematical principles, problem solving, analytical thinking, reading skills and acquiring and using information
- ♪ 6.4 Identify career options in music education, performance, critique, production and technology



Major Activities:

- ♪ Large group rehearsal
- ♪ Individual and small group practice
- ♪ Critical listening
- ♪ Lecture and written work in theory and terminology



Instructional Materials:

- ♪ Appropriate instruments
- ♪ Band Music
- ♪ Method Books
- ♪ Instrumental care materials



Technology Resources

- ♪ Audio and Video recording and playback equipment
- ♪ Appropriate computer programs, equipment and software



Audio-Visual Resources

- ♪ Recorded music
- ♪ Instructional and Performance Audio/Video Recordings