



Overture Strings Program Handbook



**Serving the students of EUSD
Administered by Encinitas Educational Foundation**

Hello Families,

Thank you for your interest in the Overture Strings Program. We are pleased to bring instrumental music back to the Encinitas Union School District students! Your decision to enroll your child in our music program is an investment in your child's future and will provide an opportunity for self-expression, creativity, and achievement that will stay with them for a lifetime. Our program prepares students for curricular music classes in middle and high school and opens up college scholarship opportunities. Plus, students have a lot of FUN learning to play a musical instrument and making new friends!

STRINGS PROGRAM BASICS

Welcome to the Overture Strings Ensemble! Based on student interest, both Beginning Strings Instruction and Returning/Experienced Strings Instruction will be offered. This program is designed for all levels - from complete beginners to experienced players. All strings students will have the opportunity to learn in sectionals based on playing level, as well as full strings ensemble, and combined playing with the Concert Band for a full orchestra experience!



NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY!!!



**Rehearsals will be held on Mondays or Wednesdays at 2 different school sites
(Students may attend more than one Rehearsal school site during the week.)**

**MONDAYS - Park Dale Lane Elementary 2:45 - 4:45
WEDNESDAYS - Mission Estancia Elementary 2:45 - 4:45**

BEGINNING and RETURNING/EXPERIENCED STRINGS

The first classes will be held the week of October 2, 2023.

Beginning Students: over the course of the 8 week program, beginners will learn how to unpack and care for their instrument, proper playing posture, how to produce a sound, and even several notes! In ensemble practice they will learn rhythm, counting, and basic note reading.

Returning Students: will review posture, bow hold, note reading and rhythm. Returning players will also move forward with more advanced pieces, finger patterns and rhythms.



We will also be discussing the band rules and rehearsal procedures with all students. All students must review the Behavior Contract with their parent, sign, and return to Instructor at the next rehearsal.

The two-hour rehearsals are from 2:45-4:45pm on Mondays and Wednesdays.

****Instruction is the same both days****

Students are Welcome to come to both weekly sessions at no extra cost. Instructors will also be available for 15 minutes before rehearsal and for 15 minutes after rehearsal for additional support.



2024 Strings Schedule

Band & Strings Calendar

2024

Two - 9 week Programs:
 Winter: Jan 22 - March 20, 2024
 Spring: April 8 - June 3, 2024

- = Winter Instructional Week
- = Spring Instructional Week
- = Holiday
- = Performances @ 4:00pm
Rehearsal 2:45pm - 3:55pm

January 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

March 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12			

REHEARSAL LOCATIONS

Mondays - Park Dale Lane Elementary ● 2050 Park Dale Lane ●
2:45pm - 4:45pm

Wednesdays - Mission Estancia Elementary ● 3330 Calle Barcelona ●
2:45pm - 4:45pm

IMPORTANT DATES

MAKE UP DATES ● 2/19 is 2/21 ● 5/27 is 5/29

CONFERENCE WEEK MARCH 11 EARLY DISMISSAL 12:45 ● Band Practice is 1:00 - 3:00pm

WINTER "INFORMANCE": Monday March 18, 2024 ● Park Dale Lane Elementary ● 4:00pm

BANDORAMA: Saturday March 23, 2024 ● La Costa Canyon HS ● TBD

SPRING CONCERT: Wednesday June 5, 2024 ● Mission Estancia Elementary ● 4:00pm



What's next?

Accessories For Strings:

All students will need certain accessories. Some of them are specific to their instrument and some of them are general and are needed by all levels. SD Music Studio or other local music stores should have all of these accessories. Please make sure you have these items at the first day of class:

- Essential Elements for Strings Book I (for your instrument)
- Folding wire music stand (only for practice at home, we have them at the school sites for rehearsals)
- Shoulder rest (for violin/viola)
- Pencil
- Highlighter
- Name tag for instrument case
- Cleaning cloth or swab for your instrument

Instruments:

Please be sure to make arrangements to have an instrument for your child prior to our first class. If you own an instrument, please make sure that the instrument is in good working condition. All rentals can be handled through some of the companies below. All of these companies will deliver the rented instrument to the school of your choice

- Bertrand's Music 888-780-1812 www.bertrandsmusic.com
 - Cullin Blaine - Schools District Manager cullenb@bertrandsmusic.com
- The Violin Shop 858-909-0319 <https://www.theviolinshopsandiego.com/>
- San Diego Music Exchange 760-630-7451 www.sdmusicexchange.com
- San Diego Music Studio 760-761-0055 kdeverell@sandiegomusicstudio.com
 - Kimberly Deverell is our EEF Band Rep



Instructors

The instructors for the Strings Program are professionals with many years of teaching experience. They each have a proven record of excellence in instrumental music education.

Our instructors are:

- Lara Heck, Music & Strings Director - Strings Instructor
 - laraheckviolin@gmail.com
- Julie Szweda, Strings Instructor
 - julie.szweda@gmail.com
- Ben Fox, Brass and Percussion Instructor
 - ben3@me.com

HS Student Mentors

Additionally, excellent music students from the local high schools will assist as student mentors by coaching the elementary students to make further progress on their instruments.

Thank you again for your interest in the
Overture Strings Program.

Please if you have any questions feel free to
contact Michelle Bay at info@eefonline.org or
visit our website eefonline.org



EEF Band & Strings Behavior Contract

PLEASE REVIEW WITH YOUR CHILD

*Please keep this page for reference & return the second page on the first day of class.

Behavioral Guidelines

We are thrilled to have your child participate in the EEF Band & Strings Program. We believe that each person involved will have a positive experience. As part of this philosophy, all participants are required to follow the behavioral standards listed below:

- Participants are expected to show respect for each other, their instructors, and any volunteers
- Supportive, positive, and respectful language and actions are expected
- Instructors will create a positive classroom environment to encourage and empower students
- Instructors will share clear behavior expectations with their students on the first day and throughout the session
- Inappropriate or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated
- If student displays inappropriate or disrespectful behavior, the instructor will speak with the student and review the guidelines and the class norms
- If disrespectful behavior continues, the student's parents/guardians will be contacted in an effort to partner to work on the child's behavior
- If this behavior continues, the student may be asked to leave the band and strings program

Rehearsal and Performance Guidelines

- All Participants must **be on time, come prepared, & attend rehearsals** unless ill or have received permission
- Students should **attend the entire two- hour class**. Students who have a conflict and need to leave early on a regular basis will need to work this out with their Instructor.
- **Practice at home** - we have a limited time to prepare for our performance(s)!
- Avoid unnecessary noise and distractions during rehearsals and performances
- Be supportive of all students in our program
- No gum or electronics (cell phones, smart watches) are permitted to be on during rehearsal
- Students are expected to stay in approved areas during rehearsals and performances. They should not leave the facilities at any time, unless released to a parent
- Behave in a professional manner at all times during performances and rehearsals
- Treat the rehearsal and performance space professionally - no running, food, or yelling
- Students may not be left unattended during pick-up time. Students should continue to follow behavior expectations - no running, yelling, throwing objects, etc. Students will wait with their instructor until they are picked up by a parent and/or guardian



- I have read, understand, and agree to the conditions in the EEF Behavior Contract.
- As the parent or guardian, I authorize my child's participation in the EEF Band and Strings Program, performances and all rehearsals and related events. By doing so, I hereby release all of EEF officers and agents from any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of action in conjunction with the EEF performances, rehearsals, and related events. In case of illness or accident, permission is granted for emergency treatment to be administered and I will assume full responsibility for such action, including payment of costs.
- I hereby release EUSD and EEF from any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of action in conjunction with the EEF rehearsals, performances, and related events. In case of illness or accident, permission is granted for emergency treatment to be administered and I will assume full responsibility for such action, including payment of costs.

 (Student Printed & Signature)

 (Date)

 (Parent signature)

 (Date)

 (Instructor signature)

 (Date)

 (Director signature)

 (Date)

