

Course: Wind Symphony

Overview of Course

The Wind Symphony is an advanced, select band designed to further challenge accomplished and devoted wind and percussion players in a smaller ensemble setting. Students are expected to maintain the highest performance standards at all times while meeting the technical and musical demands of NYSSMA level 5 repertoire. This is achieved through participation in both the daily full ensemble rehearsals and smaller lesson groups which are scheduled periodically on a rotating basis. Attendance is mandatory at all specified performances and rehearsals. Stringent attendance requirements are necessary.

Instructional Philosophy

Through how organized sounds move and interrelate, the Garden City Public Schools music department strives to heighten, sustain, refine, and extend human emotional life while engaged in the struggle to create beauty.

Knowledge and Skills Objectives

Grade 9

- Wind players must display mastery of the chromatic scale and 7 major scales and arpeggios.
- Percussionists must display mastery of 7 rudiments and ability on timpani and mallet percussion instruments.
- All must display understanding and performance of rhythms containing the following note values: whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, all of their "dotted-note" variations, quarter-note triplets, eighth-note triplets, and sixteenth-note triplets.
- Understand simple and compound meters, including: 3/8, 6/8, 9/8, 12/8.
- Demonstrate acceptable range, knowledge of fingerings and basic trills
- Know how to tune and calibrate instrument
- Know how to match pitch while singing
- Transpose instrument to and from concert pitch
- Demonstrate ability to follow the conductor
- Perform all ensemble music with proficiency and artistry
- Perform at NYSSMA level III

Grade 10

- Meet all 9th grade requirements
- Wind players must display mastery of 9 major scales and arpeggios
- Percussionists must display mastery of 9 rudiments, major scales and arpeggios as related to music, ability to match pitch on timpani
- Rhythmic understanding and performance of quintuplets, sextuplets, 32nd notes
- Understanding and performance of simple and compound meters, add 5/8 and 7/8
- Show ability to tune instrument and adjust pitch within ensemble
- Perform at NYSSMA level IV

Grade 11/All students enrolled in Wind Symphony

- Meet all 10th grade requirements

- Display knowledge of all major scales and arpeggios, and minor scales as introduced
- Percussionists must display mastery of rudiments as introduced and ability to tune timpani, recognize intervals of perfect 4th's and 5th's Perform all advanced rhythms and meters as introduced
- Improve sight-reading skills
- Perform ensemble music at NYSSMA level V

Grade 12/All students enrolled in Wind Ensemble

- Meet all 11th grade requirements
- Wind players must display mastery of all 15 major scales and arpeggios, and recognize/perform relative minor scales.
- Percussion must display mastery of introduced rudiments, know all rudiments in NYSSMA Manual for level VI and demonstrate ability on all percussion instruments
- Knowledge of more trills, alternate fingerings, and inherent tuning problems of instruments
- Demonstrate improved sight-reading ability
- Perform ensemble music at NYSSMA level VI

Units of Study

All of the following units are works on at various times over the course of the year.

- Intonation
- Tone
- Rhythm
- Sight-reading
- Ensemble Balance
- Concert Etiquette
- Critical Listening Skills

Major Resources

- Music Library of over 800 band pieces
- Newly purchased traditional and standard band compositions
- New Releases of contemporary band publications
- *Standard of Excellence* Method Book III, Kjos Publications
- *I Recommend* Method Book, Alfred Publications
- *The Art of Expressive Playing* Method Book, Carl Fischer Publications
- *The Art of Percussion Playing*, Meredith Music Publications
- *Rubank* Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced Method Books, Rubank Inc.