

# Norwood Public School District

## Honors Music Festival

Dear Parents/Guardians & Students,

The Norwood music program is very pleased to announce the 19th annual Honors Music festival open to all musicians in grades 3-8 throughout the town (3rd graders may audition for chorus only, not for orchestra). Auditions for the festival will be held on **Saturday, February 3rd, 2024** at the **PRESCOTT Elementary School**. This audition is an opportunity for your child to perform a short solo and scales for an expert adjudicator for evaluation. Ratings of superior, excellent, above average, and participation will be awarded based on the brief audition. From these ratings, a district wide honors band, orchestra, and choir will be selected. The honor ensembles will be brought together for a series of rehearsals **in early spring and a performance thereafter**. The five-minute audition will include scales and 2 short prepared pieces from the required list attached to this letter. The first two sets of rehearsals will take place at the Coakley Middle School. All following rehearsals and the concert will take place at Norwood High school.

After their audition, our music adjudicators will spend a few minutes working with your student on a specific area of their playing or singing. The adjudicator will rate and give positive feedback to each student on a score sheet that you will receive within a week. **Students accepted into the honors ensembles must agree to be at each of the 4 rehearsals and the performance. The rehearsal/performance dates are as follows:**

Rehearsal Set 1: Monday, February 26, 2024 from 3:45-5:45 Orchestra on Stage **at CMS**  
Tuesday, February 27, 2024 from 3:45-5:45 Band on Stage **at CMS**  
Wednesday, February 28, 2024 from 3:45-5:45 Chorus on Stage **at CMS**

Rehearsal Set 2: Monday March 18, 2024 from 3:45-5:45 Orchestra on Stage **at CMS**  
Tuesday, March 19, 2024 from 3:45-5:45 Band on Stage at CMS  
Wednesday, March 20, 2024 from 3:45-5:45 Chorus on Stage at CMS

Rehearsal Set 3: Monday, April 1, 2024 from 3:45-5:45 Orchestra on Stage at NHS  
Tuesday, April 2, 2024 from 3:45-5:45 Band on Stage at NHS  
**Thursday, April 4, 2024** from 3:45-5:45 Chorus on Stage at NHS\*\* note day change.

**CHORUS DRESS REHEARSAL: Monday April 8, 2024 3:45-4:30 pm at NHS**

**BAND & ORCHESTRA DRESS REHEARSAL: Tuesday April 9, 2024 at NHS**

**Orchestra 3:45-4:30 pm at NHS**

**Band 4:45-5:30 pm at NHS**

**CONCERT: Wednesday April 10 at 7pm at NHS**

\*\*\*\* To register for an audition time for the festival, please click the link in this letter or go to the following URL to fill out the form: <https://forms.gle/gn8Jd5NHZSheVs6e6>

If you do not have computer access, you may ask your student's band or orchestra teacher for a paper copy of the registration form. All registration forms must be submitted by **Wednesday, January 31, 2024**. If you have any questions regarding the festival, you may contact Mrs. Lorange at [elorange@norwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:elorange@norwood.k12.ma.us). It is our hope that all of you take part in this unique and invaluable musical experience and we look forward to hearing your children.

Sincerely,

Elana Lorange  
James Stone  
Amy Bedard  
Chelsea Sardoni  
Jeff Kerr  
Norwood Music Faculty

**Honors Band Audition Requirements**

**Grade 4 Musicians (or any student in their first year playing):**

Scales - Concert Bb 5 note scale in half notes up and down

\*Drummers should prepare one piece on snare and one piece on bells.

Book selections: Auditioners should choose 2 of the following book exercises to play:

- #25 - Lightly Row
- #28 - Au Claire De La Lune
- #31 - A Mozart Melody
- #42- Skip to My Lou

**Grades 5 and 6 musicians (or any student in their 2nd year playing):**

Scales - Full Concert Bb Scale in half notes up and down

\*Drummers should prepare one piece on snare and one piece on bells.

Book selections: Auditioners should choose 2 of the following book 1 exercises to play:

- #54 - Frere Jacques
- #61 - Alouette, the Sequel
- #83 - Down by the Station
- #90 - Variations on a Familiar Theme

**Grades 7 and 8 Musicians:**

Scales: Full Concert Bb Scale

\*Drummers should prepare one piece on snare and one piece on bells.

Book selections: Auditioners should choose 2 of the following book exercises:  
(ALL selections are from BOOK 2 of Essential Elements)

- #4 - Shepherd's Hey
- #5 - The Crawdad Song
- #7 - Wearing of the Green (with the repeat)
- #9 - Cruisin' Through the Park

**Honor Orchestra Audition Requirements**

**Grade 4 Orchestra Auditions:**

D major 6 note scale in quarter notes

Book Selections: Choose two of the following

- #40 Carolina Breeze
- #41 Jingle Bells
- #42 Old Macdonald Had a Farm

**Grades 5 Orchestra Auditions:**

D major scale half notes

Book Selections: Choose two of the following

- #43 A Mozart Melody
- #44 Matthew's March
- #45 Christopher's Tune

**Grade 6, 7, 8 Orchestra Auditions**

G major scale and C major scale

Book one Choose two of the following

- #182 Surprise Symphony Theme
- #188 Cripple Creek A or B line
- #189 Tekele Lomeria A or B line

## **Honors Chorus Audition Requirements (grades 3-8)**

### **Elementary School Musicians**

1. Pick **one** of the following songs to sing at your audition:
  - Twinkle Twinkle Little Star
  - Happy Birthday
  - Row Row Row Your Boat
2. Echo Singing:
  - During your audition you will echo sing (copy) 3 patterns sung by the adjudicator.