

Orchestra Directors

Leslie de Leeuw

Director of Orchestras,
Willow Wood Junior High
Northpointe Intermediate
Oakcrest Intermediate
lesliedeleeuw@tomballisd.net
(281) 357 - 3030 ext. 1288

Jordan Sheffield

Assistant Orchestra Director,
Tomball Memorial High School
Northpointe Intermediate
Oakcrest Intermediate
jordansheffield@tomballisd.net
(281) 357 - 3230 ext. 1123

Bryan Barrett

Director of Orchestras,
Tomball Memorial High School
Northpointe Intermediate
Oakcrest Intermediate
bryanbarrett@tomballisd.net
(281) 357 - 3230 ext. 1107

String Instrument Descriptions

Violin

The violin is the highest pitched string instrument in the orchestra. It 's held between the shoulder and the chin on the players left side.

Some people refer to a violin as a "fiddle". A fiddle and a violin are exactly the same. The only difference is the type of music that is played. We like to explore all types of music including fiddle music! Violins have a very brilliant tone quality!

Viola

The viola is similar to the violin except that it has one lower pitched string and does not have the violin's highest pitched string. It's slightly larger, but is played in the exact same way as the violin.

Violas have a very mellow tone, similar to the human voice.

Cello

The cello is part of the low strings in the orchestra. It is similar to the viola in the fact that it uses the same strings. The difference is in the pitch of the strings. The cello is one octave lower than a viola. The cello is played with the instrument between the players legs. It has a very rich and colorful tone.

Double Bass

The double bass is the largest and lowest pitched member of the string family. It can be found in many genres of music from classical to rock and jazz. It has a low rumbling tone.



Tomball Wildcat Orchestra

Why Should I Choose Orchestra?

Simple Facts About Becoming
an Orchestra Student



Northpointe

Intermediate Orchestra

Oakcrest

Intermediate Orchestra

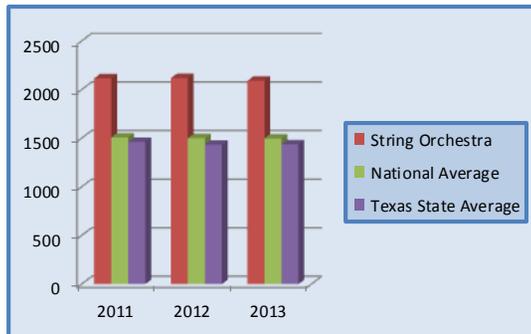
Tomball

Wildcat

Orchestra

What You Should Know About Orchestra!

- There are four instruments to choose from when enrolling in orchestra: Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass. Space in some instrument sections is limited so don't wait too long. Sign up now!
- The knowledge gained in music courses supplements science and math skills. This trend is even more apparent when students enroll in orchestra. Take a look at these SAT scores from All State Orchestra students.



- Orchestra promotes several skills needed to succeed in life; self discipline, self confidence, dependable behavior, respect for others, loyalty, and pride!
- Orchestra is a great place to make new friends and have a fantastic time with old friends. In fact, It is one of the largest group of friends in school. When you join orchestra you become part of a huge family of friends!
- Students who want to be in orchestra should mark orchestra as their #1 choice on their Fine Arts Sheet before they return it.

Sign up now to reserve your spot!

This is an exciting time to be in orchestra and we want YOU to be a part of this new tradition in Tomball I.S.D. Make sure that you put orchestra as your #1 choice on your Fine Arts Selection Sheet!

After you have turned your sheet, we will have an instrument selection meeting so that you can choose your instrument and be fitted for that particular instrument. Remember some instrument sections are limited so don't miss this opportunity. We will also inform you of the exciting things we will be doing next year in orchestra.

We look forward to you becoming a part of our ensemble. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact us!



F.A.Q.

What amount of time outside of class is required of orchestra students?

Orchestra activities are not scheduled on a weekly basis for 6th grade orchestra. However, students must adhere to a regimented, at home, daily practice schedule!

Do I have to know how to read music to be in orchestra?

No, we teach everything you need to know for you to be successful, from learning to hold the instrument to reading music!

I already know how to play. Am I still able to be in orchestra?

Of course! We strive to challenge every student in their own unique way according to their ability.

I'm too small to play one of those instruments! Am I able to sign up for orchestra?

Orchestra is very unique! We have varying sizes of EVERY instrument to accommodate students of all sizes, so choose your instrument and we'll do the rest!

Can I wait until 7th grade to decide to be in orchestra?

Anyone interested in orchestra should sign up now! Because of growing class sizes beginner classes may not be offered beyond 6th grade!

Is it expensive?

No, most students rent their instruments rather than purchasing. These rentals are provided by several local string shops and are very affordable. **DO NOT** let financial concerns keep your child from joining! Let us help you find an instrument that fits your budget!