



Music Signup Night

August 25

2021

The upper-grade elementary music program will be in person and available to any interested students in **4th, 5th, or 6th grade** in the Mark West Union School District! Please read through this packet before registering your child for a music class.

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Please join us via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 25 for a brief presentation and Q&A session about the music program. *Following the presentation*, music registration will begin online via the Google Form link below.

<https://zoom.us/j/94895883831?pwd=cWdpUm5VblNyMTRucUhoNGNqMnBWUT09>

Registration is completely online via Google Forms. Please use this link to register your child for music class on August 25 after the Zoom meeting:

<https://forms.gle/vgtvqb7ZLacnwawp9>

Note: the link will be activated **after** the Zoom meeting has ended.

Please submit your form by Friday, August 27. On occasion, some classes may become full, so early submission is recommended. You will receive an email from Mrs. Kaufman the week of Aug. 30 letting you know which class your child has been enrolled in and related information.

Music Program
Information
Packet



GENERAL INFORMATION

Class Choices for 4th-6th Grade: This year we are offering music classes in chorus, clarinet, guitar, trumpet, and violin. Please see the next page for more details on each class.

This is a Pull-Out Program: 4th-6th grade music students will miss part of their regular class time to participate in music, unless their requested class occurs before school (see schedule, p. 6). Students are responsible for finding out what they missed and for making up work on their own time.

Interest in an Instrument and Chorus? Students who are interested in participating in **two** music classes must get permission from their parents AND their classroom teacher. Some teachers allow this but others do not, as it can be difficult to stay caught up in the classroom. If two music classes are allowed, they must be chorus and *one* instrumental class.

Program Dates: San Miguel classes begin Tues., Sept. 7; Mark West classes begin Fri., Sept. 10; and Riebli classes begin on Mon., Sept. 13. Classes continue weekly until the second week of May.

Date Adjustments: Each school will receive 29 total sessions for the year. Due to the abundance of non-instructional days on Mondays this year, three Tuesdays will switch to Riebli's Monday schedule. Riebli students will have music on Tues., November 2; Tues., January 18; and Tues., April 19. San Miguel will not have music on these days. I will send out reminders prior to these dates. These adjustments may change if there are other missed school days for any reason.

Cost: \$125 donation for the school year (\$4.31 per lesson! - What a deal!) or \$200 for 2 siblings
Mark West Education Foundation Tax ID# 56-2331535

Materials: Music students must bring instruments (if applicable) and music to every rehearsal and take their materials home with them to practice. Students will be given a manila envelope to hold their sheet music and book (if assigned). Students may drop off instruments in the music room on the mornings of their rehearsal days. They must take them home the same day to practice.

Instruments: The Mark West District, in partnership with LBC's Music for Schools, offers a limited number of instruments to borrow free-of-charge. Due to the limited number, these instruments are reserved for students who demonstrate financial need and could not otherwise afford to participate. If you qualify, please indicate this info on your registration form. Otherwise, when you receive your child's music class notification, you may proceed to find an instrument to rent or to purchase (pg. 6).

Concert dress: Concert dress is black pants or skirt with white shirt or blouse.

Contacting Mrs. Kaufman: I am at Riebli on Mondays, San Miguel on Tuesdays, and Mark West on Fridays. The best way to contact me is email at kkaufman@mwusd.org

Thank you! I look forward to a wonderful year of music with you all! – Kara Kaufman



MUSIC CLASS DETAILS

Chorus: Do you like to sing? If so, chorus is the class for you! All levels of experience are welcome in chorus! Come sing with us! ***See Chorus Note Below**

***Chorus Note:** All students must be masked indoors. Singing with a mask on can be challenging. To increase comfort, a duckbill-shaped face mask can give singers a bit more space inside the mask while still providing protection. You can also find inexpensive silicone mask brackets that fit inside the mask that also give extra space near the mouth. When possible, we may also hold socially distanced practices outside to allow students to sing without masks.

Beginning or Continuing Clarinet: The clarinet is a mellow woodwind instrument that can play both high and low. If you enjoyed playing the recorder, the clarinet is played in a similar way (with many differences too). All levels of clarinet and trumpet are combined in a single “band” class, but continuing players learn additional “advanced” pieces of music. Please only sign up your child for the continuing option if your child has had at least one year of instruction on the clarinet and feels confident about having learned the skills taught that year. ***See Band Note at bottom of page**

Beginning or Continuing Guitar: The guitar is a versatile stringed instrument that is used to play many different types of music, and we will learn to play both melodies and chords. Students should use a classical or acoustic guitar for this class (electric guitars are too loud with an amp and too quiet without one). The beginning and continuing guitar classes have separate class times. Please only sign up your child for the continuing option if your child has had at least one year of instruction on the guitar and feels confident about having learned the skills taught that year.

Beginning or Continuing Violin: The violin is the highest sounding instrument from the string family, and is the most numerous instrument in a symphony orchestra (as many as 30!) The violin can play many different types of music, including classical, bluegrass, mariachi, pop, rock, etc.! The beginning and continuing violin classes have separate class times. Please only sign up your child for the continuing option if your child has had at least one year of instruction on the violin and feels confident about having learned the skills taught that year.

Beginning or Continuing Trumpet: The trumpet is the highest sounding instrument from the brass family, and one must “buzz” their lips together in order to produce a sound. All levels of trumpet and clarinet are combined in a single “band” class, but continuing players learn additional “advanced” pieces of music. Please only sign up your child for the continuing option if your child has had at least one year of instruction on the clarinet and feels confident about having learned the skills taught that year. ***See Band Note Below**

***Band Note:** Band class will be held outdoors with social distancing for the safety of all participants. If we are unable to practice outdoors on a given day (e.g. too cold, smoky, rainy, etc.), the class will practice music indoors on percussion instruments. (It will be fun either way!)



CALENDAR OF MUSIC PROGRAM EVENTS

2021-22

Date & Place	Event	Who Should Attend
Wednesday, August 25, 2021 6 PM via Zoom	Music Program Orientation and Student Sign Up	All Interested Families of 4th-6th Grade Students
October 2021 TBD	Dinner Fundraiser Drive-Through Event	Any Families Who Want To Support Music by Eating Dinner
December 2021 TBD	Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony	All Chorus and Cont. Violin Perform
Thursday, February 24, 2022 9 AM @ Mark West	District Assembly for Lower Grade	Cont. Violin, Cont. Guitar, All Band, & All Chorus Perform
Thursday, February 24, 2022 5:45 - 6:15 PM Guitar and Band 6:45 - 7:15 PM Violin and Chorus @ Mark West	District Winter Concert	All 4th-6th Music Students in District Perform
Saturday, March 12, 2022 5:30-9:30 @ Cardinal Newman HS	2nd Annual Polenta Feed Fundraiser	Any Adults Who Want To Support Music and Enjoy a Night Out
Monday, May 2, 2022 1 PM @ Riebli	Riebli Music Assembly	All Riebli 4-6th Music Students Perform
Tuesday, May 3, 2022 2 PM @ San Miguel	San Miguel Music Assembly	All San Miguel 4-6th Music Students Perform
Friday, May 6, 2022 11:15 AM @ Mark West	Mark West Music Assembly	All Mark West 4-6th Music Students Perform
Saturday, May TBD, 2022 TBD @ Montgomery Village	Music for Schools Instrument Drive	Cont. Violin, Cont. Guitar, All Band, & All Chorus Perform
Monday, May 9, 2022 9 AM @ Mark West	District Assembly for Upper Grade	Cont. Violin, Cont. Guitar, All Band, & All Chorus Perform

*Please note that dates and times may be subject to change, and events may be canceled or added.

Support the Foundation! If it were not for a few hard-working individuals, there would not be a music program offered at all this year. Please be generous with your time and resources so we can offer the same number of classes (or more) next year. Volunteer at the Foundation meetings and/or events.



THE MARK WEST EDUCATION FOUNDATION

What is the Mark West Education Foundation?

The Mark West Education Foundation was established by parents, teachers and administrators to provide funding for music and art programs for the students of the Mark West Union School District that would otherwise be eliminated due to the school budget crisis.

What programs does the Mark West Education Foundation currently provide?

Recorder classes for all 3rd graders, 4th-6th instrumental/choral music classes, Mark West Charter School music elective class, art docent program, and the primary music program for all TK-2nd graders!

How much does it cost to provide current programs?

\$60,000

How are funds raised?

Funds are raised by a few community fundraisers and a small voluntary donation requested of the music program parents.

How can you help?

Volunteer to help plan our events or to help on the day of events, create flyers, distribute flyers, contact local businesses for donations or sponsorships, maintain the website, become a board member, attend meetings, help out on the night/day of the music concerts, just to name a few. If you can volunteer for just a few hours a month, you can help so much.

When are meetings held?

We currently meet the 1st Monday of every month (1st Tuesday in case of holiday) at 3:30 pm via Zoom. For more information or to join a meeting, email us at mwef@mwusd.org

Visit our website at <https://mwusd.org/parent-resources/mark-west-education-foundation/>
and our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MarkWestEducationFoundation>

Don't forget to 'Like' us on Facebook

Do you shop at Amazon?

Go to smile.amazon.com, and search for Mark West District Educational Foundation.

They will donate to our cause with each purchase using AmazonSmile!

A link to AmazonSmile is also on our district webpage.



SCHEDULE OF MUSIC CLASSES

Monday Riebli	Tuesday San Miguel	Thursday R/SM/MW	Friday Mark West
Before school: 8:00-8:30 Cont. Violin	Before school: 8:00-8:30 Cont. Violin		Before school: 8:00-8:30 Band
8:35-9:10 Beg. Violin	8:45-9:25 Beg. Violin	8:45-9:15 TK-2 Music	8:35-9:10 Beg. Violin
9:15-9:45 Chorus	9:30-10:00 Band	9:15-9:45 TK-2 Music	9:30-10:00 Cont. Violin
9:50-10:20 Band	10:05-10:35 Cont. Guitar	9:45-10:15 TK-2 Music	10:05-10:35 Cont. Guitar
10:35-11:10 Beg. Guitars	10:35-10:50 Recess	10:15-10:35 Recess	10:35-10:50 Recess
11:15-11:45 Cont. Guitars	10:50-11:25 Beg. Guitar	10:35-11:05 TK-2 Music	10:50-11:25 Beg. Guitar
11:45-1:00 Prep/Lunch	11:30-12:00 Chorus	11:05-11:35 TK-2 Music	11:30-12:00 Chorus
1:05-1:30 3rd Recorders	12:00-12:30 Travel to Mark West	11:35-12:20 Lunch	12:00-12:45 Lunch
1:45-2:10 3rd Recorders	12:30-1:00 Lunch	12:20-2:42 Prep	1:08-2:08 Charter Music Elective
2:15-2:42 3rd Recorders	1:08-2:08 Charter Music Elective		

*Days and times of 3rd-grade recorder classes and K-2 music classes vary by school.

San Miguel 4th-6th music classes will be on Tuesdays beginning on **Tuesday, Sept. 7.**

Mark West 4th-6th music classes will be on Fridays beginning on **Friday, Sept. 10.**

Riebli 4th-6th music classes will be on Mondays beginning on **Monday, Sept. 13.**



INSTRUMENT RENTAL, PURCHASE, AND REPAIR

Violin

Loveland Violin Shop

618 4th Street, Suite 207, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

707-526-9777

Open Mon-Fri 10-5 & Sat by appointment only

\$22-30 per month for violin rental

\$35-\$45 per month for cello rental

*You must bring your child with you to be sized for a violin. If renting a violin, purchase a shoulder rest when you go to rent the violin. Please call ahead to make an appointment, if possible.

Clarinet & Trumpet

Santa Rosa Music Center

860 Piner Road, Suite 28, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

707-566-0477

Open Mon-Sat 9-6; Sunday 11-4

\$33.50 per month for most instruments

Stanroy Music Center

850 4th Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

707-545-4827

Mon-Thurs 10-7; Fri-Sat 10-6

\$20-\$40 per month depending on instrument

*Both of these local music stores also **sell** guitars, strings, and other instrument accessories.

Purchasing an Instrument

I do not recommend purchasing a violin or band instrument unless your child has played for several years and is certain that he/she would like to continue. These instruments are generally expensive to purchase, and an inexpensive instrument often indicates poor quality. Always purchase these types of instruments from a reputable music store. Many music stores will apply a portion of your rental payments toward the purchase of an instrument or offer discounts to school music students.

Decent quality acoustic **GUITARS** can be purchased for about \$75-120. Most music stores will not rent guitars--only sell them. Most students do well with a 1/2 or 3/4 size guitar with nylon strings. Nylon is easier on the fingers. Please avoid toy instruments (e.g. First Act Brand Guitars).

Repairing an Instrument

Please **DO NOT** attempt to repair instruments yourself, especially if they are borrowed or rented. All of the abovementioned music stores have reputable repair shops. Consult me first if it's borrowed.

*Please note that the above information (including pricing) is approximate. Please contact the stores directly to get current prices and information.

Guitar Sizing Guide

Average Age	Height of Player	Size of Guitar
2-5 years old	3'3" to 3'9"	1/4-Size
5-8 years old	3'10" to 4'5"	1/2-Size
8-12 years old	4'6" to 4'11"	3/4-Size
12-Adult	5' or taller	4/4-Size

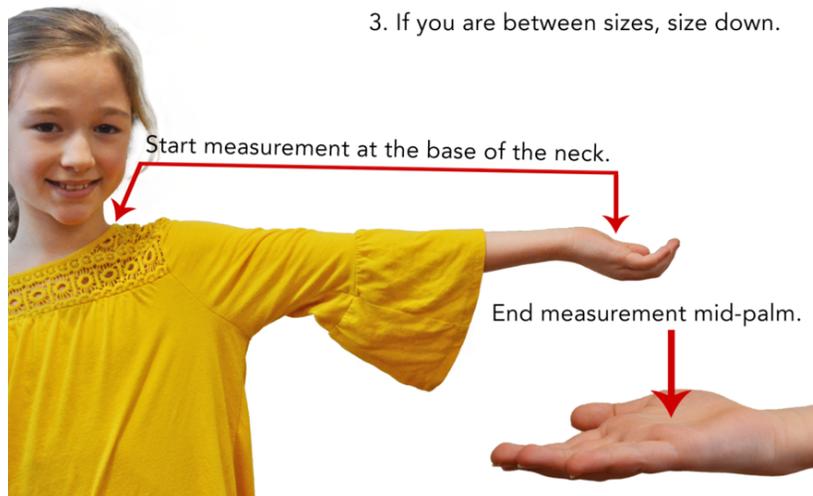
Note: This chart is a guide and does not take into account factors such as arm length, hand span, and finger length. *From <http://www.shepherdguitar.com/the-guitar/>

↓↓↓ Measure the LEFT arm for violin ↓↓↓

SIZING YOUR VIOLIN

For the most accurate size:

1. Extend the arm fully and perpendicular to the body.
2. Measure from the base of the neck to the middle of the palm.
3. If you are between sizes, size down.



Size Chart:

Size	1/6	1/10	1/8	1/4	1/2	3/4	4/4
Age	3-5	3-5	3-5	4-7	6-10	9-11	12+
Arm Length (Inches)	14 -15	15 -16	16 -18	18 -20	20 - 22	22 - 23	23+



STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Attendance: Music classes meet only once a week for rehearsals, so it is crucial that all students attend class on time every week. If a student must miss class for a valid reason (e.g. doctor's appt., illness, etc.), the student must have a parent/guardian excuse the absence (via note or email). If a student has more than two unexcused absences in a trimester, that student will be dropped from the class and must return any borrowed equipment and materials. However, if within the first three months of the program, a student feels that they greatly dislike participating in music, please contact me as soon as possible so that we can find a suitable solution (kkaufman@mwusd.org).

Behavior and Consequences: Students must maintain appropriate behavior during music classes to ensure a safe and productive learning environment for all. Three basic rules apply during music class: 1) Listen attentively, 2) Follow directions, and 3) Be responsible. Consequences for inappropriate behavior will begin with a verbal warning. If the behavior continues, the student will be given a chance to "refocus" outside the classroom. If the inappropriate behavior continues after these two steps, the student will be referred to the office and will miss the remainder of music class. A notice will also be sent to the student's parent/guardian and teacher. Missing class due to persistent inappropriate behavior will count as an unexcused absence.

Remembering Instruments: Students in instrumental classes **must bring their instruments** to class on their music days. Not having an instrument greatly increases off-task behavior for students, and they are unable to learn their instrument as effectively that day. The school does not have enough instruments to keep a supply at school for students who forget, so it is imperative that they remember each week. If a student forgets an instrument more than two times in a trimester, that student will be dropped from the class and must return any borrowed equipment and materials.

Practice: Music students should practice at least 5 days a week, but every day is preferred! Think about it...are you going to improve much in math if you only do math once a week? Play or sing a little every day and you will see progress! *If it is safe to do so, leave your instrument out and ready to go at home so that practicing can be as easy as possible! If you do this, make sure your instrument is out of reach of pets or young siblings.*

HOW TO PRACTICE

Students:

- 1) Break up your practice time—do 5 minutes here, 4 minutes there, 2 minutes later. Practicing frequently throughout the week for shorter lengths of time is more effective than only practicing once for a long time.
- 2) Focus less on how long you spend practicing and more on what you want to accomplish (e.g. "I want to play the first line of this song smoothly" or "I want to memorize the first half of the lyrics to this song.") Set a goal and try to achieve it.
- 3) Play or sing for other people or for your pets/toys. Play or sing outside! Make practicing focused but fun!

Parents:

- 1) Please help your child remember to bring their instrument and music on their music day.
- 2) Ask your child to play for you! Show interest in their progress!
- 3) Help your child find a time and space that will work for their practice. Invest in an inexpensive wire music stand to make practicing more comfortable.