

2011-2012 HMS Symphonic Band

What is the HMS Symphonic Band?

The Symphonic Band is the premier performing ensemble of the HMS band program. It is comprised mostly of 8th grade students, but also includes very advanced 7th grade students. It has very structured instrumentation, and only a limited number of students are selected for membership. This group is the face of the HMS Band program, performing more frequently than any other ensemble. In January 2010, the Symphonic Band performed for the Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference in Savannah, GA. Most recently, this ensemble performed at the 2011 Music for All National Concert Festival in Indianapolis, IN. These were both very prestigious honors, and the most important performances in HMS Band history. They have also opened the door for other performances on the regional and national level.

How much time will be required?

The bulk of rehearsal time will take place during normal class instruction. However, additional rehearsals, as always, are essential for optimal performance. This group will meet after school every Thursday from 3:45-5pm. **It is imperative that students are present and remain for the entirety of every rehearsal, and that they participate in each scheduled performance. Students who are unable or unwilling to fulfill this requirement need not audition for this group!** The advanced level of music will also require the students to practice at home on a regular basis. The general rule is that an individual should practice as long as it takes him/her to learn and consistently execute the repertoire. The students will also be required to “pass off” their music in order to maintain membership in this group. Discipline, in addition to rehearsal and performance attendance history, will also be taken into consideration during the selection process.

Are the members of the HMS Symphonic Band required to take private lessons?

Private lessons, though not required, are strongly encouraged.

How will students be selected for this ensemble?

Interested students must complete an audition consisting of memorized scales, a brief etude excerpt, and sightreading. Auditions will be held **Tuesday, May 24th**. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the band room for the students to schedule audition times.

Please complete and return the attached form by Monday, May 16th!

HMS Symphonic Band Agreement

*I (we) have read and understand the attached information regarding membership in the HMS Symphonic Band, and give my child permission to audition for this ensemble. We understand that in signing this form, we are **fully** committing to the rehearsal and performance schedule, as well as the behavior and practice requirements, should my child be selected for the Symphonic Band.*

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

Please complete and return the attached form by Monday, May 16th!