

New Trier High School Orchestra Curriculum

Statement:

Our goal is to take the individual instrumental student at the skill level they enter the classroom and move them forward towards becoming an independent musician. All instrumental music students enter the orchestra curriculum at different levels both in terms of their skill and musicianship. We begin by finding common ground and then moving the orchestra forward into a cohesive ensemble. In particular our goal is to teach them the art of orchestra performance through the *classic* repertoire or literature within the orchestra tradition. The cycle of rehearsal and performance provides the framework to achieve these goals. The underpinning for the delivery of a successful orchestra curriculum is student-centered instruction.

Objectives:

- Develop characteristic tone
- Develop left-hand technique
- Develop bow-hand technique
- Develop wind technique
- Develop attitudes of the professional musician
- Develop ensemble skills
- Develop knowledge of the style periods
- Develop an understanding of historical context
- Develop performance experience in a variety of genres
- Develop a comprehensive music vocabulary
- Develop music analysis skills
- Develop music theory skills
- Develop listening skills

Instruction:

The rehearsal cycle which leads to performance, which leads to assessment and then the repetition of this sequence. The rehearsal cycle includes the following:

- Warm-up
- Tune
- Scales/Etudes
- Rehearse Repertoire
- Review Repertoire

The learning environment includes a fluid exchange of the teacher and student utilizing modeling, self assessment, instructor assessment, peer review, question and answer.

Resources:

- Sheet Music
- Repertoire/Literature
- Handouts
- Worksheets
- Audio/Video Recordings
- Evaluations
- Masterclasses