

**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL**  
**MUSIC PROGRAM: GRADES 5-8**  
2014-2015 School Year

Please read the following information carefully so you can confidently make your selection.

**CHOIR (For Grades 5 – 8)**

We offer the School Choir for students who enjoy singing, and can attend its functions. We are scheduled to sing at three concerts: a Christmas concert, the Hawaii Lutheran Schools concert, and a Spring Concert. We also sing once each semester for a care home facility and chapel. Two voluntary opportunities for singing with the Our Savior Lutheran Church worship band occur once each semester.

The choir grade is based on 1) class participation, including effort and cooperation; 2) knowledge of music (includes memorization of words and notes); 3) application of the taught skills as found in the outside rehearsals and performances; and 4) attendance at choir functions. In order to be successful, students must regularly attend outside rehearsals and performances! Extra rehearsals will be kept to a minimum. AN EARLY NOTE FROM THE PARENT IS REQUIRED before a student misses a performance or special rehearsal. Music damaged or lost is charged at the rate of \$1.00 per sheet or \$5.00 per folder.

**BAND (For Grades 5 – 8)**

Beginning Band is open to all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders new to band and some second-year players who need more preparation for Advanced Band. Advanced Band is by audition and/or the instructor's recommendation. Prior experience is necessary. Admission will be probationary.

Band members usually study the instrument they chose, however it is important to make sure the instrument properly "fits" a student. Some physical characteristics will make playing certain instruments very difficult. We control these problems by trying out the students on each instrument. Mr. Robert Fischer, the Band Director, will be present August 13 (Orientation Day) to help your child in the selection process. You will also receive a list of needed band instrument and accessories. You may also contact him by calling 778-5229.

Parents rent or purchase their child's instrument. If you have an instrument from a friend, family, or have seen one in a pawnshop, bring it to the director to be checked first. We can tell you if it is acceptable or worth fixing. Do not buy instruments from department stores. Though often labeled as "professional", these are of inferior quality and make repairs difficult, often impossible.

We provide music stands at school, but students will need to have a stand for home practice. Rehearsals begin in early August. Those missing an instrument by the end of August can expect a lower grade penalty.

If unusual problems prevent securing an instrument, please see the instructor.

Grading is based on a combination of performance attendance, practice time (monitored by parents), playing exams, attitude, behavior, cooperation, proper uniform and care, instrument going home for practice, and the care of music folders and equipment. We charge \$1.00 per sheet for damaged or lost music.

## **Choosing Your Band Instrument**

There are many factors that influence the selection of one instrument over another. The price of an instrument and its availability is one factor. Most instruments have similar prices (flute, trumpet, and trombone). Clarinets are a bit more expensive and saxophones are the most expensive. While the school provides most of the percussion equipment, we must limit how many students can choose percussion. Some stores have rentals available or lease purchase plans available. Many of our students purchase the instrument outright. Stores such as the Music Center of Hawaii offer large discounts for doing so (typically, around 40% off).

We consider some physical factors when checking your child for what instrument they will play, including their lip size and shape, how much of an under-bite or over-bite they have, whether they have or will get braces soon, evenness of teeth, finger length and width, etc. Of course, the ultimate check is actually trying the student out on each instrument in advance.

For more information call Mr. Fischer, Band Director, at 778-5229.

### **2014-2015 Tentative Performance Schedule**

**Below, we project the music performance schedule very early. Throughout the year, we may need to adjust the schedule. Parents and students will be notified in advance regarding any change in schedule or additional information regarding each performance. If necessary, additional rehearsals may be scheduled.**

**CHOIR MEMBERS** will be asked to sing a performance at least once a quarter in the church service or concert.

#### **OTHER PERFORMANCES AND TENTATIVE DATES:**

Sun. Dec 14 Combined Band & Choir Christmas Program, 2:00 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 28 Lutheran Schools Band/Choir Concert, 7:00 p.m. (Very Tentative)

Fri. May 15 Combined Band & Choir Spring Concert, 7:00 p.m. (Tentative)

We will determine choir-performance dates after school begins.

# MUSIC PROGRAM

## Grades 5 – 8

Complete and return on Orientation Day (Wednesday, August 13, 2014)

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Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ CHOIR  
(Gr. 5-8)

\_\_\_\_\_ BAND ( \_\_\_ Beginning \_\_\_ Advanced)  
(Gr. 5-8)



Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

Years of experience on this instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature & Grade

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Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

Years of experience on this instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature & Grade