January 25, 2020

Dear Orchestra Student,

Congratulations on your acceptance into the 2020 CJMEA Intermediate Orchestras! On behalf of the entire committee, we commend you on the hard work, dedication and commitment you have put into this outstanding accomplishment. Please read this letter in its entirety as it provides information that will address many frequently asked questions.

**PERSONNEL**

**Chamber Orchestra**
Mr. Nate White, *Conductor*
Artistic Director, Freelance Ensemble Artists of NJ
Double Bass Professor, John J. Cali School of Music, Montclair State University

Ms. Susan Meuse, *Manager*
Hammarskjold Middle School, East Brunswick, NJ
cjmea.chamber.orchestra@gmail.com

**String Orchestra**
Dr. Tomasz Rzeczycki, *Conductor*
Princeton Day School, Princeton, NJ

Mr. Steve Mejias, *Manager*
Arbor Intermediate School, Piscataway, NJ
smejias@pway.org

**REHEARSALS**

- **Saturday, February 1st** - 9:00 am-1:00 pm
  Piscataway High School, 100 Behmer Road, Piscataway, NJ
- **Saturday, February 8th** (SNOW MAKE UP DAY ONLY)- 9:00 am-1:00 pm
- **Friday, February 14th** - 5:00 pm-9:00 pm – Piscataway High School
- **Saturday, February 15th** - 9:00 am-1:00 pm – Piscataway High School
- **Friday, February 28th**- 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm – Piscataway High School
DRESS REHEARSAL & CONCERT
Saturday, February 29 – 10:00 – 2:00 Rehearsal
2:00 pm – Break/pre-concert preparation
(Students may NOT leave the building between the Dress Rehearsal and Concert)
Concert 3:00 pm – Clinton Township Middle School,
34 Grayrock Road, Clinton, NJ 08809

CONCERT TICKET INFORMATION

**CJMEA is now offering the convenience of being able to PURCHASE and PRINT your Region Concert tickets from home to avoid long lines at the door PLUS receive a reduced rate! Tickets are available for sale the week before each Region ensemble's concert at [https://cjmea.booktix.com/](https://cjmea.booktix.com/)

- **Print your ticket at home** and bring it to the door to be scanned for admission to the performance. **Print-from-home tickets** are $12 adults/$7 students & seniors 60+. Children 4 & under free.
- **Tickets at the door** are $15 adults/$10 students & seniors 60+. Children 4 & under free. Tickets purchased at the door are **cash only--no credit cards accepted**.
- Music educators who bring proof of current NAfME membership will be admitted free.

ITEMS TO BRING TO REHEARSALS

- $20 CASH Acceptance Fee (due at the first rehearsal – must be CASH)
- Student Transportation/ Pick Up form
- Instrument, Music and a Pencil
- Rosin, mute, rockstop, tuner, extra strings, bass stool, etc...
- Small Snack (if desired)
- Lunch/Dinner

*It is the students’ responsibility to bring food, drinks and snacks to rehearsals as needed. There will be no food or beverages allowed during rehearsals other than water. No one may leave the Rehearsal / Concert Site during meals.*
ATTENDANCE POLICY

1. Attendance at all rehearsals for the instrumental ensembles is mandatory.

2. Any absence from a rehearsal for the performance may result in removal from the ensemble. This is at the discretion of the Manager and/or Chairperson for the specific ensemble involved. **Any absence must be reported to Mrs. Gonsky prior to the rehearsal.**

3. Any student removed from a group for missing a rehearsal or the concert will be ineligible for All State Auditions (if applicable) for the current year and forfeits eligibility for CJMEA Auditions in the following year.

4. Students must understand that rehearsal times are approximate and that no one may leave a rehearsal until dismissed by the director. Failure to comply constitutes an unexcused absence.

WEATHER EMERGENCIES

The CJMEA Website will post all scheduling changes: [http://www.cjmea.org](http://www.cjmea.org)
In the event of inclement weather, check the website AFTER 6:00 a.m. for delays or cancellations.

CONCERT ATTIRE

**Chamber Orchestra:**

**Ladies:** Long Black Skirt or Black Dress Pants; Black Long-Sleeved Blouse and Black Dress Shoes.

**Gentlemen:** Black Dress Pants; Black Long-Sleeved Dress Shirt; NO Tie or Jacket; Black Dress Shoes and Black Socks.

**String Orchestra:**

**Ladies:** Long Black Skirt or Black Dress Pants; White Long-Sleeved Blouse and Black Dress Shoes.

**Gentlemen:** Black Dress Pants; White Long-Sleeved Dress Shirt; Long Dark Tie; Black Dress Shoes and Black Socks.
**REHEARSAL SITES & DIRECTIONS**

Use the following addresses for directions, which can be acquired, through the GPS source of your choice:

**All Rehearsals:**

Piscataway High School  
Band room & Chorus Room  
100 Behmer Road  
Piscataway, NJ 08854

**Concert:**

Clinton Township Middle School  
34 Grayrock Road  
Clinton, NJ 08809

We look forward to working with you and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

All the best,

Patty Gonsky  
CJMEA Intermediate Orchestra Chair  
pgonsky@cjmea.org
Rehearsal Pick Up Information & Policy Form

This form is to be filled out by the legal guardian for each child participating in a CJMEA band, orchestra or choral group. It must be returned by the start of the first rehearsal.

Student’s Name ____________________________________________

Student’s Address _______________________________________

Parents (or legal guardians), please check off number 1, 2 or 3 below.

1. ______ I will be transporting my child to and from rehearsals and can be reached at the phone numbers listed below.

   Home Phone____________________________________________

   Mother’s (or female legal guardian’s) cell phone___________________________

   Father’s (or male legal guardian’s) cell phone____________________________

2. ______ I will be sharing the transportation of my child to and from rehearsals. I have listed my contact information above and the “other drivers” information in the section below.

3. ______ I will not be providing transportation for my child to and from rehearsals. I have made arrangements with someone else to pick up my child. (Please list them in “other drivers” below).

   Other Drivers
   Name(s)        Cell Phone        Home Phone
   ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________
   ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________
   ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________
   ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________

The Statement Below Is To Be Read And Signed By The Parent or Legal Guardian

I understand that it is my responsibility to make sure that my child is promptly picked up by the stated ending times for all rehearsals and the concert. In the event that I am delayed for any reason in picking up my child, I will call the group manager/chairperson as listed in the acceptance letter and explain the reason for my delay and give an estimated arrival time. I understand that I must call as soon as I realize that I will not be there by the end of the rehearsal or concert. I further understand that the manager/chairperson will wait with my child for no more than 30 minutes after the rehearsal and/or concert ends. After that point, the manager/chairperson, at his or her discretion, will call the local police department and make arrangements for my child to be picked up and taken to the police station to wait until such time as I can get there to pick up my child. The manager/chairperson will use the number listed above to contact me. Should I not answer, the manager/chairperson will leave a message indicating the phone number for the police station where my child has been taken.

________________________________________________________  _____________________
Parent’s (or legal guardian’s) signature     Date

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS FORM BY THE FIRST REHEARSAL.