

Class Guitar— *Curriculum Letter – 2021/22*

Course Description

Class Guitar is a beginning course of study based on traditional guitar music education. This program allows students to explore playing the guitar in a group environment. The emphasis of the curriculum is threefold: (1) appropriate playing technique, (2) music literacy, and (3) exposure to a variety of music styles. It is a non-performing course however performance opportunities (highly recommended) will be available for experience and extra credit. Performance teaches young people to conquer fears, take risks and **communicate** to a live audience as well as with each other. Students of the arts also learn to think **creatively** and to solve problems in an innovative way. Performance classes build teamwork (**collaboration**), an essential life-skill. Guitar is a safe & bully free environment that helps develop **character & confidence**.

Class Expectations

To ensure that our goals as a class and as individuals are met, please abide by the following *code of conduct at all times*.

1. ***Be prepared*** (guitar, music, notebook, pencil)
2. ***Be on time***
3. ***Be professional*** (No gum, food or drinks)
4. ***Respect People and Property***
5. ***Active Participation*** (Your participation plays an important role. Stay focused and enjoy learning the different styles of music!)

Classroom Supplies

A **folder** and a Pencil needs to be brought to class daily for collecting guitar handouts.

Use of Instrument

We have a **class set** of guitars for student use. Each student is responsible for the instrument while in class or during the overnight check-out. If using a Lexington guitar, a donation of \$15 is appreciated for strings, materials & general maintenance. You may bring your own guitar to

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class but our storage is limited therefore it is preferred to use a Lexington guitar at school and the home guitar for practice. Any home guitar that is stored in the locked classroom is at your own risk). Strings/repairs of your own instrument are the responsibility of the student. A list of local music stores can be provided for supplies, repairs, rental options & purchases.

Grading Policy

Grades are based on three components:

Daily Class Participation—30%

You must be present, punctual, prepared, professional, *involved*, and respectful every day in order to receive full credit. Excessive tardies or absences will adversely affect grade.

Assessments—20%

Tests & Quizzes will be given on the written material as well as in-class performances.

Class Assignments & Homework—20%

Students will receive classroom assignments and periodic homework assessing their knowledge of topics covered in class. Additional practice (approx. 30 minutes/5 times per week) is required for success. Students will also write one paper per semester on famous rock and classical guitarists, researching and forming opinions which promote **critical thinking**.

Performances—30% Guitar is not a performance-based class but performances are **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**. See evening performance schedule below and mark your calendar! Parents will be notified appropriately of performances added or deleted to the calendar.

Extra Credit Specific opportunities will be available throughout the year.

Winter Show – Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Spring Show – Tuesday, May 17, 2022

Guitar Extravaganza – TBD—Spring Semester