

**Course:** MU84 Symphonic Band (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> hour)  
**Instructor:** Mr. Scott Burgener  
**Contact Info:** (480) 472-7158, [toroband@cox.net](mailto:toroband@cox.net)

This course is an intermediate-level performing group that focuses on both individual improvement of musical skills as well as development of ensemble skills. It is expected that all members will practice their instrument outside of class time. In order to perform at our best, members must have certain equipment and supplies that are particular to their instrument. It is important that all members wear the appropriate attire when performing.

### **EQUIPMENT FOR SUCCESS**

Flutes: Cleaning rod and cloth

Oboe and Bassoon: At least 3 working reeds, seat strap for bassoons

Clarinets: At least 3 working reeds, cork grease, cleaning swab

Bass Clarinets: At least 3 working reeds, cork grease, cleaning swab, neckstrap or peg

Saxophones: At least 3 working reeds, cork grease, neckstrap, cleaning swab

Trumpets: Valve oil, straight mute, cup mute, slide grease

French Horn: Rotary valve oil, slide grease, mute as needed

Trombones: Slide grease, rotary valve oil (for trigger), straight mute, cup mute, small water spray bottle

Euphonium and Tuba: Valve oil, slide grease

All band members: Electronic metronome/tuner (credit card size ones are inexpensive!)

**ALL SLIDES ON BRASS INSTRUMENTS MUST BE IN WORKING CONDITION. TRUMPETS MUST HAVE A "RING" ON YOUR THIRD VALVE SLIDE SO THAT IT CAN BE ADJUSTED WHILE PLAYING.**

### **RECOMMENDED MOUTHPIECES**

This list is provided for your information. If your private instructor has recommended a different mouthpiece from what is on this list, go with their recommendation.

Clarinet: Vandoren B45

Bass Clarinet: Charles Bay or Vandoren B44

Alto/Tenor Saxophone: Selmer C\*

Baritone Saxophone: Yamaha 5C

Trumpet: Bach 3C

French Horn: Giardinelli C8

Trombone and Euphonium: Bach 6-1/2 AL

Tuba: Schilke 67

### **REEDS**

For clarinets and saxophones, Vandoren brand reeds are highly recommended. For double reeds, it is highly recommended that you make your own reeds, or have a professional make them for you. Refer to your private teacher for recommendations.

## **CONCERT UNIFORMS**

**Guys:** Black tuxedo, white tuxedo shirt, black bowtie, black cummerbund, crew-length black socks, solid black dress shoes. You may get your tux anywhere, but we provide a special discount through LeSueur's Tuxedos. Get information from Mr. Burgener.

**Girls:** Black floor-length concert dress from [www.tuxedowholesaler.com](http://www.tuxedowholesaler.com). Get information from Mr. Burgener. It is important you order your dress no later than the second week of school in order for it arrive in time for the first concert.

## **DAILY REHEARSAL PROCEDURE**

Go to the bathroom prior to coming to rehearsal. When the bell rings at the start of class, you should be in the process of getting your stuff ready. Two to three minutes after the bell rings, rehearsal will begin. We will begin with warm-ups and scale studies, and then work on performance literature. We will rehearse until approximately four to five minutes before the bell rings. Do not begin to put away your equipment until Mr. Burgener has dismissed you. Please demonstrate appropriate rehearsal etiquette. You should have a pencil with you at all times. Do not speak while Mr. Burgener is speaking. If you arrive to rehearsal late, you must have an excuse slip or you will be marked tardy.

## **THE WAY SYMPHONIC BAND WORKS**

Even though 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> hour will rehearse separately, the two groups will perform as one band for our concerts. That means we will be using the same music. It is very important that if you take your music home to practice, that you have it back first thing the next morning so that both class periods have it available for use. There may be a need to schedule one or two after school rehearsals in order to practice as one group. You will be notified of these dates well in advance.

## **CONCERT EXPECTATIONS**

You are expected to watch those portions of the concert in which you are not performing. Adequate time will be given for you to warm-up prior to your part of the concert. You should demonstrate appropriate audience etiquette when watching other groups perform.

## **GRADING POLICY**

Your grade in this course is based on an accumulated number of points. Points are awarded for the following items:

Daily Participation in Class: 5 points each day

Concert and Festival Performances: 100 points each

Scale Tests: 100 points each

Written Tests: points vary depending on the test

We use a typical grading scale (90 = A, 80 = B, etc.) Since it is the semester grade that actually counts on your transcript, points do not "start over" at the midpoint of the semester. Your points for the first half of the semester continue into the second half.

## **COURSE OF STUDY – TENTATIVE DATES**

The Mountain View band course of study has been developed so that you can learn different things each semester. Band is much more than playing written music on a page; we would like you to be a stronger individual musician because of this course. Focused attention in each of the areas we will be studying will allow you to become a better musician, and in turn, will allow us to become a better wind ensemble.

### ***FIRST QUARTER TESTS/ASSIGNMENTS***

Musical Terms Written Test #1 – week of September 4

Full range chromatic scale playing test – week of September 10

**FIRST QUARTER CONCERT: SEPTEMBER 27, 7:00 p.m.**

Performance Analysis due by October 4

### ***SECOND QUARTER TESTS/ASSIGNMENTS***

Musical Terms Written Test #2 – week of October 22

Intonation Chart – due by November 9

Major scales/key signatures written test – week of November 19

**SECOND QUARTER CONCERT: NOVEMBER 29, 7:00 p.m.**

Performance Analysis due by December 6

Major (2 octaves when possible) playing test must be completed no later than December 14 (make an appointment with Mr. B)

FINAL EXAM – December 18

### ***THIRD QUARTER TESTS/ASSIGNMENTS***

**FEEDER SCHOOL FESTIVAL/CONCERT – January 15, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**CONCERT OF SOLOISTS – January 19, 7:00 p.m. (Master Musician solos and any additional solos/ensembles)**

Regional Audition (extra credit) – January 26 – (Cost: \$15)

Solo and Ensemble (extra credit) – January 26 – (Costs vary by event)

Musical Terms Written Test #3 – week of February 4

**THIRD QUARTER CONCERT: FEBRUARY 21, 7:00 p.m.**

Performance Analysis due by February 28

**ABODA AREA CONCERT FESTIVAL: MARCH 5 – TIME T.B.A.**

### ***FOURTH QUARTER TESTS/ASSIGNMENTS***

Musical Terms Written Test #4 – week of April 14

Minor scales/key signatures written test – week of April 21

**FOURTH QUARTER CONCERT: MAY 6, 7:00 p.m.**

Performance Analysis due by May 13

Natural minor scales (2 octaves when possible) playing test must be completed no later than May 16 (make an appointment with Mr. B)

FINAL EXAM – May 21

## **SCALE TEST PROCEDURE**

- 1) You may re-take the test as often as you like, but no more than once per week
- 2) Scales must be played two octaves where possible on your instrument
- 3) Scales are to be played in eighth notes, no slower than quarter note = 100
- 4) If it appears you are unprepared, Mr. Burgener will ask you to come back the following week (i.e. don't come in until you are ready!) It should not take much longer than five minutes to complete a scale test.
- 5) You may make an appointment to play during lunch, 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> hour, or after school

## **RECORDINGS AVAILABLE ON THE BAND WEBSITE**

Whenever possible, professional recordings of the literature we are playing will be available for you to download. The band website is [www.toroband.com](http://www.toroband.com). Go to the Wind Ensemble class page. You will be asked to enter the following information:

Username: toroband

Password: slabby

The files will be in MP3 format. You are encouraged to listen to these recordings often as you are preparing for performance. We will also post recordings from our concerts to use when writing your performance analysis papers.

## **REHEARSALS BEGIN TOMORROW!**

If you need to check out a concert instrument, please see Mr. Burgener at this time. Instrument check-out forms are due back no later than Friday, August 17.

## **MUSIC FOR THE FIRST CONCERT**

Fanfare for the Third Planet by Richard Saucedo

Brazilian Folk Dance Suite by William Rhoads

Fantasy on an Australian Song by Barry Kopetz

Courtly Airs and Dances by Ron Nelson