

# Frederick Douglass High School Orchestras 2019-2020

## I. **Director Contact Information: Sarah Payne**

859-381-3780

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[www.fdhsorchestras.com](http://www.fdhsorchestras.com)

## II. **Mission Statement:**

By participating in the FDHS Orchestra program, all students will be prepared to be lifetime musicians in the roles as audience members, performers and advocates. Students will be prepared to audition for scholarships and collegiate level orchestras and/or participate in community ensembles.

## III. **Orchestra Code of Conduct:**

### a. Classroom Rules and Expectations:

- i. Be in the room on time.
- ii. Be seated with all materials (instrument, music, pencil) when the timer (3 minutes after the start of class) sounds.
- iii. Remain quiet during tuning.
- iv. Participate in all class activities.
- v. Respect yourself, others and the instruments.
- vi. Mark corrections in your music and follow your part while other sections rehearse.
- vii. No gum, food, or drinks are allowed in the orchestra room.
- viii. Fingernails should be kept the appropriate length for playing your instrument. To determine if a student's fingernails are too long, do the following: With a straight finger, firmly press the fingertip down on to the top of a table so that the finger is perpendicular to the table. If the fingertip can firmly press to the table without getting in the way, the nail is short enough. If the nail gets in the way, it is too long to play a stringed instrument properly. Wearing salon nails to orchestra is akin to wearing high heels to PE- don't do it. This will negatively affect your daily grade and could cause injuries to your fingers.

### b. Practice Room Usage:

- i. Students must have permission from the Director before utilizing a practice room.
- ii. Only one student in the practice room at a time, unless you have permission from the Director.
- iii. No gum, food, or drinks in the practice room.
- iv. The practice room light must remain on at all times while the practice room is in use.

#### IV. **Student Leadership:**

##### Section Leader Responsibilities:

- a. Know the music:
  - i. Be able to play your entire part flawlessly (correct notes, rhythms, bowings and dynamics) early in the rehearsal process.
  - ii. Know where all entries for your section occur in the piece (know the score).
- b. Lead your section:
  - i. Take initiative in turning around and making technical suggestions to your section (stand up if necessary; demonstrate by playing if necessary).
  - ii. Make sure everyone in the section has the correct bowings and is playing in the right part of the bow with the right stroke.
  - iii. Do not change bowings without clearly notifying everyone behind you.
  - iv. Suggest fingerings for difficult passages.
  - v. Intuit and convey conductor's musical ideas to your section.
  - vi. Model appropriate rehearsal and classroom behavior.
  - vii. Schedule sectional rehearsals as needed with the Conductor and communicate these rehearsals with your section.
- c. With the other section leaders:
  - i. Communicate with other string section leaders.
  - ii. Consult with other section leaders regarding agreement on bowings and special effects.
  - iii. Make eye contact with other section leaders while playing in order to achieve ensemble unanimity.
- d. Leadership Committee
  - i. Teaching assistants
    1. Tuners
    2. Repairs
  - ii. Music Librarian
  - iii. Room Cleanliness Committee
    1. Orchestra Room
    2. Storage Room
    3. Practice Rooms
    4. Chairs & Stands
    5. Board cleaners
  - iv. Pencil Patrol
  - v. Bulletin Board managers

**V. Grading Policy:**

**Formative Assessment – 35%**

- a. Daily Rehearsal Skills
  - i. This includes having instrument, music, pencils, paperwork, being musically prepared, having correct nail length and staying on task.
- b. Playing Assessments
- c. Music Theory and Rhythms

**Summative Assessment – 50%**

- a. Participating in all concerts and performances.
  - i. Arriving to the performance at the stated call time.
  - ii. Wearing the proper attire required for that performance.
  - iii. Being prepared with music, instrument, etc.
- b. Concert Evaluation: Students are required to attend one (1) outside concert and write a concert critique OR students may participate in Solo and Ensemble, CKYO, Mentoring, the North Star Orchestra (aka Fiddle Club) or All-State Orchestra.

**Final – 15%**

**VI. Attendance:**

- a. Make up Policy:

Students are responsible to ask the teacher what material was covered during the absence, what material needs to be turned in, and the amount of time allowed.
- b. Excused Concert Absences:
  - i. Death in the family
  - ii. Medical Emergency or Illness
  - iii. Religious Holiday
  - iv. In the event of a High School sponsored athletic event, the director will contact the athletic director/coach to make arrangements.
- c. Extra Rehearsals and Sectionals:
  - i. All absences from extra rehearsals and sectionals must be communicated to the director at least one week in advanced.

**VII. Concert Attire:**

- a. Students must purchase concert attire. Concert attire will be used every year, but only needs to be purchased once.
- b. Girls: \$55 Concert Dress
- c. Boys: \$55 Tux Pants, Tux Shirt, Bow Tie and Cummerbund. Boys will be provided a Tux Jacket as a rental for the year (included in cost).
- d. All students must also wear black dress shoes. Boys must wear black dress socks; girls can wear black or nude leggings.

## VIII. Instruments and Supplies:

- a. Instruments: Students rent or buy their instruments. Cellos and basses are available at school for students' use allowing cello and bass students to leave rented or owned instruments at home for practice. A few school-owned instruments are available as needed. Students that are renting a school-owned instrument will need to pay a yearly rental fee of \$25. Violin and viola players will need to purchase a quality shoulder rest.
- b. Supplies: There is a \$25 for all orchestra students. This fee will provide the students with their instruction book, sheet music, and supplies for the classroom such as emergency rosin and strings.
- c. Repairs: Students are responsible for maintaining their instrument. Students renting a school owned instrument should notify the director immediately if a repair is needed. If the instrument was damaged due to negligence, the student will be responsible for the cost of the repair. Minor repairs (i.e. new strings, fallen bridge, etc.) can be fixed by the director. Major repairs must be taken to a local music store.

## IX. Concert Dates:

October 10 <sup>th</sup>	Fall Concert	6:30pm, report 5:30pm
November 11 <sup>th</sup>	CGW & Fiddle Club Concert*	6:30pm, report 5:30pm
November 21 <sup>st</sup>	Solo & Ensemble Concert*	6:30pm, report 5:30pm
December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Concert	6:30pm, report 5:30pm
March 12 <sup>th</sup>	Pre-Assessment Concert	6:30pm, report 5:30pm
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA Assessment	Times, TBA
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	CGW & Fiddle Club Concert*	6:30pm, report 5:30pm
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	Finale Concert	6:30pm, report 5:30pm

\*Only required for students participating in these events/ensembles.

## X. Other Important Dates:

September 7 <sup>th</sup>	UofL Bass Day	9am-4:30pm
September 28 <sup>th</sup>	WKU Cello Day	Times TBA
September 28 <sup>th</sup>	UofL All-State Day	9am-5:00pm
November 16 <sup>th</sup>	All-State Auditions	Woodford County MS
November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Solo & Ensemble Festival	Time, Location TBA
November 24-26	EKU HS Honors Orchestra	Times TBA
February 5-8 <sup>th</sup>	KMEA All-State	Galt House, Louisville

Frederick Douglass High School Orchestra  
Participation Contract 2019-2020

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

***Agreement:***

As a member of the FDHS Orchestra, I agree to abide by all of the rules as stated in the orchestra handbook and have marked the performance dates on my calendar.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

As a parent, I have read and discussed the rules and policies as stated in the orchestra handbook and have marked the performance dates on our calendar.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**With this form, please submit the following (check all that apply:)**

\_\_\_ \$25 Classroom Fee (required for all students)

\_\_\_ \$25 Instrument Rental Fee (only for students who do not have a personal instrument or rent from a music store)

\_\_\_ \$55 Concert Attire purchase (only for students who do not already own a concert dress/tuxedo)

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount paid (circle one):            Check            Cash

Make checks out to FDHS Orchestra. Please contact the director if you have any questions or concerns about the above fees.