



LFC/AHS Orchestra Information

Contact Information

<http://www.allenorchestra.org>

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Facts about 9-12 Orchestra

- Estimated 500 students in 2018-2019 (4 LFC Orchestras, 6 AHS Orchestras).
- Students are placed by audition **and** director recommendation.
- **Lowery Chamber Orchestras** performs as String Orchestra for the Fall Concert and UIL, then performs with select members of the Allen Escadrille to form the Lowery FC Full Orchestra for UIL during the Spring Semester.
- **Lowery Sinfonia Orchestra** performs as a String Orchestra for entire school year
- **Lowery Concert Orchestra** performs as a String Orchestra for entire school year
- **Lowery Camerata Orchestra** performs as a String Orchestra for entire school year

- **AHS Chamber Orchestras** performs as String Orchestra for the Fall Concert and UIL, and Full Orchestra for the entire Spring Semester.
- **AHS Sinfonia Orchestra** performs as String Orchestra for the Fall Concert and UIL, and Full Orchestra for the entire Spring Semester.
- **AHS Concert Orchestra** performs as String Orchestra for all Performances.
- **AHS Camerata Orchestra** performs as String Orchestra for all Performances.
- **AHS Philharmonia Orchestra** performs as String Orchestra for all Performances.
- **AHS Sinfonietta Orchestra** performs as String Orchestra for all Performances.

- All 9-12 Orchestras and students participate in UIL and TMEA Events (Contests, Competitions, etc...)
- All 9-12 Orchestras and students participate in Spring Trip and/or invitational performances.
- Annual Orchestra Banquet (includes winds/percussionists who participate in Full Orchestras).

TO ENROLL IN ORCHESTRA - USE THE COURSE CODE: FA1ORC – Orchestra

The LFC directors will place you in the appropriate orchestra after auditions in December.

Common Questions About Orchestra

- Can my student take Orchestra and Athletics?

Yes! Orchestra will meet opposite most athletic periods. Soccer is one of the few sports scheduled during some orchestra classes as of the current schedule.

- What is Full Orchestra?

Starting in 9th grade, LFC Chamber & Sinfonia Orchestra students will perform with selected members of the Lowery FC Band – this ensemble will make up the LFC Full Orchestra. Rehearsals for Full Orchestra will be determined each semester – usually once a week after school (Around 2 rehearsals Fall Semester, 8 rehearsals Spring Semester). The AHS & LFC Full Orchestras performs in the Winter Concert, UIL Contest, and Spring Concerts.

- How much money does it cost to be in the orchestra?

Each student is required to pay a \$30.00 Orchestra fee to cover their t-shirt, binder & uniform dry cleaning. You must also purchase or rent a quality instrument to play in the orchestra. The cello and bass can be rented from the school for school use (\$125 per year.) Students can also take private music lessons, which is strongly encouraged! Spring Trips will be supplemented by fundraisers. Other costs involve small fees (All-Region Orchestra, UIL Solo & Ensemble, etc...).

- What is the Uniform of LFC/HS Orchestra Students for formal concerts?

Students will be issued a school tuxedo or dress for formal concerts. Girls may choose the Orchestra dress (provided) or they can provide their own uniform at their own expense (guidelines in the handbook). The school uniform is provided at no cost – except for upkeep and dry cleaning. Black shoes, black socks, etc...will need to be provided by the student (see handbook.) The freshmen are issued new uniforms at the Orchestra Registration Day in August 2018.

- How is Orchestra scheduled in a typical class day?

Lowery Orchestras will be scheduled during the middle of the day – currently Chamber Orchestra is 2nd period, Sinfonia Orchestra is 3rd period, Concert Orchestra is 6th period and Camerata Orchestra is 5th period. Orchestra at LFC and AHS is not a double-blocked class! Every orchestra student will meet 2 or 3 times a week (depending on the week rotation).

- Which Orchestra should my student sign up for?

*In December 2017 – every 8th grade orchestra student played an audition/final exam for the LFC Orchestra directors. The students have been placed in an Orchestra for 2018-19 based on this audition, but changes could still occur based on student achievement and involvement in their middle school Orchestra programs. Please choose **FAIORC – Orchestra** when signing up for Orchestra.*

- Are students required to attend all events?

Students are required to attend all events on the orchestra calendar that pertain to them. In some instances academic eligibility will not allow students to attend some events which are out of district. We make every effort to inform parents about orchestra activities. Please see handbook for more information.

- Does the orchestra meet early before school starts in August?

*Yes, there will be an Orchestra Orientation before school starts, in August 2018 for **all** Orchestra students. Students will size for uniforms, receive binders, locker information, and purchase t-shirts. The Allen Orchestra Booster Club sells spirit wear while a local vendor will have instrument repair and music supplies available. See our website for times and information.*

- Can my student participate in Orchestra all four years of High School in their schedule?

Yes! Students who participate in AP/IB, Athletics, etc...have been able to take orchestra all four years of High School without taking summer school. Counselors CAN make orchestra fit into class schedules.

- Is there a Booster Club available for parents to help the Allen Orchestra Program?

Yes! We encourage all parents to join the Booster Club! See website for info! <http://www.allenorchestra.org/boosters>

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