

May 2011

Dear Parents of Rising Second, Third and Fourth Graders:

The end of the year is approaching at Columbus Academy, and now is the time for your child to enroll in the String Orchestra Program for the upcoming 2011-12 school year. Beginning strings classes for grades 2 and 3 are being offered in the fall as well as an opportunity for your child to continue his or her education in the string program in grades 3 and 4.

The Columbus Academy Lower School String Orchestra Program is a program offered after school Monday through Thursday. Strings classes are offered at several different levels depending on your child's skill level and the level completed in previous years. The string program may be right for your child if:

- Your child wishes to pursue or continue their string education at Columbus Academy on violin, viola, cello or bass.
- You and your child are able to arrange for an extension to the school day.
- You and your child understand the time commitment, parental support and encouragement, as well as, the practice time needed to become a successful string player.

Enrollment in the orchestra program is done in the spring for the next year, so we can order music books and materials, and begin right away when school opens. Please enroll immediately to secure a place for your child in the class. The schedule for next year will remain the same as this year.

Brief Outline of the Program:

Classes are offered at the following times:

Level 1 (meets twice a week): Mondays and Wednesdays 3:15 - 3:45

Level 2 (meets twice a week): Mondays and Wednesdays 3:45 - 4:15

Level 3 (meets twice a week): Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:15 - 3:45

Level 4 (meets twice a week): Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:45 - 4:15

CONCERTS WILL BE PERFORMED ON AND OFF CAMPUS. A SCHEDULE WILL BE SENT HOME IN THE FALL. There is a one-time fee of \$30 that will be added to your Academy bill to cover the cost of music books and tee shirts.

Parents are responsible for the rental of an instrument. The books will be included in the class fee and will be given out at the beginning of the classes. Parents can, "shop around" for their child's instrument, but the music department at the Columbus Academy feels it can recommend *The Loft Violin Shoppe, located at 4604 N. High Street*, in Columbus. The Loft has been serving the central Ohio area for many years now and the staff members are experts in the field of instrument repair, fitting, and knowledge of quality instruments. I do suggest, however, that you rent your instrument as soon as possible, as the Loft also serves many area school systems and the availability of instruments will become limited as the school year approaches. RETURNING STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO KEEP THEIR INSTRUMENTS OVER THE SUMMER AND CONTINUE PLAYING.

For Violinists, Violists, Cellists and Bassists: Essential Elements 2000 series, published by Hal Leonard, will be used in the classroom, along with Suzuki materials and beginning orchestra music by a variety of composers. The cost of the book is included in the class charge. The school provides lessons to your children as part of your tuition package to Columbus Academy.

- Any child in grades 2 and 3 is eligible for beginning lessons. Continuation in the program depends on active participation in class and faithfulness to daily practice.
- The ideology of traditional teaching methods, as well as Suzuki training, is incorporated into the curriculum. Not only will your child be receiving instrumental instruction, but he/she will also learn skills that can be transferred to many classrooms.

Registration for classes is now being accepted. Please return the accompanying form to the Lower School office (by mail or in person) as soon as possible. Orchestra letters will be sent out in the fall by email. Classes will begin the first week of September. Make sure that you have arranged for a rental instrument before classes start.

Please direct any questions to Cynthia_Bush@columbusacademy.org.

Respectfully,
Dan Vorenberg
Head of Lower School

REGISTRATION FOR LS STRING ORCHESTRA PROGRAM

STUDENT NAME (PLEASE PRINT): _____ RISING GRADE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL: _____

CURRENT EMAIL: _____

PLEASE CHOOSE AN INSTRUMENT:

VIOLIN VIOLA CELLO BASS (BEGIN IN 3RD ONLY)

(PLEASE CHECK WITH THE LOFT VIOLIN SHOP FOR SIZING REQUIREMENTS)

PLEASE INDICATE CLASS LEVEL:

LEVEL 1 _____ Mondays and Wednesdays 3:15 – 3:45

LEVEL 2 _____ Mondays and Wednesdays 3:45 – 4:15

LEVEL 3 _____ Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:15 – 3:45

LEVEL 4 _____ Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:45 – 4:15

PLEASE RETURN YOUR REGISTRATION FORM BY MAY 31ST.

THE AFTERNOON TIMES REQUIRE THAT PARENTS ARRANGE FOR THEIR CHILD'S PICK UP BY THE END OF THE CLASS OR YOUR CHILD WILL BE SENT TO CASE AND YOUR ACCOUNT WILL BE CHARGED. STUDENTS IN LEVELS 2 AND 4 WILL WAIT IN CASE UNTIL CLASS TIME. NO CHARGE WILL BE MADE FOR THOSE WAITING FOR A CLASS TO BEGIN.