



## **The Harker School: Middle School Instrumental Music**

### **Orchestras**

- All students who wish to enroll in orchestra are welcome to, provided they play one of the approved instruments in the ensemble.
- Auditions consist of a prepared piece from each student on their specific instrument, musicianship skills, and sight-reading. Excerpts may be included for specific sections and are emailed to students by mid-August.
- Students are assessed on musicianship (singing, improvisation and tonal patterns) expression, technique, articulation, phrasing, tone and rhythm.
- Grade and experience level also play a role in placement.
- Orchestra seating is purely organizational and does not impact how involved a student is in the orchestra program.

### **Performances**

- Performances include: Big Assembly Day, Winter Concert, Spring Concert, CMEA Festival, and other events.
- Every member of the ensemble is expected to be at all performances/sound checks and activities for the duration of the event.
- Ensemble members must keep performance dates open. Dates are subject to change.



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### **Jazz Bands**

- All students who wish to enroll in Jazz Band are welcome to, provided they play one of the approved instruments in the ensemble.
- Students are placed on their given parts at the discretion of the director.
- Saxophones rotations may include clarinet, flute, tenor, alto, or baritone sax.
- There is no audition to make a jazz ensemble, but experience and knowledge of jazz does play a part in placement.
- Grade and proper balance is considered when staffing both the Lab and Jazz Bands.

### **Performances**

- Performances include: family picnic, Winter Concert, An Evening of Jazz, Stanford Coffee House, and other events.
- Every member of the ensemble is expected to be at all performances/sound checks and activities for the duration of the event.
- Ensemble members must keep performance dates open. Dates are subject to change.