

Canyon del Oro High School  
Orchestra Handbook  
2023-2024

Orchestra Director: Mr. Toru Tagawa

Contact Info: E-mail address: [ttagawa@amphi.com](mailto:ttagawa@amphi.com)

website: <https://cdoorchestra.com/>

Practice Parts: Will be posted on Schoology

Remind for the Orchestra

Symphonic: Enter 81010, and Text @cdosymp

Concert: Enter 81010, and Text @cdoconcert

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the new school year. My name is Toru Tagawa, and I have been the director of the Orchestra at Canyon del Oro High School since 2008. I am looking forward to working with all of you and making great music. At CDO, we have two orchestras, the Concert Orchestra and the Symphonic Orchestra. The Concert Orchestra is open to students who play or wish to play string instruments, and the Symphonic Orchestra is only open to advanced students and audition is required for in-coming students.

In both orchestras, we will cover a variety of literature from J.S. Bach to full orchestra music. We will be learning about composers, scales, key signatures in addition to playing your instrument. Students are expected to follow the director's instructions at all times.

Please read this handbook carefully and sign the online contract by August 16. (4 Points for the Quiz/Form) Link is at [Handbook Contract](#) Make sure to put your T-shirt size, you will receive one Orchestra T-shirt.

Symphonic Orchestra meets in the 2nd Period.

Concert Orchestra meets in the 3rd Period.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Toru Tagawa, [ttagawa@amphi.com](mailto:ttagawa@amphi.com), 520-696-5797

Director: CDO Orchestra

## GENERAL BEHAVIOR & PARTICIPATION

- Students should become familiar with the school rules and regulations. Students are expected to follow the rules and regulations that the school has put forth for academic learning.
- Engagement point(s) will be deducted for excessive, inappropriate, or disruptive behavior.
- Points can also be deducted for disruptive behavior, excessive tardies, absenteeism, cell phone use during class, failure to take part in class discussions, etc.

### In-Person Class Policies

- Students are expected to create a positive learning environment for you and your colleagues. Please be considerate of others, and show respect to everyone. This applies as soon as you enter the Orchestra room.
- Students are expected to be sitting in their seats during the class. Once you are seated, you are not to get rosin, or water. Water should be by your seat.
- Students should own good quality instruments and bring them to school on orchestra days (cellos and basses are exempt from bringing them to school).
- Students must have necessary accessories such as pencils, rosin, shoulder rest, spare strings, cleaning cloths, endpin holder, mute, etc.
- No food or drink are allowed in the classroom. Water is allowed. Chewing gum is not allowed in the Orchestra Room.
- Students are to follow the CDO code of conduct.
- Fingernails must be kept short in order to play the instrument.
- Classroom music must stay in the classroom. In the case of missing or music in poor condition, students are responsible for the replacement cost. Students are only allowed to mark in pencil.
- No large jewelry, No perfume or cologne.

### **Weekly Rehearsal Grade 40%**

- Absences are absences unexcused and excused (there is no replicating real time rehearsal/instruction)
- 3 days Free per Quarter to accommodate for extra curricular obligations, athletics, illness, etc.
- 2 tardies in the same week will be equal to 1 rehearsal
- Make up points can be done by the following. (for Weekly Rehearsal Grade only)  
Must be completed during the Quarter of the absences  
Deadline for submission process (Schoology) is 1 week prior to Quarter Grading  
3 options
  - tutorial time practice (8:30am - 8:55am) with *signed sheet, take a picture and upload to schoology* **1 point**
  - live performance write-up **2 points**
  - 5 minute Class Presentation (Composer or Music Selection) **4 points**

Rehearsals	:	=	Points
5		=	4
4		=	3
3		=	2
1-2		=	1
0		=	0

**Weekly rehearsal grades are not based on attendance, but on Mastery of Standards. Which contains participation, collaboration, and performance in fine arts.**

**Quiz/Form:** 40% (Playing test, Written test, Final exam, turning in forms, etc)

**Concert Performances:** 20%

### **Grading Scale**

4 = A Highly Proficient

3 = B Proficient

2 = C Partially Proficient

1 = D Minimally Proficient

0 F No Evidence of Proficiency

**Students must perform at all concerts and festivals. Only illness, family illness, family death, or religious holidays will be considered excused absences for a performance. Work is not an excused absence. Written permission from a parent or a doctor is required.**

### **Concert Attire for Performances**

Men: Long Sleeve Black Dress shirts, black pants, black socks and black dress shoes.

The Orchestra Booster Club will order black dress shirts. (No cost for the shirts)

Women: Uniform black dress. Dresses will be ordered as soon as possible at the beginning of the school year. (No cost for the Dress, New this year)

**Student Council: You must have been in the Symphonic Orchestra at CDO for at least a year to be eligible to run for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer positions. For the President position, you must write a paragraph describing why you want to run for the office, and what you would like to do as being the Orchestra President by August 14th. Turned in to Mr. Tagawa at [ttagawa@amphi.com](mailto:ttagawa@amphi.com)**

***President:*** Act as the executive officer of the students

***Vice President:*** Assistant to the President

***Secretary:*** Keep track of the meeting records

***Treasurer:*** Keep track of money issues

For both Symphonic and Concert Orchestra

***Librarians:*** Assist the orchestra director in library matters

**Stage Managers:** Assist the orchestra director in stage matters, in class and on stage

**ABODA Festival**

Orchestra will receive following ratings at the ABODA Festival

Superior (I), A superior performance in all aspects

Excellent (II), An excellent performance with minor problems

Good (III), A good or average performance with some minor and major problems or inaccuracies

Fair (IV), A performance with serious problems

Poor (V), A performance with problems so serious that the effort is deemed unsatisfactory

When receiving Superior from all three judges, the group receive the Superior with Distinction

**The orchestra director reserves the right to modify the handbook during the year. This will be done in a timely manner so students will be aware of the modification(s).**

## Important Dates

**August 14** Official Statement for running for the president due to Mr. Tagawa via email.

**August 16** Voting for T-Shirts Design (Symphonic), Officer Election(Symphonic)

**August 16 Handbook Contract due online, T-Shirts Design Due, Measuring for Dress**

**October 4 (Wed) Fall Concert at 7pm, (Cross@6:30pm) CDO Auditorium (5pm Call)**

**October 5 (Thu) ABODA Festival, Dobson High School (Symphonic only)**

**November 8**, Deadline for sign up for Regional Orchestra Audition and Solo Ensemble Festival for CDO students. (\$25 application fee, payable to CDO, memo: Orchestra audition)

**December 13 (Wed) CDO Feeder Concert at 6pm (Elementary@6pm, Cross@6:30pm, CDO@7pm) CDO Auditorium (5pm Call)**

**January 20 (Sat)** Solo Ensemble Festival

**January 27 (Sat)** Regional Auditions

**February 16(Fri) and 17(Sat)** AMEA Regional Festival (Participants only)

**February 21 (Wed)** Deadline to register for All State

**March 6 (Wed) Spring Concert at 7:00pm, (Cross@6:30pm) CDO Auditorium (5pm Call)**

**March 7 (Thu) and 8 (Fri), Orchestra Trip to Flagstaff. (ABODA Festival on 3/7, both Symphonic and Concert Orchestra members are to perform). Cost per student: \$200**

**March 9 (Sat)** AMEA All State Audition, Phoenix (Student must have completed Regional Festival and must have been placed in the first half of your instrument. Violinists must make 1st Violin at the Regional (or first desk of 2nd Violin) in order to qualify.

**April 11-13 (Thu-Sat), All-State Festival, (Participants only)**

**April 24 (Wed), AMEA State Festival (Only participates if we receive Superior Rating in March)**

**May 8 (Wed) Final Concert at 7:00pm, CDO Auditorium (5:30pm Banquet) Cross@6pm**

**May 10 (Fri) Honors Assembly at 6pm, CDO Auditorium (5pm Call) Non Seniors only.**