

# River Trail Middle School

## -Chamber Orchestra Audition 2020-

**This Audition Form is due by April 24, 2020 before a student may audition**

### Chamber Orchestra Auditions

*\*The Chamber Audition procedure has changed to accommodate the current situation during the 2019-2020 school year.  
The changes in audition procedures will only impact the current 2019-2020 school year.*

All students interested in auditioning for Chamber Orchestra must have this form completed, signed, and turned in by April 24. Students accepted to Chamber Orchestra will be enrolled in the class for the following 2020-2021 school year. Students will perform the following for the audition:

- 2-octave scale with arpeggios: *required scales and arpeggios found on next page*
- 2 excerpts found online at: <http://rtmsorchestra.com/chamberaudition2020/>
- There will be no sight-reading this year
- Students do not need to memorize the music or scales/arpeggios

*\*Students who passed 1<sup>st</sup> Round All-State in 2019 will need to complete and turn-in this form, but are not required to audition*

### Video Auditions: Due May 7 (11:58PM) through FlipGrid

Students will record their audition on video and upload their audition video through **FlipGrid** found on their Orchestra Class Teams site. Students will record each portion of the audition separately as an assignment is made for each one: Scales & Arpeggios, Excerpt #1, Excerpt #2

### Recording Guidelines for accepted videos

- Only videos sent through **FlipGrid** will be accepted. No emailed video attachments or video links
- The video must contain the following on screen throughout the video: *Student's face, Left Hand fingers, Bowing Technique*
- No editing of your video
- Academic Honesty policies apply with audition videos

**Audition Videos are Due Friday, May 7 (11:58PM) through FlipGrid**

### Make-Up Auditions

If you **do not have an instrument** or **did not make Chamber Orchestra**, you will be given an opportunity to (re)audition in August. The scale requirements will be the same, however the **excerpts for the "make-up" will be different**. The availability of the excerpt for the "make-up" audition will be determined by the timeline in the reopening of schools set by the school district. Students who did not make Chamber Orchestra after the August "make-up" audition will have a chance to try out for Chamber Orchestra again for the next school year in Spring 2021.

**If you have an instrument at home that works and you can play the excerpts, I strongly suggest you audition and not wait for the "make-up" audition**

### Audition Results

Results of the Audition will be posted by the end of the current school year. Students who did not make Chamber Orchestra will be given their auditions shortly after the release of the audition results and may re-audition again at the beginning of the school year. There are multiple factors that go into selecting students including:

- Demonstrating proficiency in the audition performance
- Ranking results against other student scores
- Balance among instrumentation of the orchestra (cannot have 80 violins but only 3 violas)
- Current (pre-quarantine) classroom performance and behavior

### Chamber Orchestra Expectations

**Music Preparation:** Students understand that learning the notes (including intonation), rhythms, bowings, and printed dynamics in a piece of music are the bare minimum requirements in music performance. The music in Chamber Orchestra will involve more complex awareness, adherence, and performance precision towards musical expression, tone quality, bowing techniques, and stylistic articulations required in the music. Students are highly encouraged to ask for assistance and help from the teacher to reach mastery levels in a timely manner. **The challenge of Chamber Orchestra is not just learning how to play the music, but consistently matching your technique and performance with others in the orchestra.**

**Extra-Curricular Commitments:** The level of music performed in Chamber Orchestra is at the high school level, therefore **rehearsals and performances with all members are essential in maintaining consistent ensemble balance and precision**. Chamber Orchestra students must attend the required concert performances, morning and after school rehearsals, weekend performances and rehearsals, orchestra trips, and performance workshops and clinics. Students and parents will be notified 2 weeks' in advance for required morning/after-school rehearsals. **Please note that required morning/after-school rehearsals and concerts are part of the student's grade in orchestra.**

*By signing this audition form, parents and students understand and agree to the River Trail MS Audition process, that the results at the end of the Audition period in August are final, and the Expectations of Chamber Orchestra students. Furthermore, parents and students agree and understand that it is the student's responsibility to arrange transportation and notify **in advance** other teachers, coaches, tutors, family members, and others if a scheduled event conflicts with a outside of class rehearsal or performance. **Students with continuing issues with attendance, music preparedness, or behavior problems may result in the student moved out from the Chamber Orchestra group.***

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Please open this form with Adobe Acrobat Reader so you may use the "pen" tool to sign under signatures*

# -Chamber Orchestra 2020 Audition Form-

## This form is due to Mr. Liu April 24, 2020

### Required Scales with Arpeggios

One full bow per note (frog to the individual student's tip), no vibrato, and quarter note speed between 72-88

- Violin-2 octaves F Major
- Viola-2 octaves D Major
- Cello-2 octaves A Major
- Bass- 2 octaves G Major

Scale	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		Total
Intonation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10											
Technique/Tone	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10											

Excerpt #1	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		Total
Intonation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10											
Rhythm/Tempo	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10											
Technique	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10											
Tone Quality	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10											

Excerpt #2	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		Total
Intonation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10											
Rhythm/Tempo	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10											
Technique	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10											
Tone Quality	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10											

Sight-Reading #1	1		2		3		4		5		Sight-Reading #2	1		2		3		4		5		Total	
Intonation	1	2	3	4	5						Intonation	1	2	3	4	5							
Tempo	1	2	3	4	5						Tempo	1	2	3	4	5							
Rhythm	1	2	3	4	5						Rhythm	1	2	3	4	5							
Technique	1	2	3	4	5						Technique	1	2	3	4	5							
Tone Quality	1	2	3	4	5						Tone Quality	1	2	3	4	5							

NO SIGHT-READING

Final Score \_\_\_\_\_

### Evaluation Criteria:

- **Intonation:** how accurate a student plays in-tune
- **Rhythm/Tempo:** how precise student keeps a steady tempo and follows correct rhythms
- **Technique:** evaluates the consistency of arm and wrist posture in addition to the position of the instrument and bow correct bowing techniques and stylistic articulations required in the music
- **Tone Quality:** the dynamics in music and the quality and appropriateness of sound produced
- **Professionalism:** the current performance and behavior the student consistently demonstrates in orchestra during the current school year including:
  - Following correct bowing direction/style
  - Having his/her music with appropriate technique and dynamic markings written
  - Being on task without disruptions to the teacher or other students
  - Maintaining a supportive and positive attitude towards other students

### About the Chamber Orchestra

The River Trail Middle School Chamber Orchestra is an audition only ensemble open to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Created in 2002, 60 to 70 students are part of the Chamber Orchestra group as the group performed at numerous state-wide and national events. At the state level, the Chamber Orchestra was invited to perform at the Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference in 2008 and 2014. The orchestra also performed at the Governor's Mansion in December of 2008 and 2014. Nationally, the Chamber Orchestra was invited to perform at the National Middle School Association Convention in 2003, the American String Teachers Association National Orchestra Festival in 2006, and at Carnegie Hall in 2012 and in 2018.