

# **Symphonic Strings – 2020-2021**

**Instructor:** Ms. Kylie Ahern

**Class Period:** 7<sup>th</sup>

**Voicemail:** 928-214-8776, Ext. 306

**Email:** kahern@northlandprep.org

**Location:** Room 306

## **Online Classroom Information:**

- Email Ms. Ahern for the Google Classroom code
- New weekly assignments will be posted during the rollout period on Thursdays between 8am-9am
- Weekly assignments will be due by 8pm on Tuesdays. There may be smaller assignments due throughout the week, which will be indicated on the rollout schedule.

Symphonic Strings will meet every week on Zoom during the 7<sup>th</sup> period block (Tuesdays at 11am) **required**. Please check the roll-out schedule each week to see if we will meet on Fridays during the 7<sup>th</sup> period block (Fridays, 11am). Use the following link to access our Symphonic Strings Zoom classes:

Zoom Links are available on the Syllabus posted in Google Classroom.

Online office hours during first quarter (August 17-October 9): Tuesday and Thursday, 1-2pm or by appointment. Email for an appointment.

Zoom Links are available on the Syllabus posted in Google Classroom.

## **Course Description:**

Symphonic Strings is a course for students who are familiar with playing an orchestral string instrument in a group setting and interested in further developing their ensemble skills. Students will be challenged with more advanced string repertoire, as well as more advanced string techniques such as shifting, vibrato, and three octave scales. Members of this group will be offered the opportunity to compete in regional/state competitions. This group will perform regularly throughout the year. Pre-requisite: Concert Strings or have completed a placement audition with Ms. Ahern in Spring 2020.

## **Late Work:**

Please communicate with me through email if there is a problem **before** the assignment is due. If there is clear communication about a problem (internet issue, illness in the family, etc.), I will be understanding and work with the student on a case-by-case basis and accept late work without penalty.

However, if there is no communication prior to the due date, I will assume the student forgot to complete the assignment on time and 5% of the points will be deducted each day the assignment is late. Late work that is turned in one week past the due date will not be accepted for credit.

## **Grading:**

Grading for this year will be based on the same scale for all quarters. Only the content of the Playing Quizzes will change. These are the approximate values:

Playing Quizzes	35%
Homework	35%
Attention/Attitude/Posture	15%
Written Final Exam (or Final Project)	15%

Homework will consist of Sight Reading Factory assignments, theory worksheets, listening assignments, and practice logs.

Part of your responsibility as a student at NPA is to come to each class every day with all materials you need. In this class, that means your instrument (and accessories), music, and a pencil. There may be a penalty in students' grades for any class member who routinely "forgets" their instrument, music, or pencil.

### **Concert Performances:**

Concert performances are always an integral and important part of all performing Fine Arts classes. During the 2020-2021 school year, it is necessary that we remain flexible as we navigate these unprecedented times. Safety needs to be our number one concern this year. As soon as we find a way to safely put on live performances again, we will. In the meantime, I will explore and research alternative online performance methods for our classes.

### **Instrument Rental Information:**

String Instruments can be rented from:

- NPA – limited supply. Email me to check on availability: kahern@northlandprep.org
- Arizona Music Pro - <https://azmusicpro.com/band-and-backline-rentals>
- Milano's Music - <https://milanomusic.com/rentals/>

### **Other Deadlines and Dates:**

Friday, November 20	Payment deadline to audition for High School Regional Festival [and/or HS Solo & Ensemble]. \$20.00 for each event, payable to "NPA"
Friday, January 8	Payment deadline to audition for Middle School Regional Festival [and/or MS Solo & Ensemble]. \$20.00 for each event, payable to "NPA"
Saturday, January 16	HS Solo & Ensemble auditions, Tier 1 (Live)
Saturday, January 23	HS Region auditions. Location: TBA
Friday, February 5	Payment deadline for HS Region Participation (\$20.00) + lodging/meals fees (~\$100)
Thurs-Sat, Feb. 18-20	High School Region Festival – details: TBA
Friday, February 26	Deadline, All-State Audition Registration (\$25.00)
Saturday, February 27	Middle School Region Auditions & Solo & Ensemble at Prescott Mile High MS
Friday, March 5	Payment deadline for MS Region Participation (\$20.00) +

	lodging/meals fees (~\$150)
Saturday, March 13	ABODA HS All-State audition. Location: TBA (Possibly Gilbert HS)
Thursday, March 26	Payment deadline for All-State Participation (\$25.00)
Thurs-Sat, April 15-17	HS All-State Festival, at University of Arizona in Tucson
May 7-8	Middle School Region Festival. Location: TBA

**Note:** Participation in MS or HS Regional Festival is optional, but strongly encouraged. I would highly recommend the experience to all string students. I always had a fun time participating in regional festivals growing up. Students will have the opportunity to play new music with different string students from all over the state.

**Classroom Rules:**

- All NPA rules apply within the strings classroom
- No phones in class
- All string students will respect one another in and out of the classroom. The strings classroom will always be a safe and welcoming space to all NPA students
- Always strive for excellence

Please note: Ms. Ahern reserves the right to make changes as she sees fit throughout the school year.