

## Rehearsals and Concerts

Performing for others provides instrumental students with many valuable opportunities. Students have worked to develop skills and they finally get the chance to demonstrate those skills to their families, teachers and peers. They have learned to play as a group and have learned that each person is important to the total group. Performing in evening and in-school concerts is an important part of the elementary instrumental curriculum. We strongly suggest that you coordinate family and extra-curricular activities around the events listed on the schedule. It might also help to talk to sports team coaches in advance.

**There are two District-wide Spring Concerts.**  
**All string students will perform in both concerts.**

In the case of district-wide rehearsals for the annual spring concert, students are not permitted to miss any portion of those practices. We have a very limited time to coordinate approximately two hundred students from four different buildings so that they can perform as a group. Due to the complications caused to instructors and to other students by students missing rehearsals, any child missing all or part of a district-wide rehearsal might not be permitted to participate in spring concert.

An end of the year party is given for students as a reward for all of their efforts and commitment during the year. Student who have more that 4 unexcused absences from rehearsals, miss the district-wide rehearsals or the spring concerts may not be permitted to attend the party.

**Annual Concerts for Beginners** (students in their first year of study)

**In-School Spring Concert**

**Evening Spring Concerts** (2 evening performances, all students perform both)

**Annual Concerts for Intermediates** (students with at least one year of experience)

**In-School Winter Concert**

**Evening Winter Concert**

**Northampton Strings Showcase**

**In-School Spring Concert**

**Evening Spring Concerts** (2 evening performances, all students perform both)

## Recital

A recital will occur at the end of the year and provide invited students with the opportunity to perform a solo or as part of a small ensemble. Invitations are extended to students using many different criteria throughout the year and include:

- ♪ Music mastery and technical achievement
- ♪ Mastering weekly assignments
- ♪ Lesson and rehearsal attendance
- ♪ Attitude
- ♪ Grade level
- ♪ Studying in lessons with a private teacher

## PMEA District 10 Elementary Orchestra Fest

The Pennsylvania Music Educators Association holds an annual band and orchestra fest for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students in District 10, which includes all districts in the counties of Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton, and Pike. The orchestra fest is a one-day experience, which involves students rehearsing together throughout the day and ends with a concert for family and friends. Each school is permitted to nominate up to 10 students. The teachers at the school hosting the festival make the final selection of participants. Nominations for participation in the orchestra fest will follow the same criteria as listed above for the recital.



## Rehearsal Attendance Awards

Attendance pins will be awarded to string students before the spring concert for students who have excellent attendance at all rehearsals.

Gold Star – perfect attendance

Silver Star – only one absence

Bronze Star – only two absences

Rehearsals include all before or after-school rehearsals, the Northampton Strings Showcase rehearsal in April, and the district-wide rehearsals for the spring concert.

Arriving more than 15 minutes late or leaving more than 15 minutes early will be considered an absence.

Only absences due to religious holidays will be excused. Please send a note to your child's instrumental music teacher in the event of an absence due to a religious holiday.

