North Allegheny Senior High Honors Chamber Orchestra



PMEA Annual In-Service Conference Bayfront Convention Center Erie, PA

> April 19, 2024 2:30 PM

Principal of North Allegheny Senior High School, Mr. Matthew Buchak

The North Allegheny School District is thankful and proud to have an amazing and robust music program. We remain grateful for the honorable invitation our Honors Chamber Orchestra has received to perform at the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association's annual convention. Our students are exhilarated for this opportunity to showcase their talents in a symphony of mellifluous sounds.

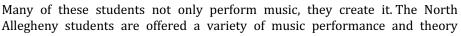


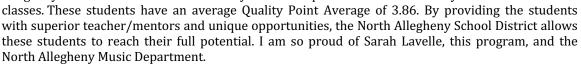
Music has the potential to soothe the soul, inspire hope, and stimulate thought. The listener symbiotically benefits from the musician's performance. Music education has been linked to improved academic performance—we have all witnessed as it has enhanced cognitive ability and memory retention for generations. Through music, students learn the core skills essential for success in every field.

We recognize the tremendous sacrifice and dedication our musicians put forth each day to master their craft. We acknowledge the daily commitment and passion of our Orchestra Director, Mrs. Sarah Lavelle. We wholeheartedly congratulate our Honors Chamber Orchestra, their families, and Mrs. Lavelle on this prestigious honor.

Music Department Chair, Mr. Robert Tozier

Congratulations to Mrs. Sarah Lavelle, Director of the Senior High School Honors Chamber Orchestra, for being invited to perform at the 2024 PMEA Annual In-Service Conference. This is another high compliment to a program that has historically performed in an exemplary manner.





To quote the 19th Century philosopher, Friedrich Nietzsche, "Without music, life would be a mistake." Music has a noteworthy interaction with the brain and our emotions. Because there is no single part of the brain reserved for music, all parts of the brain (i.e., central, peripheral, left hemisphere, and right hemisphere) function when listening to and performing music. The entire nervous system, including auditory, kinesthetic, and visual areas, is hardwired for all people to learn and perform. Music can trigger personalities, memories, associations, emotions, and expectations. All areas of music - listening, performing, and observing - can be improved and refined through music education ("Notes and Neurons", the 2010 World Science Festival).

This performance will trigger great memories, associations, emotions, and expectations for you. We hope that this is a rewarding experience for you and that you enjoy your time with the North Allegheny Orchestra. I wish the North Allegheny Honors Chamber Orchestra and Director Sarah Lavelle the best of luck and great success at the PMEA Conference. I also wish all of the performers luck and learning during this important educational opportunity.

About the North Allegheny School District

North Allegheny School District is an attractive community (pop. 45,000+) located twelve miles north of Pittsburgh. North Allegheny serves the municipalities of Bradford Woods Borough, Franklin Park Borough, Marshall Township and the Town of McCandless and encompasses a total of 48 square miles.

Much of the District is suburban-residential. New housing developments and transferees moving into the area help maintain a steady enrollment. A solid and growing tax base helps maintain economic stability. North Allegheny is the largest suburban school district in Allegheny County. The District is also one of the largest employers in the North Hills of Pittsburgh, employing over 1,000 people. It is comprised of seven K-5 elementary schools, three 6-8 middle schools, one 9-10 intermediate high school, and one 11-12 senior high school.

About the North Allegheny Orchestra Program

String instruction began at North Allegheny in the early 1970s with violin lessons offered to elementary children during the school day. In 1983, Mrs. Christine Loverti began her tenure at North Allegheny and provided a vision that would carry the string program through the 21st century. Under her direction, the orchestra programs at North Allegheny flourished, and in an effort to continue to serve the needs of the local community, Mrs. Loverti began the North Allegheny Golden Strolling Strings. As Mrs. Loverti's vision continues to unfold, the string orchestra program at North Allegheny currently services over 1600 students district wide and is staffed by eleven full time string specialists.

When students reach the high school level, they are able to audition for the select chamber orchestra or continue in one of several sections of string orchestra. These orchestra classes rehearse daily, under the direction of Ms. Sarah Lavelle and Ms. Lauren Donato. All members of the high school orchestra program participate in the Golden Strolling Strings.

About the North Allegheny Honors Chamber Orchestra

The Honors Chamber Orchestra is made up of 40 dedicated, hardworking students in grades 11 and 12. Students must audition for membership in the spring of the previous school year. This ensemble studies, rehearses, and performs a wide range of music of all levels and also participates in the Golden Strolling Strings. Our students are regularly chosen to participate in PMEA events, including Honor, District, Region, State and All-Eastern Orchestras.

In this year's ensemble, there are 14 members of the National Honors Society and 14 Scholar Athletes. They are involved in 38 different school clubs such as Key Club, Speech and Debate, HOSA, and Student Council. At the end of this year, they will have completed over 240 Advanced Placement courses and 525 Honors courses. Many have participated in outside youth orchestras and various PMEA events. They have not only been leaders of the orchestra program but also outstanding representatives of our school district as well.

THE PROGRAM

Suite for Strings			
I. A	A-Roving		
Fantasia on a 1	7 th Century TuneRichard A. Stephan		
Two Waltzes. (Op. 54, Nos. 1 & 4Antonin Dvorak		
1	2 , 2 , 2 , 2 , 2 , 2 , 2 , 2 , 2 , 2 ,		
Water Reflection	onsYukiko Nishimura		
water Kenecuk	JIIS1 UKIKO WISHIIIUI a		
Daint It Dlask	Might Laggan 9 Vaith Dishauda		
Paint it Black	Mick Jagger & Keith Richards Arr. John Reed for The Hampton String Quartet		
	This joint feed for the numpton of the Quarter		

NORTH ALLEGHENY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL HONORS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Violin	Viola	Cello
Ralph Abdel-Massih	Claire Cho 2	Daniel Balderas
Kanak Agarwal	William Chou	Michael Chalifoux
Sophia Aggazio	Julia Guo	Michelle Choe
Noel Bryan	Shea Mahon	Noah Lee 3
Chris Ha	Rushil Surti	Cate Lenchner
Navid Hasan		Joseph Li
Ashley Jang	Bass	Evan Obusek
Sophia Karki	Spandana Annavajhula	Ethan Ouyang
Megumi Kawabe 2, 5	Sam Lopuszynski	Luke Schott
Gavin Kondisko	Isa Peniche	Ayan Sheikh 5
Linda Kong 1, 4, 5		Reilly Spitz
Bianca Lohan		Hannah Yang 1, 2, 4, 5
Arya Mehta		
Angel Qu 3, 5		
Calder Quirke		1= 2024 PMEA All-State Orchestra
Matthew Tan		2= 2023 PMEA All-State Orchestra
Sri Thirumala		3= 2022 PMEA All-State Orchestra
Brandon Wang		
Jack Wang 2, 5		4= 2024 PMEA Region Orchestra
Benjamin Wu		5= 2024 PMEA District Orchestra

Thank you to the Class of 2023 for their tremendous contribution of time, talent, and hard work which helped the Honors Chamber Orchestra attain the high honor of performing at the PMEA All-State Convention:

Kay Mi	Kedar Rao
Tabo Mkandawire	David Shi
Josh Morton	Ada Sun
Maggie Mu	William Sun
Vicky Nie	Hanna Wang
John Notaro	Maddie Whitewolf
Faith Pongrace	
	Tabo Mkandawire Josh Morton Maggie Mu Vicky Nie John Notaro

Mrs. Sarah Lavelle, Director, has taught high school orchestra in the North Allegheny School District since 2006. She also directs the Golden Strolling Strings and conducts the pit orchestra for the spring musicals. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from West Virginia University, then completed her Master of Music Education at Florida State University, where she studied with Michael Allen and Karen Clarke. She lives in Pittsburgh with her husband Len, Director of Bands at North Hills High School, along with their two children, Grace and Anne.

North Allegheny Schools

Bradford Woods Elementary School (BWE)
Carson Middle School (CMS)
Franklin Elementary School (FES)
Hosack Elementary School (HES)
Ingomar Elementary School (IES)
Ingomar Middle School (IMS)
Marshall Elementary School (MES)
Marshall Middle School (MMS)
McKnight Elementary School (MCK)
North Allegheny Intermediate High School (NAI)
North Allegheny Senior High School (NASH)
Peebles Elementary School (PES)

North Allegheny Music Staff

Stephen Baldanzi, NAI Band/General Stephanie Bragiel, CMS/IMS Chorus/General Jamie Davis, IMS Chorus/General Lauren Donato, NAI/IMS Orchestra Megan Froehlich, MES Chorus/General Courtney Geary, CMS Band/General Matt Gillott, MMS General Nathan Goodrich, CMS Orchestra/General Linda Granite, MMS Band/General Heather Helsel, MMS Chorus Lisa Hoffmann, FES Chorus/General Amy Kegel, HES Chorus/General Dan Klicker, BWE/HES Band Sarah Klicker, MES Orchestra Stephen Kraus, PES/MCK Band Sarah Lavelle, NAI/NASH Orchestra Adam Leasure, FES/IES Band Dana Leasure, MMS Orchestra Beth Leckey, IES Chorus/General

Julia Leone, MES Orchestra Allison Long, IMS Band Rachel McGuire, FES Chorus/General Madeline Monahan, MCK Chorus/General Dennis Morton, MCK Orchestra Amy Reese, MCK Chorus/General Sara Rodack, MES Chorus/General Bryan Sable, NAI Chorus/General Troy Schaltenbrand, HES/PES Orchestra Steve Schmidt, BWE Chorus/General David Schmiech, NASH Chorus/General Carrie Semanco, BWE Orchestra Timothy Sheridan, MES Band Todd Stefan, NASH Band Robert Tozier, NASH General Clare Tunney, *PES Chorus/General* Kimberly Watton, HES/IES Orchestra Andrew Whitt, FES Orchestra David Woten, CMS Chorus/General

The North Allegheny School District Administration

Dr. Brendan Hyland, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Dave Deramo, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education
Dr. Michele Dowell, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education
Mr. Steven Smith, Coordinator of Curriculum and Instruction K-12
Dr. Amy DeLuca, Director of Student Services

The North Allegheny School District Board of School Directors

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Dr. Robert Gibbs
Ms. Paige Hardy
Mr. Richard McClure
Dr. Anisha Shah
Dr. Vidya Szymkowiak
Mrs. Elizabeth M. J. Warner
Mr. Michael Weniger

The North Allegheny Senior High School Administration

Mr. Matthew Buchak, *Principal*Mr. Garrett Miller, *Assistant Principal*Mr. T. J. Salopek, *Assistant Principal*

The North Allegheny Orchestra Parents Association Executive Board

Ms. Stefanie Chou, *President*Ms. Renee Hesseling, *Vice President*Ms. Heather Susini, *Secretary*Mr. Aaron Lenchner, *Treasurer*

Many Thanks:

Dr. Erin Ellis, Prof. Andrea Priester Houde, Prof. Mary Grace Johnson, Dr. Andrew Kohn, Dr. Rotem Weinberg, *West Virginia University* Mr. Brian Worsdale, *Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestra*

Lauren Donato, Dana Leasure, Nate Goodrich Steve Baldanzi, Bryan Sable, David Schmiech, Todd Stefan, Bob Tozier Mairi Cooper, Stephanie Glover, Jeanne Tupper Michael Allen, David Buetzow, Stephen Gage, Bill Galvin, Areta Kalogeras, Christine Loverti, Rebecca MacLeod Len, Grace, Annie