

MURCHISON ORCHESTRA AND GUITAR SUPPLY LIST

1. **Instrument** - (violin, viola, cello, bass, nylon string acoustic guitar) Instruments should be sized by a teacher or professional at a string shop. It is highly recommended that you rent an instrument from a local string shop, see our list of vendors below. **Please do not buy an instrument from Walmart, Craigslist, or an online vendor.** There are a limited number of instruments that can be rented on a first come first serve basis for \$40.00 per semester (\$80.00 for the year). Please contact Mr. Clinton for more information on renting a school instrument.
2. **Instrument Accessories** -
 - a. Violin/Viola - Shoulder rest. Adjustable shoulder rest that is the appropriate size for the instrument.
 - b. Cello/Bass - Rockstop. Either a rubber rocktop or a strap for cellos.
 - c. Guitar - Collapsible foot stool.
 - d. Orchestra Students only - Rosin (or Pops Bass Rosin), and a cleaning cloth.
3. **Binders** - All students will be supplied a 3-ring black binder, music and materials, and a pencil (Returning students can use their binder from the previous year). It is the student's responsibility to take care and maintain their binder throughout the school year. **This will be paid for by the orchestra fair share fee, which is explained below.** If the student's binder is severely damaged or lost, it is their responsibility to replace the whole binder (which includes the binder, pencil, and **all** included music and handouts, which are available on BLEND).
4. **Clip-On Chromatic Tuner** - This clip-on tuner is for classroom use and must affix to the instrument to be used for personal tuning. You can either purchase a tuner that clips directly to the bridge or scroll (ex. Snark SN or ST Model, D'addario NS micro, or similar), or a tuner that has a detachable pick-up clip (ex. Korg tuner with Korg CM-200 contact microphone, or similar).
5. **Optional items** - An extra set of strings (only for violin, viola, or guitar; optional but handy if you happen to break one). A music stand for home practice (an inexpensive fold up stand is sufficient)

ORCHESTRA FAIR SHARE FEE

All students will be asked to pay a fair share fee of \$30.00, which will cover the cost of: t-shirts, binders, pencils, music, clinicians, and snacks/food. **Fees can be paid by cash, check (address checks to Murchison Middle School), or by School Cash Online.** Fees are due by the end of the second week of school (August 27, 2021).

Financial limitations should never be a reason that a student cannot participate in orchestra. If your financial situation limits you from obtaining any of the supplies or instruments, please reach out to Mr. Clinton. He will discreetly make sure that students are equipped with what they need to be successful including all items listed above.

LOCAL STRING VENDORS

There are a number of excellent instrument dealers in our area. They carry new and used instruments and they service instruments of all types. They also carry accessories needed for our classes. Many music stores have rental plans where your monthly payments go toward the purchase of an instrument. Most allow you to trade up an instrument size within the rental plan.

- Terra Nova Violins - 7795 Burnet Rd, Austin, TX 78757 - 512-640-4072
- Blackerby Violins - 1111 W. Anderson Lane, 78757 - 512-469-9343
- Strait Music Co. - 13945 Hwy. 183 North (at 620) 512-918-3743
- Austin Strings - 13276 N Highway 183 # 201, 78759 - 512-918-1863
- Westbank String Shop - 6301 Manchaca Rd., 78745 - 512-326-4898

CARE OF THE INSTRUMENT

String instruments are delicate and subject to damage from temperature extremes, humidity, and careless handling. The following suggestions are offered for their care.

1. Do not touch the hair of the bow as moisture, perspiration, oil, or dirt from your hands, face, or hair will spoil the bow hair.
2. Always loosen the bow after you play.
3. After playing, use a soft cloth to wipe rosin from the top of the instrument, bow stick, and strings.
4. Do not expose your instrument to excessive heat or cold.
5. When you are not using the instrument, always store it in the case.
6. Never put books or music in the case unless there is a pocket specifically for that.
7. Never polish the instrument with furniture polish.
8. Be sure to latch the case.
9. Check your bridge often. If it is not standing straight, ask your teacher to adjust it.
10. Do not let other people play your instrument.
11. Never use glue on any part of your instrument.
12. Do not attempt your own repairs. Only an expert repairman has the skill and experience to do a good job.