JHS 157 Stephen A. Halsey

63-55 102nd Street

Rego Park, NY 11374

♫ Instrumental Music – Room ***113b*** ♫

www.halseyband.com

“Working hard together toward the common goal of musical excellence”

**2015-2016 Contract for Instrumental Music Grade 6**

I would like to welcome you and your children back from what I hope was a fun and

relaxing summer! Beginning junior high school is an exciting time in every student’s life, and I am honored to be apart of this experience as his or her music teacher! My name is Sarah Wolff, the band director at Halsey Junior High School. We have many extracurricular music activities to offer students. Please take the time to review all of the following information in detail with your child. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (718) 830-4910 or swolff4@schools.nyc.gov. The band website is halseyband.com.

**1. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

• Arrive to class on time.

• Take proper care of your instrument.

• Be prepared with all necessary materials for class everyday.

• Stay seated, be attentive and participate throughout the class.

• Refrain from talking and interruptions.

• Keep track of your materials and upcoming assignments. Do your own work.

• Ask for help when you need it. Extra support is always available!

• Keep a positive attitude and always TRY YOUR BEST!!!

Remember... FALLING BEHIND = MORE WORK!

**2. GRADING**

• Performance quizzes 30%

• Preparation/Participation 40%

• Written reflections/projects 30%

Home practice is essential to the development of the ensemble. Students are expected to

practice a minimum of 90 minutes per week. There will be in-class graded assessments of

the student’s progress in both rudiments/scales and assigned musical passages.

**3. CLASS MATERIALS**

All students must bring the following every day. Failure to do so will significantly lower their preparation grade.

• Music folder (provided)

• Instrument and accessories

• Pencil

**4. CLASS RULES**

• Arrive on time, prepared, and ready to make music.

*The more prepared and ready you are, the more we practice. The more we practice, the better we sound. The better we sound, the better experience we all have.*

• Respect everyone’s right to learn and their learning environment.

*Be positive and helpful. Allow everyone to learn in a focused room. Clean up after yourself. If you see something that needs to be thrown away or rearranged, do it.*

• Raise your hand to speak or leave your seat.

**5. CONSEQUENCES FOR BREAKING THE RULES**

• Verbal or non-verbal reminder

• Required written reflection

• Dean referral/parental contact

**6. INSTRUMENT RENTAL OPTIONS**

If your child brings his/her own instrument from home to school everyday for rehearsal,

there is no rental fee. There is an $8.00 fee for ALL students to cover the cost of our

method book.

Option #1: Halsey Junior High will rent you an instrument for the school year for a rental/repair fee of $50.00 (cash or check), which is considerably less than the music stores. **This fee INCLUDES the book**. The instrument must be present with the student for all rehearsals. You are responsible for any damage that is not “wear and tear.”

\*\*\*Please place all fee money in an envelope with your child’s name and instrumental class on it. Checks should be made out to JHS 157 Stephen A. Halsey and must have your child’s name and class printed on them. I will make confidential special arrangements to waive the rental fees due to financial difficulties. Please contact me with any concerns.

Option #2: You may buy or rent an instrument from a private dealer, such as

Laconia Music Center, 410 Jericho Tpke, New Hyde Park (516) 352-4070

Catalano’s Music, 1007 Jericho Tpke, New Hyde Park (516) 488-2522

Song of Songs, 171-76 46th Avenue, Flushing (718) 321-3878

Sam Ash, 113-25 Queens Blvd, Forest Hills (718) 793-7983

We are using the *Essential Elements Book One* for your child’s instrument, if you would like to purchase the book yourself.’

**7. GRADE 6 BEGINNING BAND COURSE OVERVIEW**

In beginning band, we will begin our formal study of instrumental music. We will be introduced to our new instruments and will make characteristic sounds for that instrument. The students will review simple meters and play in three key signatures. There will be many opportunities to listen to and critique musical performances. Our learning experience will be enriched with a great deal of music related vocabulary. Musical learning in class will be supplemented with home practice. In addition, the students will be performing concerts in January and May. Dates for these concerts are forthcoming. Advanced students may request to audition for jazz band.

**8. DUE DATES**

Instrument rental fees are due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Again, $50 covers the cost of the book and instrument for the year.

The Halsey Band shirt is required for all concerts and band field trips. These will be ordered in November. Each shirt will cost $10. You may include that in your fees now or pay in November. All students must buy a shirt.

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*PLEASE RETURN THIS SHEET ONLY TOMORROW!!! This is considered your first homework assignment.*

**CONTACT INFORMATION – PLEASE PRINT NEATLY!**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Student Name and Class |  |
| Parent/guardian name(s) |  |
| Relation |  |
| Home address |  |
| Home phone number |  |
| Work phone number |  |
| Cell phone number |  |
| Parent/guardian email (PRINT NEATLY) |  |
| Student email  (PRINT NEATLY) |  |

I have read, understand and am in accordance with the above contract.

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Student Name (PRINT) Student signature Class

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Parent/guardian name Parent/guardian signature Date

Sarah Wolff

Music Teacher eSignature