

# ELEMENTARY STRINGS

## HANDBOOK — 2024-25 SEASON

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

CYSA CONCERT CALENDAR.....	2
ELEMENTARY STRINGS CALENDAR.....	3
ELEMENTARY STRINGS (ES) CLASS SCHEDULE.....	4
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS.....	5
ELEMENTARY STRINGS TUITION.....	5
COMMITMENT & REFUND POLICY.....	5
MUSIC BOOK REPLACEMENT.....	6
PARENT PARTICIPATION & VOLUNTEERING.....	6
CONCERT DRESS EXPECTATIONS.....	6
ATTENDANCE POLICY.....	6
CLASS CANCELLATION.....	7
ES BEHAVIOR POLICY.....	7
CYSA ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY.....	8

### CYSA MISSION

The Corvallis Youth Symphony Association (CYSA) is a non-profit dedicated to providing young people with opportunities for exceptional musical experiences, enhancing school music programs, and developing an awareness and appreciation of great music in the community and for our students.

*CYSA is committed to being a welcoming and safe community for young musicians and their families of all cultures, races, religions, genders, sexual orientations, and circumstances.*

# CYSA CONCERT CALENDAR

## Elementary Strings (ES)

<b>Winter Concert</b>	<b>Saturday, January 18</b> 1:30 PM	LaSells Stewart Center
<b>Spring Concert</b>	<b>Saturday, May 31</b> 1:30 PM	LaSells Stewart Center

## Willamette Valley Junior Honors Symphony (JHS)

<b>Winter Concert</b>	<b>Sunday, December 8</b> 2:30 PM	LaSells Stewart Center
<b>Mid-Season Concert</b>	<b>Saturday, February 8</b> 4:00 PM	Ashbrook Independent School
<b>Spring Concert</b>	<b>Sunday, April 27</b> 2:30 PM	LaSells Stewart Center

## Corvallis Youth Symphony (CYS)

<b>Winter Concert</b>	<b>Sunday, December 8</b> 4:00 PM	LaSells Stewart Center
<b>Cabaret Concert and Dance</b>	<b>Saturday, February 1</b> 7:30 PM – Concert 9:00 PM – Dance	Ashbrook Independent School
<b>Spring Concert</b>	<b>Sunday, April 27</b> 4:00 PM	LaSells Stewart Center

# ELEMENTARY STRINGS CALENDAR

*Elementary Strings* (ES) follows the Corvallis School District calendar and closures, including holidays and inclement weather days.

## September

25 Wed School ES Kick-Off Linus Pauling Middle

## October

09 Wed Schools ES Classes Start Various Elementary

14 Mon No ES Non-School Day  
24-25, Th-F No ES Conferences

## November

11 Mon No ES Veterans Day  
27-29, W-F No ES Thanksgiving Break

## December

02 Mon No ES Non-School Day  
Dec 23-Jan 03 No ES Winter Break

## January

06 Mon Schools ES Classes Restart Various Elementary

16 Th 6:00-7:45pm ES Dress Rehearsals LaSells Stewart Center  
18 Sa 1:30-4:00pm ES Winter Concerts LaSells Stewart Center

20 Mon No ES MLK Jr. Day  
30-31, Th-F No ES Non-School Days

## February

17 M No ES President's Day

## March

14 F No ES Non-School Day  
24-28, M-F No ES Spring Break

## April

17-18, Th-F No ES Conferences

## May

26 M No ES Memorial Day  
30 F 5:30-8:00pm ES/Encore! Dress Rehearsals LaSells Stewart Center  
31 Sa 1:30-4:00pm ES/Encore Spring Concerts LaSells Stewart Center

# ELEMENTARY STRINGS (ES) CLASS SCHEDULE 2024-2025

Please choose one class to be your “home” class.

You are welcome to sign up for any class that works for your schedule.

**This year, we have some classes that are only for certain instruments. If you are attending Adams 1 or Mt. View 1, you are only able to choose cello as your instrument.**

## Level 1 Classes – For New Students

School	Classroom	Days	Time	Teacher
Adams	Music Room	Mon & Wed	2:35pm – 3:20pm	Blair Girard <i>*Cello only Class</i>
Mt. View	Music Room	Tues & Thurs	2:35pm – 3:20pm	Blair Girard <i>*Cello only Class</i>
Franklin	Music Room	Tues & Thurs	2:35pm – 3:20pm	Ella Jones
Bessie Coleman	Music Room	Mon & Wed	7:10am – 7:55am	Viola Stark
Lincoln	Music Room	Mon & Wed	2:35pm – 3:20pm	Ryan Downs
Letitia Carson	Music Room	Tues & Thurs	7:10am – 7:55am	Bettine Zimmermann
Garfield	Music Room	Fridays	1:45pm – 3:15pm	Ryan Downs

## Level 2/2+ Classes – For Returning Students

School	Classroom	Days	Time	Teacher
Franklin	Music Room	Tues & Thurs	3:30pm – 4:15pm	Ella Jones
Garfield	Music Room	Mon & Wed	2:35pm – 3:20pm	Anne Ridlington
Bessie Coleman	Music Room	Tues & Thurs	7:10am – 7:55am	Viola Stark
Lincoln	Music Room	Tues & Thurs	2:35pm – 3:20pm	Bettine Zimmermann
Adams	Music Room	Mon & Wed	7:10am – 7:55am	Bettine Zimmermann
Letitia Carson	Music Room	Tues & Thurs	4:15pm – 5:00pm	Bettine Zimmermann

Class times/locations are tentative through the enrollment period and contingent upon achieving minimum enrollment of 5 students per class. Classes are capped at approximately 20 students. Once classes are capped, we can not add you to a classroom.

## STUDENT MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

1. Students must be in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup> grade to participate.
2. Each member must agree to abide by the Policies laid out in this Handbook.
3. Each member must sign up and register for an Elementary Strings class online in order to be admitted to class.
4. Each Elementary Strings member must sign a Release of Liability, included as part of online registration, before their first class.
5. Students may not register for a class if it is full. Student may opt to join a waitlist for a class that is full.

## ELEMENTARY STRINGS TUITION

Elementary Strings tuition for the 2024-2025 school year is \$525.

### Payment options:

**Option 1:** One payment of \$525

**Option 2:** Initial payment of \$66 followed by seven monthly, auto-debit payments of \$66.

The Full Payment or Initial Partial Payment can be made online when registering for Elementary Strings.

*An application for scholarships for families with **demonstrated financial need** can be completed when registering for Elementary Strings online. Families must fall within a household size guideline or have extenuating financial circumstances to qualify for an Elementary Strings scholarship. These guidelines can be found on the "For Musicians and Parents" page of our website.*

## COMMITMENT & REFUND POLICY

After you have paid 4 months' tuition (through January) you may drop out of ES by giving notice to the CYSA Office ([cysassoc@peak.org](mailto:cysassoc@peak.org)) **by the 1st of the month in which you plan to quit.** If you provide notice later than the 1st, you will be charged tuition for that month. **No tuition refunds will be given for October-January.**

*(Example: You plan to quit after the January ES Concert. You must provide notice to the CYSA Office at [cysassoc@peak.org](mailto:cysassoc@peak.org) no later than February 1, or you will also be charged for February tuition.)*

## MUSIC BOOK REPLACEMENT

CYSA provides each student with a music book for class. If a student loses their Elementary Strings music book, there is a replacement fee of \$10 to get a new one from CYSA. Families can also order a new book online or buy one from a local music store. **Level 1 uses Essential Elements Vol. 1 and Level 2 uses Essential Elements Vol. 2.**

## PARENT PARTICIPATION & VOLUNTEERING

Elementary Strings parents/guardians may join their students' Strings class, learning alongside their student, for free! They must provide their own instrument and music book. All parents/guardians who wish to participate in their student's class, either by playing an instrument or simply helping the teacher, must complete the Corvallis School District volunteer application/background check (<https://www.csd509j.net/students-parents/volunteer/>) at least 3 weeks before participating in class, and email CYSA for approval.

Volunteers are also needed to help with Elementary Strings concerts and events. Volunteer sign-ups will be shared by email prior to each event, and we greatly appreciate all parents/guardians who are able to sign up and help.

## CONCERT DRESS EXPECTATIONS

- White tops (blouse or button-up shirt, *no spaghetti straps*)
- Black bottoms (black pants or long black skirt and black socks/stockings)
- Black shoes

*Please do not buy anything for this concert! Wear the closest outfit you have to this dress code.*

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students must regularly attend their Elementary Strings class to be successful and make progress on their instrument and music. **If a student misses 8 or more classes in a concert set (October-January or February-May), the Elementary Strings teacher may recommend the student resign from the program and try again next year.** A refund for the remaining program portion will be given (following the [Commitment & Refund Policy](#)). If a student must miss class, inform the Elementary Strings teacher of their absence to receive any important practice assignments.

Students must be picked up **on time** at the conclusion of the Elementary Strings class. Elementary Strings teachers are not responsible for students who are picked up late

from class. **If a student is not picked up on time 3 times throughout the year, they will be suspended from the ES program.**

## **CLASS CANCELLATION**

CYSA follows the Corvallis School District's inclement weather policy. If school is cancelled due to inclement weather, Elementary Strings classes will **NOT** meet that day.

If school is cancelled due to a holiday, conferences, emergency, or for any other reason, Elementary Strings classes will also *not* meet.

In the case of class cancellation due to an ES Teacher emergency: Families and the school will be alerted as soon as possible about any unforeseen class cancellations.

## **ES BEHAVIOR POLICY**

The Elementary Strings (ES) classroom is a place for learning. All students have a right to learn and the teacher has a right to teach. If a student behaves inappropriately, other students cannot learn and the teacher cannot teach. Students are expected to respect others' rights and behave in a manner that (1) safeguards property from loss or damage, (2) protects everyone's health and safety, and (3) avoids serious disruption to the educational process.

**In order to participate in the ES program, students must agree to:**

- 1) Listen to the Elementary Strings Teacher, Assistant Teacher, or Substitute Teacher and follow their directions appropriately.
- 2) Respect ES Teachers and Assistants and other students in the classroom environment.
- 3) Come to class with materials ready to go before class begins, with assignments prepared.

*Examples of disruption include but are not limited to: talking out of hand, misusing or mistreating your instrument or bow, arguing, playing without permission, threatening others, acting silly, touching others or their instruments, taking other people's property, forgetting your music/pencil/assignments.*

All students are responsible for following the behavior expectations in order to have a peaceful, happy, and productive orchestra experience. Students that choose not to follow these expectations will be issued a warning. If a second warning is issued, a student and their parent/guardian may be asked to fill out a behavior contract.

**If a student receives a third warning and/or the student violates the terms of their behavior contract, CYSA/Elementary Strings reserves the right to suspend the**

**student from Elementary Strings participation, and a prorated refund will be issued to the student's family.**

## **CYSA ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY**

CYSA is committed to providing an environment free of harassment and safe for all. Students, staff, and volunteers are expected to be respectful of one another in all regards. If ever concerns arise, please communicate your concerns to a senior staff member (Executive Director, Conductor, or Orchestra Manager) and/or board member.