



Welcome to Schoolcraft Orchestra!

Come and join the fun! Orchestra is open to all students in 4th – 8th grades who would like to play the violin, viola, or cello. (Orchestra is available to 2nd – 3rd graders if they have been taking private lessons for an extended period of time.) We meet each week during the school day.

We play a variety of music, from Celtic to Classical to Fiddle and Bluegrass. We perform at the Winter and Spring Schoolcraft Concerts, and we have played around the Bemidji area.

Contact: Please contact me if you have any questions. My email is frances@schoolcraft.org.

Practice: Students are expected to practice 2 times their age each day, 5 days per week. For example, a 10 year old needs to practice at home $2 \times 10 = 20$ minutes each day \times 5 days per week. A 13 year old would need to practice at home $13 \times 2 = 26$ minutes each day \times 5 days per week. Kids love an audience! Ask your child to play for you!

Rentals: Schmitt Music will have a selection of instruments available locally at **Headwaters School of Music on Friday, September 23 from 3:00 – 7:00 pm**. Schmitt Music offers the "Better than Rent" trial purchase program, a flexible and worry-free way to get started in orchestra.

Violins/violas rent for \$25/month and cellos rent for \$49/month with 100% of the rental price applying to purchase. (100% of the payments made to the student-level instruments can be applied later on to an intermediate or advanced instrument.)

There are also older, well-worn violins which rent for \$15/month.

Additionally, for students on free or reduced lunch, violins are available at low or no cost.

Please consider Schmitt Music's "Worry-free" maintenance plan of \$6.45/month which covers damage, strings (even due to age or wear), the bow (including re-hair), theft, loss or fire.

Contact information for Schmitt Music: Peter Schmitt, Orchestra Division Manager.

peter.schmitt@schmittmusic.com 763-398-5037

Thank you! Frances Van Dorn, Orchestra Director

Please return to Tracy or Angie at the front desk as soon as possible, thanks!

Student's Name _____

*I give permission for my student to be in orchestra this year YES NO

*Instrument (please circle) VIOLIN VIOLA CELLO

*Do you own your instrument? YES NO

*If not, would you like to rent an instrument from Schmitt Music? YES NO

*If your child receives free or reduced lunch and you wish to have a low cost or free instrument from Schmitt Music, please sign here _____

*I plan on attending Schmitt Music's instrument display night at Headwaters School of Music on Friday, September 23 between 4:00 and 7:00. YES NO

Signed _____