

Instrumental Music Program Updates

Dear Parents and Students,

As you are now well aware, Heritage High and LUHSD are moving to a Distance Learning Model due to the effects of COVID-19. I know that this will be a difficult transition for the English, Science, Math, and Foreign Language classes, but there is the extra added difficulty of rehearsals for our classes. I hope this will answer some of the questions you may have regarding the upcoming weeks of Distance Learning. Please note that everything is subject to change based on any restrictions that are in place, or the perception of your teachers as we approach our performance dates.

Rehearsals

At this time, I do not feel it would be wise for us to have small groups meet on campus, even those with 10 or fewer people. You will be allowed to arrange a time with Mr. Kumagai or Mr. Carreon if you need to get your instrument from LG 114.

Potential options for alternate rehearsals are: a video submission of assigned excerpts of your music; individual online teleconferencing; use of the SmartMusic program for audio submissions and assessment. More information will come.

Practice Logs

Practice logs will still be graded upon the end of the quarter. You still need to log two (2) hours of practice per week.

Sectionals

Sectionals will not be required for the Fourth Quarter.

Project Evidence

You will still have the option to practice for four (4) hours per week to earn Project Evidence credit.

Sectionals will not count toward Project Evidence.

There may be an opportunity for Community Service hours depending on our return schedule and concert opportunities.

If you wish, you may find an online performance for a Concert Critique. Options include: Berlin Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera, London Symphony, London Philharmonic, Seattle Symphony, SF Jazz, and many others. The performance must be a minimum of 45 minutes for you to receive credit.

Concerts

Evening of Jazz (Guest Artist Concert) on April 10 has been cancelled.

The status of our Spring Concerts is entirely predicated on the regulations set in place by the Liberty Union High School District, Contra Costa County Health Department, the State of California, or the United States Government. If we are allowed to return to school at the beginning of May, we may move forward with our regularly scheduled performances on May 20 and 21. However, this will also depend on the perception of your preparedness by your teachers as we near the performance dates.

Alternate Performance Option

In the event that our concerts cannot be held on campus, I plan on having all students submit audio recordings of their pieces. I will then take each recording and create one large performance, similar to the Eric Whitacre Virtual Choir. This is not a perfect option, however it may be the only option for a performance we will have.

Graduation

At this time, I am not aware of any restrictions placed on Graduation, nor the cancelling of the event. As soon as I am aware of anything, I will communicate it to you all.

Please feel free to e-mail at kumagaij@luhsd.net me with any questions you may have.