

**2008-2009 OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL
MUSIC PROGRAM: GRADES 5-8**

Please read the following information carefully so you can confidently make your selection.

BAND NEEDS A KEYBOARD PLAYER who is not already in the band. This person will be playing the tuba music (bass clef music only) and should feel comfortable playing in that clef. Contact Mr. Fischer, the band director, if you are interested (778-5229).

CHOIR (For Grades 5 – 8)

We offer the School Choir for students who enjoy singing and can attend its many functions. We are scheduled to sing at three concerts and Sunday worship services. Since our school exists as part of Our Savior Lutheran Church, we have a commitment to sing once a month for the 8:15 A.M. 10:45 A.M. Sunday service. We also usually sing at Honolulu City Hall during the Christmas season. Mrs. Lyuba McSwain will conduct the choir.

The choir grade is based on 1) class participation, including effort and cooperation; 2) knowledge of music (includes memorization of words and notes); 3) application of the taught skills as found in the outside rehearsals and performances; and 4) attendance at choir functions. In order to be successful, students must regularly attend outside rehearsals and performances! Extra rehearsals will be kept to a minimum. **AN EARLY NOTE FROM THE PARENT IS REQUIRED** before a student misses a performance or special rehearsal. Music damaged or lost is charged at the rate of \$1.00 per sheet or \$5 per folder or CD.

BAND (For Grades 5 – 8)

Beginning band is open to all 5th-8th graders new to band and some second year players who need more preparation for advanced band. Advanced band is by audition and/or the instructor's recommendation. Prior experience is necessary. Admission may be probationary.

Band members usually study the instrument they chose, however it is important to make sure the instrument properly "fits" a student. Some physical characteristics will make playing certain instruments very difficult. We control these problems by trying out the students on each instrument. Mr. Robert Fischer, the Band Director, will be present July 23, 2008 (Orientation Day) to help your child in the selection process. You will also receive a list of what instrument and accessories you need. You may also contact him by calling 778-5229. The band particularly needs more trumpet and trombone players.

Parents rent or purchase their child's instrument. If you have an instrument from a friend, family, or have seen one in a pawnshop, bring it to the director to be checked first. We can tell you if it is acceptable or worth fixing. Do not buy instruments from department stores. Though often labeled as "professional", these are of inferior quality and make repairs difficult – often impossible.

We provide music stands at school, but students will need to have a stand for home practice. Rehearsals begin in early August. Those missing an instrument by the end of August can expect a lower grade penalty. If unusual problems prevent securing an instrument, please see the instructor.

Grading is based on a combination of performance attendance, practice time (monitored by parents), playing exams, attitude, behavior, cooperation, proper uniform and care, instrument going home for practice, and the care of music folders and equipment. Music damaged or lost is charged at the rate of \$1.00 per sheet or \$5 per folder.

UNIFORMS (Choir/Band)

Aloha shirts and mu'u mu'us are issued to each student in the beginning of the school year, and collected at the end. A replacement cost is charged to the student for any undue wear and tear, damaged or lost garments. All band members wear the uniform aloha shirts, **dark** colored slacks, and **dark** colored shoes. Female choir students wear muu muu uniforms with **closed toe, white shoes with low heels**, and boys wear aloha shirts, **navy dress slacks**, with **dark** shoes.

CHOOSING YOUR BAND INSTRUMENT

There are many factors that influence the selection of one instrument over another. The price of an instrument and its availability is one factor. Most instruments have similar prices (flute, trumpet, and trombone). Clarinets are a bit more expensive and saxophones are the most expensive. While the school provides most of the percussion equipment, we must limit how many students can choose percussion. Some stores have rentals available or lease purchase plans available. Many of our students purchase the instrument outright. Stores such as the Music Center of Hawaii offer large discounts for doing so (typically, around 40% off).

Some physical factors we consider when checking your child for what instrument they will play include their lip size and shape, how much of an under-bite or over-bite they have, whether they have or will get braces soon, evenness of teeth, finger length and width, etc. Of course, the ultimate check is actually trying the student out on each instrument in advance.

For more information call Mr. Fischer, Band Director, at 778-5229.

2008-09 TENTATIVE PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Following is an early projection of the music performance schedule. Throughout the year, it may be necessary to adjust the schedule as necessary. Parents and students will be notified in advance regarding any change in schedule or additional information regarding each performance. If necessary, additional rehearsals may be scheduled.

CHOIR MEMBERS will be asked to sing a performance once a month in the church service or concert.

OTHER PERFORMANCES, PROBABLE DATES

December 14 – Combined Band & Choir Christmas Program, 2:00 p.m. @ OSLC

March 8 – Lutheran Schools Band/Choir Concert, 7:00 p.m. @ Leeward Community College

May 17 – Combined Band & Choir Spring Concert, 2:00 p.m. @ OSLC

Dates to be determined for choir:

Christmas Concert at Pearlridge and Arcadia Retirement Facility



2008-2009 MUSIC PROGRAM

Grades 5 – 8

Complete and return on Orientation Day (Wednesday, July 23, 2008)

Student: _____ Grade: _____

Mailing address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ CHOIR
(Gr. 5-8)

_____ BAND (_____ Beginning _____ Advanced)
(Gr. 5-8)



Instrument: _____
Years of experience on this instrument: _____

Parent Signature

Student Signature & Grade

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(Gr. 5-8)

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(Gr. 5-8)



Instrument: _____
Years of experience on this instrument: _____

Parent Signature

Student Signature & Grade