

“...and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the Lord, saying, “For He is good; for His mercy endureth forever”: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the Lord...” (2 Chronicles 5:13)

September 2011

Dear Parents of **VCA** students,

Returning Students: (played more than 1st year)

If you are the parent of a student who will be continuing with instrumental lessons at VCA this year, please read, complete, and sign the attached agreement and return it to the academic office as soon as possible, but no later than *Monday, September 19*. Be sure to go over it with your child and have them sign it as an expression of their participation and commitment. **Commitment is for the full school year 2010-11.**

Orchestra rehearsals: Monday & Tuesday

Band rehearsals: Thursday & Friday

If you have any questions, please contact me at esundet@valleychristian.com .

*****Students New to or Interested in the Instrumental Program:**

VCA offers Instrumental music as a part of our curriculum. Students in grades 3 - 8 may study a string instrument (violin, viola, cello, bass) and play in the orchestra. Students in grades 4 - 8 may study a band instrument (flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, trombone, tuba, percussion) and play in the band. Two concerts are given each year, December and May. Beginning players are given small group lessons on a revolving 30-minute schedule. For example, a lesson at 10:00 one week would rotate forward to 10:30 the next, and so on. This keeps any classroom subject interruption to a minimum. Beginning Band will meet on Tuesdays; Beginning Strings will meet Thursday/Friday.

Next week, advanced students will demonstrate their instruments for the 4th grade classes. What fun we have!! Students have the opportunity to ask questions and choose their favorite 2 instruments which they found most delightful or just the “coolest sounding”. Students in 5th– 8th grades are especially welcome to learn an instrument!

If your son or daughter would like to play an orchestra instrument (violin, viola, cello, bass) or band instrument (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, tuba, percussion), please fill out the attached contract and send it in right away. You may also contact me by phone or email. I look forward to hearing from you. Commitment is for the full school year 2010-11.

Most music stores provide fine instrument rental programs. These are very convenient and should be worked out with the music store that is nearest or convenient to your home. (Woodsy’s Music in Kent, Motter’s Music in Lyndhurst, Central Instrument Co./CIC in Cuyahoga Falls, Educator’s Music in Twinsburg, Western Reserve in Hudson, Academy Music in Solon, Sam Ash in Lyndhurst, etc.) If you have an older instrument in your family, that is perfectly fine. *Just have it checked out to make sure pads are okay or valves & slides move.*

Please familiarize yourself with the attached agreement to better understand the provisions of our program. I am excited to have the opportunity to bring the riches of great music into your children’s lives!

God bless you,

Mr. Erik Sundet
VCA Orchestra / Band Director
(330) 562-8191 x325
esundet@valleychristian.com

VALLEY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
Band/Orchestra Agreement

The following shall be agreed upon in order to enroll in the VCA Instrumental Music Program for the 2011-2012 school year:

1. **Students are registered for the entire academic year, September through June. Upon registering for this program, students are required to continue in it for the duration of the school year.** Parents are encouraged to utilize the services of VCA's instrumental teacher in assisting students in selecting instruments to study. In specific cases, students will be allowed to shift to another instrument with approval from the instructor.

2. Beginning students will receive weekly instrument instruction during the school day. Beginning players will receive one rehearsal each week, plus small group lessons, given in a revolving half-hour system throughout the day, ensuring the students other classes are affected at a minimum. Advanced students (who have played 1 year or more) will receive two rehearsals per week from 12:40-1:20pm.

3. The **instrumental tuition** is listed below. Parents may select from the following options for payment of this fee: (only 8 payments this year instead of 9)

- a. Eight monthly payments of \$40.00, October 1, through May 1
- b. Semester payments of \$155.00, due October 1, and February 1
- c. Lump sum payment of \$300.00, due October 1

This figures out to about \$8.50 per week for the 36-week school year!

You may send the business office a check payable to: VCA, or have it added to your VCA account. Music books will be ordered by the teacher and added to accounts as needed throughout the year.

4. **Lesson times for beginning players** are reserved by the instructor for each student. Regular attendance is necessary to develop skill, build confidence, provide motivation, and develop a sense of persistence and performance confidence. Students are expected to come to their lessons prepared, striving to practice at least five days per week, 20 minutes per day (30 minutes for second-year and third-year students). When necessary, the teacher will go and get the student, helping encourage good lesson attendance. Lesson schedules and times shall be posted on the instrumental music room board and given to each classroom teacher. PLEASE help your child find a fun, appropriate practice time and space/room.

5. Instrumental students will prepare and present **two concerts (December 15 and May 17)** during the school year. **Goals of these performances include:**

Sounding GOOD!!,
praising God,
developing teamwork and cooperation,
offering students a wonderful sense of accomplishment.
MUSIC IS AMAZING!

*****Concert attendance is mandatory*****

* * * *

By signing this agreement, I hereby agree to these terms and conditions:

I agree to enroll my child in VCA's Instrumental program for the entire 2011-2012 school year.

I agree to pay the instrumental fee in the following manner:

(approx \$8.50 per week for the 36-week school year)

___ Eight monthly payments of \$40.00 added to VCA account

___ Semester payments of \$155.00 added to VCA account

___ Lump sum of \$300.00, payable on or before October 1

I agree to have my child participate in all scheduled concerts: **Dec. 15, May 17.**

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/2011 (due by Sept. 19)

*****Concert attendance is mandatory*****

* * * * *

Student Commitment

By signing this agreement, I hereby agree to do my part to be successful by practicing my instrument this year.

Student's Name (please print) _____

Grade & Teacher _____

Instrument _____ do you: own or rent (circle one)

Has child studied this instrument in the past? _____ How many years? _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/2011

***Please complete and return this agreement.
A photocopy of it will be returned to you for your records.***