

## Instrumental String Major

### Description and general information:

This is a vocationally focused, four year sequential program for the serious orchestra student (instruments include violin, viola, cello, upright bass or harp). The primary concentration of this course is the development of total musicianship for the string musician through experiential learning in string technique, repertoire, performance practices, critical thinking and other aspects of musicianship as well as career and professional organizations. Field trips, performances, master classes, and participation in concerts will be reflected in the students' grades. The student in this program must also register for the appropriate levels of VPA Music History and VPA Music Theory, and Orchestra. AP Music theory is required in the fourth year of the program.

### Scope and Sequence of study:

9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
String Major 1* Orchestra VPA Music Theory 1 VPA Music History 1	String Major 2* Orchestra VPA Music Theory 2 VPA Music History 2	String Major 3* Orchestra VPA Music Theory 3 VPA Music History 3 Piano Elective^	String Major 4* Orchestra AP Music Theory Composing & Arranging^ Piano Elective^

\*Indicates class meets daily for 82-minute block (both A & B Day)

^suggested elective/course for this major

### Application/Audition/Interview/Portfolio requirements for String Major:

#### Part I

Applicants are required to prepare two pieces of contrasting styles and period. (These pieces should be of comparable difficulty to the Youth/Regional Orchestra solo.)\*

#### Part II

Applicants must play major scales (6 sharps-6 flats) memorized, in the pattern of a quarter note followed by 6 eighth notes. We follow the range requirements of CJMEA which can be found under "audition information" on their website: [www.cjmea.org](http://www.cjmea.org)

#### Part III

All prospective String candidates will take a written music theory/history placement exam to test their previous musical knowledge. Although students will not be expected to know everything on the exam, it will include notation, musical terms, symbols, key signatures, chords, scales, form, analysis, rhythmic reading and ear training.

The history portion will include questions about composers, time periods and genres, musical styles, performance practices and terminology.

\*Your present music teacher should be able to assist you in the selection of these pieces