

Greater Richmond School of Music (GRSM) Band Program

Ensembles

The Beginning Band is a beginning level group for students who are learning to play a band instrument for the first time. Instruction is focused on developing a solid foundation in note reading, tone production, rhythm, articulation, proper posture/hand position, and instrument care and maintenance. Students also learn basic music theory concepts and ensemble skills, such as balance and blend.

Beginning Band members receive a sectional lesson each week. The students are grouped with others who play the same family of instruments. As a performance date nears, the beginning band lesson groups join together and rehearse as a full ensemble. The minimum age to participate is 9 years old. No previous music experience is necessary.



The Concert Band is an intermediate level group for students who have had 1-3 years of experience playing a band instrument. Concert Band members receive a sectional rehearsal as well as a full ensemble rehearsal each week. In addition to continued development of basic instrumental music foundations, instruction focuses on the finer details of playing in an ensemble. Students in the Concert Band receive instruction on music theory and learn scales to improve technique and expand range. The sectional rehearsals offer the opportunity for the students to learn and perform chamber music or small ensemble pieces.

The Symphonic Band is an advanced level group comprised of students who have had 4+ years of experience playing a band instrument or have demonstrated a high level of proficiency on their instrument. Symphonic Band members receive a sectional rehearsal in addition to a full ensemble rehearsal each week. Students in the Symphonic Band rehearse and perform high quality music in many styles and genres. In rehearsals, instruction is focused on balance, blend, intonation, dynamics, articulation, phrasing, and accuracy of pitch and rhythm. Students learn all 12 major scales and music theory concepts. The sectional rehearsals offer the opportunity for the students to learn and perform chamber music or small ensemble pieces.



**TUITION: \$54/month (September - May)
\$25 One-time Family Registration Fee
20% OFF SIBLING DISCOUNT!**

Registrations Due the week of AUGUST 28th



Greater Richmond School of Music

9109 Dickey Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23116

www.grsm.net 804-442-6158 info@grsm.net

Faculty

Director of Bands

The overall Director/Coordinator of the Greater Richmond Band Program is **Robert W. (Bob) Ellithorpe** who, having attained his B.M.Ed. at VCU and M.M. from University of Richmond, has accrued over 30 years of experience in instruction and band direction at elementary, middle and high school levels in Hanover and environs as well as instructing at VCU, Randolph Macon, University of Richmond, Garwood Whaley, Greater Richmond School of Music and his own private studio. He has guest conducted with numerous bands, and his performance repertoire is very long including 18yrs with the Richmond Symphony. He has also been on a number of adjudication teams and has a long list professional affiliations and recognitions including being listed in the Who's Who Among America's Teachers 1996, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006 and more recently was elected to Phi Beta Mu Virginia Band Director's Hall of Fame-2013.

Band Directors

Ms. Janet Reiner is a retired band director of Hanover County Public Schools, having taught there for over 30 years. She holds her Bachelors and Masters of Music Education Degree from VCU and has been affiliated with Virginia Music Educators Association, Virginia Band and Orchestra Association as well as a number of other prominent organizations. She has taught with the after school program sponsored by Richmond Symphony and Richmond Center Stage and has decades of private instruction experience. Mrs. Reiner has worked with GRSM in the past in a substitute capacity and we are honored to have her as part of our team.

Mr. Anthony Casamassima is a woodwinds and music composition specialist whose main instrument is the saxophone and he has been providing music instruction since 2008. Having obtained his Bachelors of Music degree from Florida Atlantic University and his Masters of Music Degree from University of South Florida, he is well accomplished in both classical and jazz genres and has experience in teaching a wide range of instruments. He has conducted small and large ensembles, and has prepared students for All-County and All-State competitions. Mr. Casamassima is one of our most sought-after instructors at GRSM and we have great pride in presenting him to the GRSM Band Program.

Locations

Our Lady of Lourdes - MONDAYS – Director, Ms. Janet Reiner

St. Bridget - TUESDAYS – Director, Mr. Bob Ellithorpe

St. Edward-Epiphany - WEDNESDAYS – Director, Mr. Bob Ellithorpe

St. Benedict - WEDNESDAYS – Director, Ms. Janet Reiner

St. Mary's - THURSDAYS – Director, Mr. Anthony Casamassima

Classes Start the week of SEPTEMBER 11th

Instruments & Materials MUST be brought to class NO LATER THAN the week of SEPTEMBER 18th