August 6, 2013

Greetings from the Otterbein University Orchestral Department:

I hope your summer has been both restful and productive. As we approach the beginning of Fall Semester I wanted to take a moment to welcome you to Otterbein University. If you are receiving this letter it is because you have expressed interest in or are expected to participate in Otterbein’s String Orchestra this year. If you have not registered for String Orchestra, you should do so. All string majors and those receiving string talent awards are required to participate in String Orchestra which meets on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 until 5:20. See the Addendum for registration particulars. A detailed schedule for the semester, and most of the entire year, will be provided at the first rehearsal of the fall semester.

I am looking forward to a year of great music, with programs of challenging repertoire being planned. The repertoire includes an eclectic mix of musical styles and will include guest solo bassist Jena Huebner in the fall.

Your audition materials have been posted online and may be downloaded as PDFs here: [http://www.otterbein.edu/public/Academics/Departments/Music/Ensembles/Orchestras.aspx](http://www.otterbein.edu/public/Academics/Departments/Music/Ensembles/Orchestras.aspx). Auditions are mandatory for everyone playing in String Orchestra and will be held on Sunday August 25th between 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm. You should be prepared to play the enclosed excerpts as indicated. In addition, the committee will select a scale to be performed in two or three octaves. Major scales will be selected from the keys of C, G, D, A, E, F, Bb, Eb and Ab. The excerpts are taken from Purcell’s Chaconne in g minor and Duende al Rojo by Sidney King. This audition will serve for placement in the string orchestra, as well as your chamber music assignments and Westerville Symphony. I would suggest listening to a recording as you prepare for the audition. Participation in chamber music depends on your declared major and participation award and is not required of everyone in String Orchestra, and non majors generally do not participate in Westerville Symphony.

**Audition Procedure**

Auditions will be held in the Battelle Fine Arts Center room 107 (Dr. Bates’ office). You will be assigned a specific hour which will be posted in the Battelle lobby in late August. You should check that posting when you arrive on campus in August and then sign up for a specific time slot during that hour. On the day of the audition you should plan on showing up a few minutes before your assigned hour. The sign up sheets will be posted on the lobby bulletin board. **At the time of the audition you will also need to provide me an accurate copy of your fall schedule and contact information. Be prepared to hand over your schedule and info sheet prior to auditioning.**

Again, I am very excited that you have chosen to attend Otterbein University and to participate in our orchestra program and I look forward to working with you in the year ahead. If you have any questions, please contact me by phone or email.

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Most Sincerely,

Dr. Jim Bates  
Director of Orchestral Activities  
Otterbein University  
Office 614-823-1553  
Email [jbates@otterbein.edu](mailto:jbates@otterbein.edu)
New Student Addendum

Although you have had several campus visits and advising sessions, and met with numerous offices and people at Otterbein University, the start up process can seem a bit confusing for those doing it the first time. Hopefully this will help clarify any questions you may still have.


Applied lessons are scheduled at a mutually agreed upon time between you and your teacher. You will likely be hearing from your applied teacher about scheduling a lesson time. Please respond in a timely manner. If you have not heard from them in the week prior to classes you should contact them through email.

All students who are majoring in music and who play a string instrument as their primary instrument should be

- Registered for String Orchestra
  - MUSC 4107-01 (1 credit) If in BM track only
  - MUSC 4108-02 (.5 credits) If in BME or BA tracks
- Registered for String Chamber Music MUSC 4137-01 (.5 credits)
- Applied lessons for BM (music performance degree) MUSC 1090-[correct section per your instructor] (2 credit hours; 1 hour lesson)
- Applied lessons for BA & BME (music education) MUSC 1092--[correct section per your instructor] (1 credit hour; 1 hour lesson)
- Applied lessons for secondary instrument and non majors MUSC 1094-[correct section per your instructor] (.5 credit hours; 30 minute lesson)
- Westerville Symphony MUSC 4139-EV1 (.5 credits)

All students receiving a Participation Award (non majors on scholarship) should be

- Registered for String Orchestra MUSC 4108-02 (.5 credit)
- Registered for Applied Lessons MUSC 1094-[correct section per your instructor] (.5 credit hours; 30 minute lesson)

and may be assigned to other ensembles (String Chamber Music and/or Westerville Symphony as well). You will be notified of your specific assigned ensembles at the time of your audition.

All non majors not on scholarship wishing to play in string orchestra, should simply register for the class String Orchestra MUSC 4108-02 (.5 credits).

All students need to play an audition on August 25th.

You will need to provide me with a copy of your schedule at the time of the audition. All students must take care of making any schedule changes prior to the end of the first week of classes.

Contact me with any questions.
Sincerely,
Dr. Jim Bates