

Dear Parents of Rising 7th and 8th Grade Students,

It is an exciting time for the boys as they begin to contemplate the opportunities that will be available to them next year. One of these opportunities is the addition of a Lower School Instrumental Music Program at MUS.

The Instrumental Music Program is designed to give our boys the experience of making music and to develop excellent foundational skills on an instrument. Much has been written about the connection between music study and brain development, success in school, and success in life.

Instrumental music will be offered to students as a class during the school day, and we look forward to their rehearsing and performing as a group. Two instrumental music classes will be offered in the Lower School:

**Beginning Instrumental Music** is for students with no previous study on a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. Instruments offered are trumpet, trombone, French horn, baritone, tuba, flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone, and percussion. The class will meet two times per week. Students will perform in at least two evening concerts.

**Advanced Instrumental Music** is designed for the student with at least one year of experience on a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. This class will meet two times per week, and students will perform in at least two evening concerts and for some school events. Advanced Instrumental students will have the opportunity to audition for the All-West Tennessee Honor Bands.

Please note: Instrumental Music students will have at least two study halls each week during their Band/Study Hall class period.

**If your son has never played an instrument before, it is very important that he have the opportunity to try several instruments with Band Director Stephanie Hancock before making a final selection. After sending in your registration, [email Mrs. Hancock](mailto:stephanie.hancock@musowls.org) to set up an appointment to try the various instruments that are offered.**

It greatly enhances a student's success when he finds the instrument that is most comfortable for him! This "Instrument Discovery" process is a crucial part of our registration.

Below is a registration form for the Lower School Instrumental Music classes at MUS. Simply reply to this email, type your information into the form, and hit send, and the form will be sent to Mrs. Hancock.

**Please reply by Friday, June 10.**

In the meantime, do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Hancock for more information or clarification. We are already looking forward to the wonderful music that the boys will make together next year!

Sincerely,

**Flip Eikner** - Academic Dean - [flip.eikner@musowls.org](mailto:flip.eikner@musowls.org)

Music Program Contacts:

**Stephanie Hancock** - Lower School Band Director - [stephanie.hancock@musowls.org](mailto:stephanie.hancock@musowls.org)

**Matt Tutor** - Director of Music - [matt.tutor@musowls.org](mailto:matt.tutor@musowls.org)

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC REGISTRATION - DUE BY JUNE 10  
(\*\*EXTENDED!)**

**Student Name:**

**Grade Level - Fall 2016:**

**Parent Name:**

**Email:**

**Parent Cell Phone (daytime number):**

**Evening Phone (if different):**

**Program your son is interested in. Please check one:**

**Beginning Instrumental Music** - I understand that we may meet with Mrs. Hancock to make the final instrument selection.

My son is interested in the following instruments:

Available Instruments: trumpet, trombone, French horn, baritone, tuba, flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone (alto or tenor), and percussion (Note: tenor saxophone, baritone, and tuba are school-owned instruments.)

**Advanced Instrumental Music** - My son has at least one year of prior experience.

Instrument(s) he plays:

How many years of experience?

**MRS. HANCOCK WILL SEND AN EMAIL CONFIRMATION OF YOUR REGISTRATION/INSTRUMENT CHOICE.**

**YOU WILL ALSO BE GIVEN INFORMATION ABOUT RENTING INSTRUMENTS AND OBTAINING SUPPLIES.**

Check here if your son is an experienced strings player (violin, viola, cello, bass) interested in music at MUS. Instrument:

Check here if your son is an experienced rhythm-section musician (drums, electric guitar, electric bass, keyboards) interested in music at MUS. Instrument: