

All Saints' Episcopal Day School  
Music Curriculum  
Grades K - 6

The All Saints' Music Education Curriculum consists of the following principal standards under which the grade level skills are listed:

1. Sings alone, and with others, a varied repertoire of songs
2. Performs on instruments, alone and with others, a wide repertoire of music
3. Composes and arranges music within specified guidelines
4. Reads and notates music
5. Listens appropriately
6. Knows and applies appropriate criteria to music and music performances
7. Understands Western classical composers, their music, and the orchestra
8. Experiences creative movement, dance, and drama

The All Saints' Episcopal Day School Kindergarten through sixth grade music program focuses on the appreciation, theory, performance, and enjoyment of music through a wide variety of experiences. The goals of the program are to:

- provide each student with basic and sequential music theory
- develop skills in instrumental playing
- develop individual group, and performance skills
- introduce students to classical composers and their music
- encourage a life-long love of and appreciation for music and the dramatic arts.

Music learning takes place through the active participation of all students with individual attention given where needed. Students' self-confidence is developed through a variety of vocal, instrumental, and dramatic performance experiences, as individuals, in small and large ensembles, and in class groups. In addition, second and third graders participate in Lower School Choir, and fourth, fifth, and sixth graders may be selected and may elect to join the Boy and Girl Chorister Program. Instrumental skills are introduced at age-appropriate levels.

Kindergarten through sixth grade students attend chapel services in which they are encouraged to play an active musical part in the worship by singing, by listening to student, faculty, and visiting musicians, and by watching student groups perform for their peers, parents, and guests.

Kindergarten through sixth grade students are given the opportunity to see a variety of live performances by professional musicians who perform at school or in the community. In addition, the music department collaborates with other departments during the year to support and encourage cross-curricular involvement.

Each year the Music/Drama and Art departments collaborate on a program that showcases the extensive fine arts curriculum. A different theme is chosen every year, through which each grade

presents curriculum and age-level appropriate artwork, complemented by music and drama performances. To ensure the success and feasibility of this program, the faculty devotes a considerable amount of time to planning, coordination, cooperation, creativity, and inspiration well in advance of the program date. The fine arts faculty is proud that each K-6 student participates both as an artist and as a performer.

### Kindergarten Music

The Kindergarten music program develops listening, singing, rhythmic, notational, and performance skills and introduces students to instruments of the orchestra and classical music.

Good listening is the key to the development of strong musical skills and is emphasized throughout the Kindergarten program. Students develop an awareness of pitch and an appreciation for vocal music through songs, games, and movement. Rhythmic skills are developed through dance, games, rhymes, and the use of unpitched percussion instruments. Students perform vocally and instrumentally in both formal and informal settings during the school year.

Kindergarten students learn about the four families of the orchestra: strings, woodwinds, brass and percussion. Students compose and play simple rhythmic pieces using basic musical notation. In addition, they are taught appropriate concert etiquette and learn how to be good audience members when attending live performances.

Kindergarten students learn about the life and music of one composer and participate in various activities related to a symphonic story during the school year.

### First Grade Music

The first grade music program continues to develop listening, singing, rhythmic, notational, and performance skills. Students' knowledge of classical music, composers, and the orchestra is further expanded.

Good listening continues to be emphasized throughout the first grade program. More musically and verbally complex songs are taught to develop vocal skills. Students' knowledge of rhythmic notation is expanded as they learn to read while playing percussion instruments. Students continue to perform vocally and instrumentally in formal and informal settings. In addition, first graders experience their first dramatic presentation.

Students study the life, times, and music of one composer and participate in various activities related to a ballet during the school year. They continue to learn about the orchestra, its families, and their instruments, in greater depth. Appropriate concert etiquette continues to be stressed throughout the school year, especially prior to attending any live concert.

### Second Grade Music

The second grade music program continues to develop listening, singing, rhythmic, notational, and performance skills. Students' knowledge of classical music, composers, and the orchestra is further expanded.

Second graders further develop their vocal abilities as members of the second and third grade Lower School Choir and perform more complex, one and two-part, songs at various times during the school year. Second graders are introduced to the notation of pitch which, combined with their first grade understanding of the notation of rhythm, enables them to play simple pieces on the pitched percussion instruments. They also perform a longer and more challenging musical play.

Students study the life, times, and music of one composer and participate in various activities related to an opera during the school year. They continue to learn about the orchestra, its families, and their instruments in greater depth. Appropriate concert etiquette continues to be stressed and expected throughout the school year, especially prior to any live concert.

### Third Grade Music

The third grade music program continues to develop listening, singing, rhythmic, notational, and performance skills. Students' knowledge of classical music, composers, and the orchestra continues to be broadened.

Third graders continue to develop their vocal abilities and repertoire as senior members of the Lower School Choir and perform challenging, one and two-part songs at various times and in various settings during the school year. At the beginning of the year, third graders are given their own recorders, which are theirs to keep. They use their previous second grade knowledge of rhythm and pitch to learn to play simple, five-note songs on this instrument, thereby improving their ability to read music. The musical play performed by the third graders is longer and more complex than those undertaken by first or second graders.

Students study the life and times of one composer and participate in various activities related to an opera during the school year. They continue to learn about the orchestra, its families, and their instruments in increasing detail. Appropriate concert etiquette continues to be stressed and expected throughout the school year, especially prior to attending a live concert.

### Fourth Grade Music

The fourth grade music program continues to develop listening, singing, rhythmic, notational, and performance skills. Students' knowledge of classical music, composers, and the orchestra continues to be expanded.

Fourth graders continue to develop their vocal abilities and repertoire by performing vocally, in various settings, as a year group or as members of the Boy or Girl Choristers during the school year. Instrumental and notational work becomes increasingly demanding as students play the pitched percussion instruments in four or more parts, as division groups or as an entire year group. In addition, non-chorister 4th graders play a repertoire of tone educator bell arrangements. All fourth grade students perform in a musical play which they perform in various settings, both in school and in the community at large.

Students study the life and times of one composer and participate in various activities related to ballet during the school year. They continue to learn about the orchestra, review appropriate concert etiquette, and experience live performances during the school year.

## Fifth Grade Music

Fifth graders continue to develop listening, singing, rhythmic, notational, and performance skills. Students' knowledge of classical music, composers, and the orchestra continues to be expanded.

Fifth graders continue to develop their vocal abilities and repertoire as selected members of the Boy or Girl Choristers and in the performance of a religious musical play, which is presented at school and to the community at large. Instrumental and notational work becomes more challenging as the students learn to play the tenor recorder while maintaining their skills and expertise on the soprano recorder. Fifth graders develop a repertoire of two- and three-part pieces which they play on both the soprano and tenor recorders.

Students study the life of another composer, and participate in various activities related to an opera during the school year. Students continue to learn about the orchestra, review appropriate concert etiquette, and experience live performances during the school year.

## Sixth Grade Music

The sixth grade music program continues to develop listening, singing, rhythmic, notational, and performance skills. Students' knowledge of classical music, composers, and the orchestra continues to be expanded.

Sixth graders learn to play chords and individual notes on the guitar, and chords and musical arrangements on the Suzuki handchimes. Sixth graders perform publicly on the chimes and guitar numerous times during the school year. They continue to develop their vocal abilities by performing in a musical play as a year group and/or as members of the Boy or Girl Choristers.

Students study the life and times of another composer and participate in various activities related to his music during the school year. They continue to learn about the orchestra, review appropriate concert etiquette, and experience live performances during the school year.