

Hello 8th Grade Families from Tappan and Slauson!

Allow me to formally introduce myself. My name is Jonathan Glawe, the Orchestra Director at Pioneer High School. I have been provided your email by Ms. Carol Palms and Mr. Joe DeMarsh. If you prefer to be removed from this list, or have another email which you prefer to connect with me through, please reply to this email directly.

I am writing you today to invite all incoming 9th graders to audition for the Pioneer Concert or Symphony Orchestras. These auditions will be held during the **first week of March (1,2,4,5) at Pioneer HS, room B116. The audition sign up times are 8 minute slots, and will be posted on my office door, B116, this Wednesday, February 3rd, 2010.**

All audition requirements can be found on the Pioneer Orchestra website, and they were also provided to students in class this week when I visited the schools. Here is a direct link to the audition requirements page:

**Audition Requirements as a**

**PDF:** [http://phsorchestra.com/attachments/077\\_Pioneer%20Orchestra%20Audition%20Req.pdf](http://phsorchestra.com/attachments/077_Pioneer%20Orchestra%20Audition%20Req.pdf)

**Audition Requirements Described in a YouTube**

**video:** [http://phsorchestra.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&id=35&Itemid=65](http://phsorchestra.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=35&Itemid=65)

**Symphony Audition Etudes will be Available here on Wednesday, February**

**3:** [http://phsorchestra.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=77:audition-information-for-2009-2010at&catid=35:ensemble&Itemid=65](http://phsorchestra.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=77:audition-information-for-2009-2010at&catid=35:ensemble&Itemid=65)

**Pioneer Orchestra Web Site:** <http://phsorchestra.com/>

FAQ's about auditions:

***How often does a freshman get into the Symphony Orchestra?***

VERY rarely. We consistently have under a handful make it each year through their first audition. The ideal placement for most 9th graders is the Philharmonia Orchestra, which is a non-audition ensemble.

***How often does a freshman get into the Concert Orchestra?***

We currently have 8 freshman in Concert orchestra. I would anticipate it remaining similar next year. It doesn't hurt to give it a shot!

***If I audition for Symphony and do not make it, will I automatically be put in Concert Orchestra?***

No, not necessarily. You will be placed in the appropriate ensemble for your skill level based on the audition- Philharmonia-Concert- or Symphony.

***I am not interested in auditioning for an ensemble, but I want to keep playing. What do I do?***

Sign up for Philharmonia Orchestra! No audition is necessary.

***I get nervous for auditions! What if I do not show you my true potential in the audition? Can I get another shot?***

I understand your situation. Sign up for the ensemble I put you in and do all you can to stick out right away in your class. If I feel you are ready to take another audition for an advanced group, I will invite you to do so ASAP, or at semester break.

***I hear that orchestra is only a semester class, but others tell me it is a full year class. Please advise.***

Make no doubt about it. **Orchestra is a FULL YEAR CLASS.** It is not possible to leave at semester without high level administration approval. You will see that the curriculum is set up for a full year of educational opportunities.

***I just don't know if high school orchestra is something I want to do. I like to play, but not all the time. What do you recommend I do?***

Give me 1 year with you! If you do not enjoy your experience, re-evaluate at that time. I think you will find that orchestra is where you will make lasting friends and the orchestra room will be a safe-haven from stress in other parts of your life. GIVE IT A SHOT!

Other Questions? Please email me directly: [glawej@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:glawej@aaps.k12.mi.us)

FYI: The [phsorchestras@gmail.com](mailto:phsorchestras@gmail.com) address is also viewable by the [POPS president](#).

**One more thing...**

**ALL PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRAS AT  
CAMP INTERLOCHEN, Project Dates: AUGUST 17-  
23.**

Much more on this exciting opportunity coming soon.

I look forward to hearing you in March, or meeting you next fall.

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Pioneer High School Orchestras

Directors: Jonathan Glawe, Andrea Cowper, Nancy Waring

POPS Presidents for 2009-2010: Theresa Han Markey, Sam Kelly

Orchestra Voicemail: 734-994-2189, extension 3

Mr. Glawe email: [glawej@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:glawej@aaps.k12.mi.us)