

Hoff-Barthelson Music School

K-12 Ensembles and Instrument Clubs 2019-2020

From the earliest stages of proficiency, students are encouraged to join one or more of the School's ensembles and instrument clubs. Orchestral, choral, jazz, chamber, and other ensembles enliven music learning, enhance private lessons, and provide the unique pleasure of performing with peers. Through their participation, students also learn the value of collective effort and develop beneficial life skills such as shared leadership and teamwork. Each group performs periodically throughout the year. Ensembles are included in the price of our comprehensive tuition. Other students may enroll for a fee.

VOCAL ENSEMBLES

Choral groups at Hoff-Barthelson provide opportunities for students to develop their musicianship, ensemble skills, and vocal talents, all while experiencing the joy of making music with others. Through our four-tiered choral program, vocal ensembles are available to K-12 students at all levels of advancement. Each ensemble rehearses 15 weeks per semester and performs periodically throughout the year.

Petite Chorus *Grades K-2*

Through this introduction to the world of choral singing, children learn basic vocal techniques, develop their music reading, listening and performance skills while exploring diverse repertoire that introduces them to cultures from around the world. Musical and vocal games keep classes lively and fun as the group prepares to perform in recitals and festivals throughout the year.

Danielle Miller, Music Director

Beginner Voices *Grades 2-4*

Chorus members develop sight reading skills, from the chalkboard to the choral score. Rhythm studies include exercises via Dalcroze Eurhythmics and solfège. Major and minor diatonic scales are explored through singing, using numbers and letter names as well as solfège. Repertoire comprises works in unison, simple rounds, and two-part singing.

Yuki Hiruma, Music Director

Junior Voices *Grades 5-8*

Repertoire includes single-line, two-and-three-part songs and canons. Lyrics in foreign languages may include French, German, Italian, Latin, and Spanish. Choristers alternate from singing the melody to the inner, harmonic line and develop fluency in reading from the choral score. Discussions of text and the relationship of text and music are included. Basic written symbols in the choral score are brought to life through song.

Ruth Alperson, Music Director

Chamber Choir *Grades 9-12*

Students learn a broad range of vocal music styles. The repertoire includes four-part harmony; choristers sing works a cappella and with accompaniment. They work on counting measures using subdivisions of beats; learn how to project the voice; and communicate with and entertain an audience. By audition.

Laura Green, Music Director

ORCHESTRAL & WIND ENSEMBLES

Hoff-Barthelson is the only community music school in Westchester with a four-tiered orchestral pyramid, culminating in a full symphonic orchestra for high school students at the highest level of technical ability and musical artistry. Students hone their technical skills and musical sensibilities in *Young People's Symphonette*, *Chamber Orchestra*, and *Wind Ensemble* in preparation for membership in the audition-only *Festival Orchestra*. Each of these ensembles rehearses 15 times per semester and performs 3 times a year.

Young People's Symphonette

For string players in the elementary grades. Rehearses Tuesday evenings, 7 - 8 pm.

Robert Schwartz, Music Director

Chamber Orchestra

For string players in grades 6-10. Rehearses Monday evenings, 7 - 8:30 pm.

Robert Schwartz, Music Director

Wind Ensemble

For woodwind, brass and percussion players in grades 6-12. Rehearses Wednesday evenings, 7 - 8:30 pm. By audition only.

Joseph Piscitelli, Music Director

Festival Orchestra

A full symphonic orchestra for high school students at the highest level of technical ability and musical artistry. Three concerts performed each year. World-renowned artists perform as soloists with the Orchestra. Festival Orchestra members also receive coaching from members of the NY Philharmonic. Rehearses Tuesday evenings, 7:15 - 9:30 pm. By audition only.

Jun Nakabayashi, Music Director

CHAMBER MUSIC

Hoff-Barthelson's Chamber Music Program provides opportunities for intermediate and advanced students to play together in trios, quartets, and quintets. Ensembles are composed of students matched by proficiency for maximum musical accomplishment. Ensembles enjoy multiple opportunities to perform each year. Each ensemble receives 24 coachings per year.

Donna Elaine and Naomi Graf, Coordinators

GROUP PIANO CLASS

Piano Class: Grades 6-12

This group class provides an opportunity for students new to the piano to develop skills that will support their study of music theory and development of their overall musicianship. It is also ideal for vocalists who wish to learn to accompany themselves, and for students who play other instruments. Students learn the fundamentals of piano playing – reading, technique, scale study, harmonic progressions, elementary repertoire, and basic accompaniment in this year-long class. Students who have completed two semesters of this class are encouraged to continue their studies via private piano instruction. Students wishing to repeat this class after completing two semesters must obtain first obtain permission from the Dean. The class will occur in the School's new keyboard lab.

THE ELAINE STAMAS NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC EDUCATIONAL RESIDENCY

Annual chamber music coaching sessions are the focus of the Elaine Stamas New York Philharmonic Educational Residency. Members of the New York Philharmonic share their comprehensive and insightful knowledge of ensemble playing with the School's young musicians in an afternoon of coaching sessions each spring. Following these inspiring sessions, students join their coaches for dinner. The day is capped off by an intimate evening of chamber music performed by members of the Philharmonic.

INSTRUMENT CLUBS

In popular weekly instrument clubs, students studying the same instrument or family of instruments play and perform together under the guidance of an experienced teacher. Through the *Brass*, *Clarinet*, *Flute*, and *Viola Clubs*, students of different ages and levels of advancement develop instrumental technique, explore core repertoire, and learn to mentor each other in their musical development. Clubs are open to all students looking for a supportive, social, high quality music learning experience, regardless of their primary instrument of study. Students studying voice, piano, or violin who may want to explore a second (or third!) instrument are encouraged to participate, as are students not currently studying privately at HBMS.

Viola Club: Grades Pre-K-12

The *Viola Club* offers weekly group classes for violists at all levels of advancement. The program features special multi-level projects and performances throughout the year and incorporates a unique overlapping rehearsal schedule that fosters strong community and opportunities for student mentorship.

Beginning Viola Club / Suzuki Viola: Pre-K-Grade 1
Junior: Grades 1-3
Intermediate: Grades 4-7
Advanced: Grades 8-12

Flute Club: Grades 1-Adult

Founded in 1976, Hoff-Barthelsson's *Flute Club* welcomes flute players from grade school (*Junior Flutes*), to middle and high school (*Flute Club*) and Adults (*Adult Flute Choir*). Each "section" of the club engages flute players eager to share their talents, improve their skills, and perform together. These congenial groups often combine to form the *HBMS Flute Orchestra*, an intergenerational flute ensemble. With an extensive library of music, including many commissions, each group performs at each of the School's major festivals and presents an annual Flute Choir Concert during *Flute Plus!*, our annual celebration of all-things-flute at which students explore basic flute technique, perform, participate in a clinic by a visiting flute luminary, and premiere new works.

Junior Flutes: Grades 1-6
Flute Club: Grades 6-12
Adult Flute Choir: Adult

Brass Club: Grades 6-12

Come blow your horn! This dynamic ensemble performs works from many periods and styles. Students have fun playing together while focusing on tone, technique, ensemble balance, blend, and intonation. The club performs several times a year at Hoff-Barthelsson's music festivals and special events.

Clarinet Club: Grades 6-Adult

Hoff-Barthelsson's newest club, the *Clarinet Club*, focuses on classical, jazz and popular repertoire, air and breathing, fingerings and technique, the acoustics of the instrument, reeds, mouthpieces, and sight reading. More advanced students enjoy opportunities to mentor others, developing important leadership and teaching skills. The group performs throughout the year, and at each of Hoff-Barthelsson's annual festivals.

JAZZ ENSEMBLES

Ensembles explore improvisation and performance techniques essential to jazz, rock, and a variety of music styles. Parts are individually tailored to the skill level of the participants. Sections are available for beginning, intermediate players and advanced players, ages 10 and up.

CHIMES

Time for Chimes: Grades 2-5

For students who enjoy learning concepts through a hands-on approach. The focus is on pitch, rhythm and rudimentary notation while learning to play tone chimes which produce beautiful bell-like sounds. *Requires completion of Elementary Musicianship Levels 1 and 2 or permission of the instructor.*

Chime On! Grades 5-8

Ensemble for students who wish to play and perform on chimes in a group setting.