

## **GUNN HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

### **Wind Ensemble**

Mr. Todd Summers, Director tsummers@pausd.org

Ms. Sandra Lewis, Director slewis@pausd.org

(650) 354-8264

#### **COURSE TITLE: Wind Ensemble**

The Wind Ensemble is comprised of the most outstanding wind and percussion musicians at Gunn High School. It is a highly advanced ensemble open by audition to students with an extensive background in instrumental music (grades 10-12). The ensemble will focus on the study and performance of repertoire associated with the finest in wind band literature. All selected works, concepts learned, and techniques developed, will adequately prepare student to participate in collegiate level musical ensembles.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

At the conclusion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate advanced musicianship, technical skills, as well as competence in rhythm, pitch, tone production and musical phrasing.
2. Perform in a wide variety of settings from soloist to small and large ensembles.
3. Demonstrate comprehension of music fundamentals, terms and musical theory.

#### **PREREQUISITES**

Students must be able to demonstrate playing and knowledge of instrumental techniques at an advanced level. Students who wish to try a different instrument may also be accepted based on instrumentation needs or musical proficiency audition.

#### **EVALUATION AND GRADES**

- 60% Daily participation includes: preparedness, attitude, improvement, attendance and actively being involved in rehearsals.
- 30% Formal performances (on time, dressed appropriately, appropriate concert etiquette), playing tests/progress checks/challenges/in class mini-performances.
- 10% Written assignments and tests. The final written exam (if one is given) is worth no more than fifteen percent of the final semester grade.

#### **Course Expectations**

1. No food, gum, or drinks other than water during class.
2. Once the rehearsal has begun students are expected to remain attentive and quiet during class time. When not actively involved in playing their instrument students are expected to be active listeners. Failure to observe this rule will result in grade reduction.
3. Students who disturb class and/or other students with excessive talking will lose participation points.
4. Parents will be notified of any reoccurring negative behaviors in class.
5. If problems continue the student may be removed from the ensemble.
6. Regular attendance and positive, active participation in rehearsals, including dress rehearsals and performances.
7. Regular/consistent individual practice OUTSIDE of regular band rehearsals.
8. Work to develop/refine individual tone, technique, posture, breathing and musical interpretation.
9. Respect for everyone in the program.
10. Participation in band program fundraisers as needed to raise monies for group activities, festivals and/or trips.

## **EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS**

You will need the following items

1. Folder with music. (Music and folder are provided)
2. Pencil for marking music
3. Instrument with appropriate mouthpiece and all necessary accessories: i.e. reeds, mutes, neck straps
4. Woodwind/Reeds – must have a Reed Holder (4 or more) and rotate reeds regularly – reeds below a size 3 are not acceptable. Reeds must be broken in – no old or brand new reeds in rehearsal.
5. Brass players should own at least a straight mute

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

1. All students will be expected to participate in all performances. A calendar listing of all performances is attached to this syllabus. Additional performance dates/ times or changes in the schedule will be announced in a timely matter. Keep in mind that a missed performance negatively impacts the entire ensemble.
2. Any unexcused absence from any mandatory performance will result in grade being lowered by 2 full grades. Exceptions may be made with prior written notification and only then on a case-by-case basis. Students will be required to do a solo performance of music from the missed performance for the directors or the class. Students are expected to remain in good academic standing in their other non-music courses.
3. Seating: Auditions will be held at the beginning of the year. Where you sit after auditions does not affect your grade. Challenges and progress checks will provide an opportunity for students to reseat. Musicians are to be supportive of other students when they play in class.
4. Tardies: Gunn High School policy states that students arriving after the bell rings are late to class and shall be marked tardy, except with written permission (pass) from a staff member. A verbal warning to the student is given at the 3<sup>rd</sup> tardy. At the 5<sup>th</sup> tardy the student is assigned to Saturday School. Students may be dropped from the class on the 8th tardy.

## *Henry M. Gunn High School Wind Ensemble*

### **PERFORMANCES**

Friday, September 16	Home Football Game	7:00pm
Friday, September 23	Home Football Game-Gunn/Paly!	7:00pm
Friday, September 30	Home Football Game	7:00pm
Friday, October 28	Home Football Game	7:00pm
Thursday, October 20	“Prism Concert”	7:30pm
Wednesday, November 2	Wind Ensemble @ JLS Concert	7:00pm
Friday, February 3	St. Olaf College Band Concert - Spangenberg	7:30pm
Thursday, January 26	Full Orchestra Rehearsal in Spangenberg	2:45pm-4:30pm
Monday, February 13	Full Orchestra Rehearsal in Spangenberg	6:00pm-9:00pm
Tuesday, February 14	Gunn Symphony Orchestra Concert	7:30pm
Friday, March 9	Chabot College Band Festival	All Day
Fri./Sat. April 13 & 14	CMEA Band Festival <i>Performance Friday, April 13 at 8:35pm</i>	All day @ Gunn
Saturday, May 5	May Fete Parade	Morning – Downtown PA
Thursday, May 24	Band Concert Honoring Seniors	7:00pm <i>(Special Start Time)</i>
Wednesday, June 6	Graduation <i>Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble</i>	Arrive 5:00pm <i>Done 8:00pm</i>

### **OPTIONAL PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES**

Monday, November 21	State Honor Band Cd’s due to Mr. Summers	cbda.org
Thursday, December 1	County Honor Band Soloist Auditions	Location TBA 7pm
Friday, December 9	SCCHB Auditions	sccbda.org SJSU – Evening
Saturday, December 10	SCCHB Rehearsal	SJSU 9am-5pm
Friday, January 13	SCCHB Rehearsal	Gunn HS 5pm-9:30pm
Saturday, January 14	SCCHB Rehearsal	Gunn HS 9am-5:00pm
Sunday, January 15	SCCHB CONCERT	Gunn HS 2:00 p.m.
February 16-19	CBDA All State Band in Fresno	
CMEA Bay Section	CMEA Solo/Ensemble Festival @ SJSU	go to <a href="http://cmeabaysection.org">cmeabaysection.org</a> for dates
	– Please notify Mr. Summers of your date choice ASAP	

**SCCHB=Santa Clara County Honor Band      [sccbda.org](http://sccbda.org)**

**CBDA All State=California Band Directors Association      [cbda.org](http://cbda.org)**

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**Be sure these dates are on your calendar!-keep this part for reference**

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**DUE Monday August 29, 2011**

**Detach and return below: Keep the above copy of the performance schedule as a reference**

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Print Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Acknowledgement**

I have read all the information in the syllabus and agree to follow all class rules and to participate in the listed performances. I have put the performance dates on my personal calendar and my family’s calendar.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Band Student Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian Date