Music Department

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<u>Introduction:</u>
The RHS Music Department provides students with the ability to go as far as their musical interests take them. Through singing, playing, composing and studying music, students are given the necessary skills to appreciate and understand all types and genres of music. They develop life-long musical, disciplinary, interpersonal and organizational skills that prepare them for higher education and allow them to achieve success beyond the classroom.

At Randolph High School, the music curriculum offers many opportunities for learning according to student abilities and interests.

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Sequencing:

The following is a suggested course sequence for performing ensembles and Music courses

GRADE 9 Band / Choir / Orchestra

GRADE 10 Band / Choir / Orchestra and Music Technology I / Piano I

GRADE 11 Band / Choir / Orchestra and Music Technology / Piano / AP Music Theory

GRADE 12 Band / Choir / Orchestra and Music Technology / Piano / AP Music Theory

*While any student can join Band, Choir or Orchestra any year, it is suggested that students continue throughout all four years of their ensemble experience.

*Schedule permitting, students can participate in Band, Choir, and Orchestra simultaneously. Permission should be obtained from each ensemble director beforehand.

*The Honors Program for Band, Choir and Orchestra grades 10, 11, 12 is reserved for very serious musicians who are capable of self-guided study. The music faculty will recommend students for the Honors Music Program.

Music Department

Course Title (Code)	Grade Level	Length
Band (MUS100)	9,10,11,12	Full Year
Band Honors (MUS120)	10,11,12	Full Year
String Orchestra (MUS200)	9,10,11,12	Full Year
Chamber Strings (MUS600)	9,10,11,12	Full Year
Orchestra Honors (MUS220 & 620)	10,11,12	Full Year
Treble Choir (MUS300)	9,10,11,12	Full Year
Concert Choir (MUS400)	9,10,11,12	Full Year
Choir Honors (MUS330 & 420)	10,11,12	Full Year
Music Technology I (MUS710)	9,10,11,12	Full Year
Music Technology II (MUS720)	10,11,12	Full Year
Piano I (MUS740)	9,10,11,12	Full Year
Piano II (MUS750)	10,11,12	Full Year
AP Music Theory (MUS500)	10,11,12	Full Year

Course Levels

Basic, Honors and Advanced Placement

Course Title: Band (MUS100)	
Level/Grade: 9th-12th	**Length:** Full Year
	Pre-requisites: None
Course Description: Instrumental lessons, Marching Band, Tech Band, Concert Band, Symphonic Winds, and Wind Ensemble are all separate experiences within the context of the band course. Anyone who plays or wishes to play a band instrument is welcome to the course, regardless of ability. A willingness to learn and improve is a requisite.	

Course Title: **Band Honors (MUS120)**	
Level/Grade: 10th-12th	Length: Full Year
	Pre-requisites: -Band (MUS100) -exhibits a consistent level of effort and preparedness in rehearsals and lessons; works to best ability -demonstrates a high level of rehearsal etiquette -consistently meets or exceeds expectations set forth by the director -be recommended by a music faculty member, go through an application and interview process
Course Description: Band Honors gives due credit to music students who tirelessly dedicate themselves to the art. The Honors program seeks to develop and enrich a student's performance capabilities, musical perceptivity, artistic sensitivity, and overall musicianship.	

Course Title: **String Orchestra (MUS200)**	
Level/Grade: 9th-12th	Length: Full Year
	Pre-requisites: None
Course Description: String Orchestra is for students playing stringed instruments (violin, viola, cello and bass). Compositions of different styles and periods are performed along with the appropriate application of positions, scales, rhythmic studies, etudes, solo and chamber works. The string orchestra is expanded into a full symphonic orchestra through the addition of selected wind, brass and percussion performers from the Band/Wind Ensemble. Group lessons are part of the course requirements and are offered on a rotating schedule. All orchestra students are required to attend extra rehearsals, group lessons and performances.	

Course Title: **Chamber Strings (MUS600)**	
Level/Grade: 9th-12th	Length: Full Year
	Pre-requisites: Audition or recommendation by faculty.

Course Description:
This ensemble meets daily. Students audition for this ensemble and will rehearse and perform at an extremely high level of musical proficiency. The best pieces in the chamber music genre will be studied, rehearsed and performed. Students who do not successfully audition for this group will rehearse the String Orchestra's musical selections allowing them to improve their own musical skills in a smaller group setting.

Course Title: **Orchestra Honors (MUS220 & 620)**	
Level/Grade: 10th-12th	Length: Full Year
	Pre-requisites: -String Orchestra (MUS200) or Chamber Strings (MUS600) -exhibits a consistent level of effort and preparedness in rehearsals and lessons; works to best ability -demonstrates a high level of rehearsal etiquette -consistently meets or exceeds expectations set forth by the director -be recommended by a music faculty member, go through an application and interview process

Course Description:
Orchestra Honors gives due credit to music students who tirelessly dedicate themselves to the art. The Honors program seeks to develop and enrich a student's performance capabilities, musical perceptivity, artistic sensitivity, and overall musicianship.

Course Title: **Treble Choir (MUS300)**	
Level/Grade: 9th-12th	Length: Full Year
	Pre-requisites: None

Course Description:
This course is designed for female voices. Freshmen girls are expected to take Treble Choir. Upperclassmen girls are welcome to choose either Treble or Concert Choir. The director will meet with incoming students in the spring or early in the school year to place them on voice parts. Through daily rehearsals and weekly group lessons, individuals develop the skills necessary for technically sound and healthy singing. Topics such as breathing and posture, clear vowel production, intonation, balance, blend, articulation of consonants, tone color, music reading, and music style are addressed. Emphasis is placed on individual development within a supportive group environment. A variety of standard and popular repertoires are performed.

Course Title: **Concert Choir (MUS400)**	
Level/Grade: 9th-12th	Length: Full Year
	Pre-requisites: None

Course Description:
Sometimes referred to as Mixed Choir, Concert Choir is a large vocal ensemble that is open to all regardless of experience. Freshman girls are expected to take Treble Choir. The director will meet with incoming students in the spring or early in the school year to place them on voice parts. Through daily rehearsals and weekly group lessons, individuals develop the skills necessary for technically sound and healthy singing. Topics such as breathing and posture, clear vowel production, intonation, balance, blend, articulation of consonants, tone color, music reading, and music style are addressed. Emphasis is placed on individual development within a supportive group environment. A variety of standard and popular repertoires are performed.

Course Title: **Choir Honors (MUS330 & 420)**	
Level/Grade: 10th-12th	Length: Full Year
	Pre-requisites: -Treble Choir (MUS300) or Concert Choir (MUS400) -exhibits a consistent level of effort and preparedness in rehearsals and lessons; works to best ability -demonstrates a high level of rehearsal etiquette -consistently meets or exceeds expectations set forth by the director -be recommended by a music faculty member, go through an application and interview process

Course Description:
Choir Honors gives due credit to music students who tirelessly dedicate themselves to the art. The Honors program seeks to develop and enrich a student's performance capabilities, musical perceptivity, artistic sensitivity, and overall musicianship.

Course Title: **Music Technology I (MUS710)**	
Level/Grade: 9th-12th	Length: Full Year
	Pre-requisites: None

Course Description:
Modern technology has had a tremendous impact on music and music production. Computers and synthesizers have become standard "tools of the trade" for performing musicians, composers, and arrangers. Today's students identify with electronically produced music and are highly motivated by the possibility of working with this idiom. This course offers a different approach to understanding musical concepts utilizing technology. Students will work in fundamental areas such as harmony, form, timbre, and orchestrations, as well as arranging, audio engineering, stage set-up, producing and composition. Students will have the opportunity to develop their creative and critical thinking skills, enhance their musical and technological understandings, as well as explore career opportunities.

Course Title: **Music Technology II (MUS720)**	
Level/Grade: 10th-12th	Length: Full Year
	Pre-requisites: Music Technology I
Course Description: This full year course builds on the skills and knowledge gained through students' experiences and learning in Music Technology I. Student choice and interest is a primary feature. After the first semester focus on exploring new methods and studying new skills, students will refine their craft through completing projects of their design and choosing. Students will have the option to focus on the composition of new music, studio recording and editing, another area of their choosing, or to simply continue their journey through the digital tools and techniques that have radically transformed music over the last century.	

Course Title: **Piano I (MUS740)**	
Level/Grade: 9th- 12th	Length: Full Year
	Pre-requisites: None
Course Description: Piano I is designed to teach students the skills needed to play the piano, including technical proficiency and reading music notation. Students do not need any prior musical experience for this class. For students that already have some piano skills, this class will provide them the opportunity to improve on those skills. During the course of the school year, students will learn to play music in a variety of keys and styles, from classical to contemporary music. Music from different cultures will be performed. The course will be held in the RHS music technology lab, which is equipped with digital midi keyboards and computers.	

Course Title: **Piano II**	
Level/Grade: 10th- 12th	Length: Full Year
	Pre-requisites: Piano I or Instructor recommendation
Course Description: Piano II is designed as a continuation from Piano I. Skills taught during Piano I will be developed further including technical proficiency and reading music notation. During the course of the school year, students will learn to play music in a variety of keys and styles, from classical to contemporary music. Music from different cultures will be performed. The course will be held in the RHS music technology lab, which is equipped with digital midi keyboards and computers.	

Course Title: **AP Music Theory (MUS500)**	
Level/Grade: 10th-12th	Length: Full Year
	Pre-requisites: Music Technology I, Piano I, or at least one year in Band, Choir, or Orchestra
Course Description: Melody, harmony, texture, rhythm, form, musical analysis, composition, history and style will be explored throughout. Musicianship skills such as dictation, listening skills, sight-singing, keyboard harmony will be developed during this course. The ultimate goal will be to develop a student's ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard and presented in a score.	