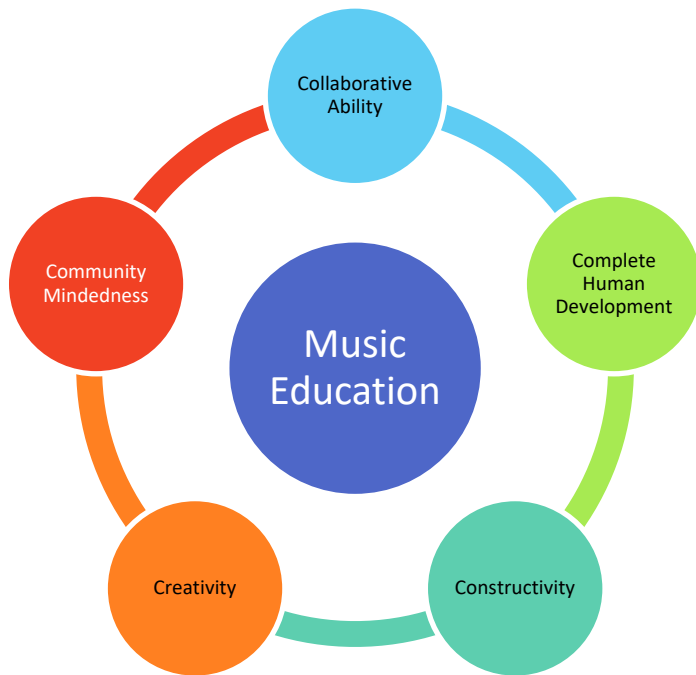
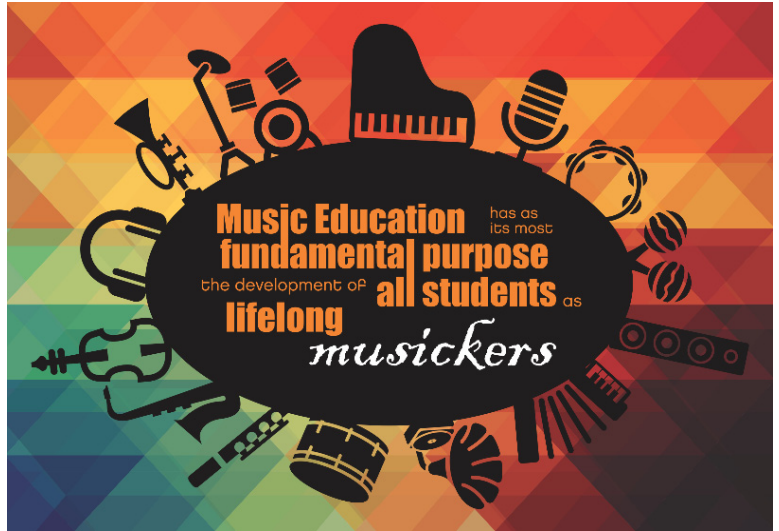




Notre Dame Collegiate’s Music Department operates under the philosophy that music education has as its fundamental purpose the development of lifelong musickers.

Focus is placed on the act of music-making, or “musicking”. Musical repertoire is selected to be more relevant to the students. Creativity, Collaboration, Performance and Contextualized Musicking are key activities and skills in this program. Assessment reflects student achievement, and doesn’t penalize students for the lack of knowledge/skill they had at the beginning of the course. For more information one “why musicking”, visit the course website at music.ndcfinearts.ca.



MUSIC IS A FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT OF BUILDING COMMUNITY BUILDING, ESPECIALLY IN THE WAKE OF A PANDEMIC.

Now more than ever we need our individuals, our communities, and our greater society to be as prepared as possible for whatever comes next. This means being able to work together (collaborative ability), build together (constructivity), think of improved solutions to both new and old problems (creativity), be kind and considerate to one another (community-mindedness), and full explore the human condition to the betterment of oneself and all around them (complete human development).

IN CONCERT BANDS

Concert Band courses at Notre Dame Collegiate must adhere to Alberta’s Instrumental Music Programs of Study. Therefore instrumentation, which is predominantly wind instruments, and musicking purpose will be geared to that

method of musical activity, as well as relevant contextualized musicking in collaborative creative learning environments. Safe learning environments are the only path to success, and to that end we will be using protective equipment such as instrument covers. Notre Dame Collegiate staff remain on the forefront of research in musical performance and hygiene. Should Alberta Health Services, Alberta Education or Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools provide any other direction for appropriate tools, that will be communicated home to parents as soon as possible.

Beginning Band

Within the first two weeks of school, Grade 7 students will be provided “Wind Instrument Try-out Kits”, which will allow them to experience the mouthpiece of each of the wind instruments. Students will be able to make informed decisions as to what instrument they would prefer, so that they can truly enjoy their music-making experience. Once students have selected their instrument, an “Instrument Rental Night” will be hosted at the school to help families get their instruments as quickly as possible. It is our intent to have instruments in students’ hands by September 17, 2021.

It should be noted that if a student makes an instrument selection, and after a month of trying it out it turns out to have been the wrong choice, *they are not forced to continue to play an instrument they don’t like*. Solutions will be found to ensure your student loves their instrument and playing it.

IN STAGE BANDS

Stage Band is based on a locally developed course that is intended to expand on the Concert Band courses. Musical selections include choices most relevant to students and expand to music of earlier periods in the 20th Century.

Stage Bands will begin in mid-September, and include opportunities to play saxophone, trombone, trumpet, bass guitar, piano and drumset. Other instruments are also possibilities, but only in consultation with the teacher.

IN STEEL BANDS

NDC is on the leading edge of music education in Alberta with one of the first, and the only rural Steel Pan program in the province. These classes will be offered in the evenings so more people can participate. Students involved in Steel Pans receive credit in General Music classes beginning the 2019-2020 School Year.

Depending on demand, we will explore the possibility of having two Steel Pan Ensembles, one for Junior High and one for Senior High. Steel Pan musicians will be assigned one instrument they will interact with, and will need to have their own mallets that are not to be shared with anyone else. One set of each of these mallets will be made available to each student for a simple \$25 fee.

IN STRING ENSEMBLE

Again, Notre Dame Collegiate is on the leading edge of music education in Alberta with a wide variety of musical offerings, including traditional string ensemble instruction, being one of only 5 rural schools provincially to have such a program. The String Ensemble can continue as it has in the past. Students can now earn High School credit for this course and junior high students earn marks on their report card as well. Violins and violas are rented through Long & McQuade. There is a limited number of cellos available rented through Notre Dame Collegiate, but they are also available for rental through Long & McQuade. String Bass will not be used at this time due to space restrictions.

Tools All Music Students Will Need

As a result of the many changes that will happen to protect every student and staff members’ safety, we will be making many procedural changes, and that means we will need a variety of different tools to do so effectively. The following are tools every student will need, provided by the school or otherwise;

Provided By The School

- Recording and Playback Software
- Other Software for Projects and Research
- Sheet Music (Digital and Paper)
- Music Folders
- Music Books
- Instrument Masks and Protective Gear

Provided by Families

- Working Instrument (Rental is okay)
- Cleaning and Maintenance Supplies (required)
- Over-the-Ear Headphones, Pencil and Eraser
- An At-Home Internet-Connected Device
- Extra shoes for work outside if possible
- At-home practice space with an armless stationary chair

Instrument Rentals

Instrument Rental Night will be announced based on the anticipated arrival of appropriate protective gear, and will be conducted via Live Streaming. Our current *tentative* date for instrument rentals is September 26, 2020 at 6:00 PM. This event will be targeting new band students (such as in Grade 7 or new to Notre Dame Collegiate), students who have large instruments, Steel Pan, Strings and Stage Band players. Students will be expected to have completed their rentals by the end of that evening.

For Primary Instruments (the main instrument in Concert Band your student will be playing), it is always best to rent from a reputable source, like Long & McQuade (403-244-5555). It is approximately the same cost for small and medium-sized instruments as renting through Notre Dame Collegiate, and the customer service makes Long & McQuade a far more viable option for high quality instruments and keeping them that way. It is unreasonable to expect to pay the costs of larger instruments through Long & McQuade, so NDC offers those instruments at reasonable rates, but does not offer a maintenance plan.

If you desire renting your instruments before the Instrument Rental Night, please feel free to complete an instrument rental form with Long & McQuade at <https://rentals.long-mcquade.com> (make sure to set your Preferred Long & McQuade location to Calgary, and to also purchase appropriate cleaning supplies or care kits and reeds.

NOTRE DAME COLLEGIATE RENTAL RATES

Flute	\$200/year
Oboe	\$200/year
Bassoon	\$225/year
Clarinet	\$200/year
Alto Clarinet	\$250/year

Bass Clarinet	\$300/year
Alto Sax	\$200/year
Tenor Sax	\$225/year
Bari Sax	\$300/year
Fr. Horn	\$150/year

Trumpet	\$200/year
Trombone	\$200/year
Baritone	\$225/year
Tuba*	\$325/year
Percussion/Electronics	\$40/year

Cello	\$225/year
String Bass	\$300/year
Electric Bass	\$275/year
*incl. tuba at home & at school	
Shared instruments are prorated	

Secondary Instruments (any other instrument aside from the primary) are rented for free with a \$50 deposit, regardless of where you rent your primary instrument, or even if you own it. All rental fees go to cover costs of supplies and repairs of instruments in the band room.

All Percussions, Pianists, Guitarists, and anyone else who uses the Percussion or Electronic Equipment is required to pay a \$40 usage fee. This fee will be used for any costs associated with maintaining this equipment through regular use.

Notre Dame Collegiate staff remain on the forefront of research in musical performance and hygiene. As a result, we oftentimes exceed recommendations by Alberta Health Services with regards to the safety of our young musicians. Should Alberta Health Services, Alberta Education, Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools provide any other direction for appropriate tools, that will be communicated home to parents in advance of changes.

Fees and Fundraising

All fees will be compiled on the SchoolCashOnline tool for paying school fees. This includes rental fees as well as fees for Steel Pan Ensemble.

Fundraising happens in two ways; via participation in the High River Catholic Fine Arts Parents Association, or via pre-existing programs such as Sobey's Gift Cards. Sobey's Gift Cards provide your student with "points" that can be used to pay any of your school fees, whether they are music-related or otherwise. You can purchase your Sobey's Gift Cards from the NDC School Council by visiting the school office.

**Help Keep Fine Arts Costs Down ...
Become a Fine Arts Volunteer!
Visit the HRCFAPA on Facebook via
<http://www.ndcfinearts.ca/hrcfapa>**



OUR RECOGNITION PROGRAM - THE NDC MUSIC HALL OF FAME

The NDC Music Hall of Fame was initiated in 2018 and honours students, both in past years and future years, for their participation and level of success in their musical learning. Participation in multiple music classes, honour bands, volunteer activities and summer camps add to a students' points which are used to determine induction into the Hall of Fame. Recognition at each level allows students to become part of a legacy of musical development at NDC. For more details on the Hall of Fame, please visit <https://music.ndcfinearts.ca>.



BAND UNIFORM

One aspect of effective performance is presentation. To ensure each band's presentation is of the highest caliber, students are required to wear a uniform during performances and field trips. The jacket shown is our uniform. Students are required to wear any type of white shirt (without logos) underneath, black pants (not grey or washed out) and black closed-toe footwear.



We are planning in the 2021/2022 School Year to offer an opportunity to purchase your own customized jacket with your name on it. If you are interested in ordering an NDC Music Jacket for yourself or your child so that they do not need to use one of the shared jackets, just watch for the announcements on how to purchase such a jacket.

For Marching Band units, it is highly recommended to have walking or cross-training shoes for the appropriate support. If at all possible, please make these shoes as completely black as possible.

EVALUATION

Creating.....	10%
Performing	35%
Responding	5%
Collaborating.....	10%
Theory	20%
Skills and Technique.....	20%
Total.....	100%

POWERSCHOOL LOOKS DIFFERENT FOR MUSIC CLASSES



Assessment of learning in musicking is concept-driven in Creating, Responding and Collaborating marks. Where a student may receive 70% on a skill at the beginning of the year, but 90% on the same skill at the end of the year, a cumulative method of assessing would provide that student with 80%. Students are not penalized for whatever skills they may have lacked at the beginning of the year, but rather are awarded a mark based on the end-state of their development as a percentage of what is of expected of them at any given time.

Assessment of learning in Performing, Theory, and Skills and Technique is still cumulative, as each assessment targets a different series of concepts, and so must remain cumulative in nature.

The "Trinity of Education" is the Student, the Teacher, and the Family, but this only works with good communication. This year's main methods of communication will be the NDC Music Discord Community, the Music and Fine Arts websites, the NDC Fine Arts Facebook Page and of course individualized email and phone communication administered by PowerSchool.

Join the NDC Music Discord Community at <http://discord.ndcfinearts.ca>



Bookmark the NDC music and Fine Arts Website at <https://music.ndcfinearts.ca> and <https://www.ndcfinearts.ca>



Follow the NDC Fine Arts Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/NDCFineArts>

Tools for Assessment, Musical Learning and Communication

Discord is our main tool for communication and many assessments. This tool will be used for helping students remain focussed, submit recordings, report assignment completion, and share musical opportunities. A separate page in this booklet provides detailed help for parents and students with their first experiences with Discord. Students will be logging on using the Christ the Redeemer email accounts, and parents are encouraged to join to contribute to the music community.



breezin'
thru®

Breezin' Thru Theory is an online tool that will be used to instruct and assess student learning in written theory. This tool can also be used at home, however instruction will take place in class, and enrichment opportunities will be shared once a topic has been covered. The content and lessons for Breezin' Thru will also be available on Discord.

Google Classroom will be used minimally, namely for the completion of Responding Assignments, which will focus on practice skills and strategies and First Nations, Métis and Inuit music-making.



Students will select their performance assessments from various Royal Conservatory of Music Repertoire books, one from each instruments' List A and List B and targeted levels for their ability and experience. These will form their playing tests which will be recorded in Discord, and will also give students repertoire that they can use to receive Royal Conservatory of Music Certification and perform at the various Alberta Music Festival Association member festivals.



TARDIS is a fully-equipped sound-isolated practice room that can be booked at any time in the music room, and performance assignments can be completed in here or in the main music room.

Band Trips and Festivals

All Band Trips and Festivals are subject to Christ the Redeemer School Division approval. Nonetheless, we are planning a number of activities that take students away from school campus. **None of these trips or their prices have been confirmed**, but this gives you a really good idea what we're planning so that you can also plan and budget for them. Prices here are maximum fees for the trips. Trips, although not mandatory, are **heavily encouraged** and can have significant impacts on student learning, success and grades through collaboration and potential bonus marks.

Grade 7 Airdrie Festival and Studio Bell Trip – Max \$100 – Sometime in March, 2022

Departure at the end of a school day, includes one overnight stay, downtime at the Airdrie swimming pool, performance in the festival, and exploration time on the second day at Studio Bell. Back in time for busses on the second day.

Grade 8-9, Stage Band and Panorama Edmonton Cantando Trip – Max \$200 – April 11-13, 2022

Departure early Monday morning, stay in Edmonton, downtime at West Edmonton Mall, performances in the Winspear Centre and the Yardbird Suite as well as West Edmonton Mall, instrument-specific workshops and guest conductor workshops, three-day two-night trip.

Senior Concert Band University Student for A Week – Max \$400 – April 21-24 or May 6-7, 2022

Departure Thursday at beginning of the day, staying in the Residences at the University of Lethbridge, have a schedule of individual lessons, recitals, sectionals, workshops, classes, guest conductors, and evening fun activities. City transit would be used for some activities, including Mass at St. Martha's Parish, Park Place Mall and/or Glow-In-The Dark Mini-Golf.

Strings and Solos Festival Trips - \$Max 50 – Sometime in March, 2022

Either at the Airdrie Festival, Highwood Festival, or Lethbridge Festival, hopefully with extra workshops. Single-day trip.

Students and families will be sent full details of each trip once they have all been confirmed.

NDC Music Discord Community



Students will be required to join the NDC Music Discord Community for the organization of information. They will be guided on how to do so using the Christ the Redeemer Catholic School Division email accounts.

The benefits of a Discord Community is that only those who are invited may join, it is moderated by a teacher, and it is a platform many students are already using for their own purposes. There are no distractions like you would experience on Instagram groups, Facebook, SnapChat or even Tiktok, and resources are accessed far more easily than any other platform we have tried (we've tried Charms, MusicFirstClassroom and NoteFlight, and they are very costly solutions that simply did not do what we needed it to do). Students can also control very easily how they interact with Discord, including managing notifications, which channels they have access to (and every channel has to do with the NDC Music program only), and ask for help from Mr. Windsor through the ticket system there. Additionally students can practice with accompanying music using the voice channels, and practice with a friend as well, even if they aren't in the same space.

Student engagement in at-home musicking increased substantially through the use of Discord. We are hoping to keep this community strong to continue to encourage that at-home music-making habit.

Parents are also welcome to join the NDC Music Discord Community as well, and can get involved in our activities and get special privileges as volunteers. To do so, you will need to follow the instructions below.

1. Go to <http://discord.ndcfinearts.ca> to get the invitation link to join the NDC Music Discord Community.
2. If you do not already have a Discord account, you will need to create one at this time. Nobody on Discord ever has access to your email account, and Discord does not tend to send emails, so you should not feel the need to worry about spam from Discord. Use that knowledge to determine what email account you want to use.
3. Once your account is created and you've joined the NDC Music Discord Community, it will require you to read the **Rules of the NDC Music Discord Community**. Read them to understand what is expected of community members.
4. Once you have agreed to the rules, you will be directed to the **#welcome-and-rules** channel which will remind you the rules you agreed to, and provide you with a **Discord Orientation**. Read through that for a clear understanding of how to use the NDC Music Discord Community.

The screenshot shows the Discord interface for the NDC Music server. The left sidebar contains a list of channels categorized into 'FOR EVERYONE', 'FOR STUDENT MUSICIANS', 'FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS', and 'WINDYJ GAMES'. The main area displays the '#welcome-and-rules' channel with a 'Welcome to NDC Music' message and a 'Discord Orientation' message. The right sidebar shows a list of members and groups.

Annotations on the screenshot include:

- Access to private (direct) messages** (pointing to the top right)
- Server Settings (right-click to mute or change notification settings or change your Nickname)** (pointing to the top right)
- Quick Channel Description** (pointing to the top right)
- List of Channels sorted by Categories** (pointing to the left sidebar)
- Welcome and Rules Channel** (pointing to the '#welcome-and-rules' channel)
- List of Servers You Have Joined (Click Icons to Switch Servers)** (pointing to the left sidebar)
- Announcements Channel** (pointing to the '#welcome-and-rules' channel)
- Categories (right-click to mute all channels in a category)** (pointing to the left sidebar)
- Middle Section of the Screen is the content of the selected channel** (pointing to the main area)
- Text Channels (right-click for notification settings)** (pointing to the left sidebar)
- Voice and Video Channels (just like ZOOM or Google Meets)** (pointing to the left sidebar)
- List of NDC Music Discord Community members and groups of members (right-click on yourself here to Change your Nickname)** (pointing to the right sidebar)
- Microphone and Headphone Controls, and access to all your Discord account settings** (pointing to the bottom left)
- Where you type messages including mentioning members or groups of members with @, or giving bots access if you have permission to in the selected channel.** (pointing to the bottom center)

CHECKLIST FOR PARENTS OF MUSIC STUDENTS

- Ensure your student has the proper uniform (white no-logo shirt, black pants/socks/shoes)
- Join the NDC Music Discord Community at <http://discord.ndcfinearts.ca>
- Bookmark <https://music.ndcfinearts.ca> on your devices for your student to have access to.
- Like the NDC Fine Arts Facebook Page at <www.facebook.com/NDCFineArts>
- Read the *How to Best Set Your Band Student Up For Success* section in this booklet and discuss with your family how to best help them manage their at-home practice.

HOW TO BEST SET YOUR BAND STUDENT UP FOR SUCCESS

Students will be encouraged using Discord to engage in consistent regular practice. The intention is to help communicate home the work that students are completing in class, as well as to remind students and give them direction on their practice and at-home work. Although this method of communication may help, it is only the communication piece; the rest of it is up to your student and their practice environment at home. Here are some strategies for helping them practice efficiently at home.

- **Give them space to practice.** This space should be designated specifically for your child’s instrument. When your student comes home and empties their backpack, they should also empty their instrument case and set up their instrument. It takes less effort to practice if the instrument is already put together.
- **Give them time to practice.** Learning a musical instrument is noisy. Your student needs to know that you are okay with them making potentially distracting sounds.
- **Let them make mistakes.** They are responsible for their own practicing. Part of their learning includes developing their own strategies to self-assess and improve. The only way that works is if they make mistakes. Only then will they be familiar with what mistakes sound like, and then work to improve it. However, if you hear them making the same mistake more than twice, feel free to mention it.
- **Be an audience infrequently.** Students are not performing for you every day they practice. In fact, they are purposefully taking that time to *not* perform. You are welcome to listen from afar and in an inobtrusive way, but save your audienceship for concert times and the occasional “are you willing to play for me”.
- **Come to concerts ready to listen.** Students perform a minimum of four times, and a maximum of five times all year. Those performances are just as important as a final round of a basketball tournament; everything they’ve worked for comes to that point. Students will continue to develop their identity in music if you are there to witness it.

Tentative Weekly Schedule of Music Room

Time Period	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
Before School (7:00 AM)	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
Time Period	Day 1s		Day 2s		
Block 1	Grade 7 Concert Band				
Block 2			Grade 8 Concert Band		
Block 3	Senior Concert Band				
Block 4	Grade 9 Concert Band		Senior Audio-Video Production (Semester 2)		
After School (Until 4:45 PM)	Available upon request	St. Cecilia Strings	Woodshedders Stage Band	Available upon request	Unavailable
Evening (6:00 – 7:30 PM)	Unavailable	Available upon request	Panorama	Unavailable	Unavailable

This schedule is subject to change, but is current as of August 31, 2021.

