

Orchestra FAQ's

What Is Zero Hour Orchestra?

Zero Hour Orchestra is the largest group in the Instrumental Music Department. It is for anyone who plays a standard orchestra or band instrument. (Violin, viola, cello, bass, flute oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, French horn, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, tuba, percussion). It's Three Groups In One-It's a Symphony Orchestra, It's a String Ensemble, It's a Wind Ensemble.

When Is Zero Hour?

Zero Hour Is 7:15 a.m.-7:45 a.m. Monday- Friday. 1st Hour Begins at 7:50

Do I Need to Audition?

No audition is required to join however there is a seating audition at the beginning of the year.

Can I Learn to Play an Instrument In Zero Hour Orchestra?

It is not for beginners. DSHA does not offer private or group lessons during the school day. If you are interested in learning an instrument, we recommend studying privately for at least a year before joining. Many of our members are active in MYSO, UWAY and Latino Arts Orchestra and/or have been taking private lessons for several years.

Do I have to get up early every day?

You will usually come three days a week except a couple weeks before a concert. Winds normally rehearse Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Strings rehearse Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. So wind players have at least one day dedicated to band music, strings likewise have a day for string music and we all meet as a full symphony orchestra two days a week.

When Does the Orchestra Perform?

There are two major concerts during the year. The Christmas concert usually in mid-December and the Spring concert in mid-May. In addition the Orchestra usually plays at mass twice a year at local churches such as the Cathedral of St. John, Gesu Church, Christ King, and others. We also perform for DSHA's Commencement.