

# Rushing Orchestra

March/April 2022 Update

## *Important Upcoming Dates*

**Wednesday, March 23rd** - Beginner Side by Side Performance with PHS Orchestra - during school

**Tuesday, April 12th** - Spring Concert - 6:30-7:30 pm - Rushing Cafeteria

**Wednesday, April 13th** - NJHS Ceremony Performance (Chamber and Sinfonia only) - 6:30-7:00 - Rushing Gym

**Thursday, April 14th** - Pinstack Performance - during school (Camerata and Beginner only)

**Saturday, April 30th** - Solo and Ensemble Contest - Time TBD - Reynolds MS

**Tuesday, May 3rd** - Final Exam/Audition for next year - Recordings Due

**July 18-20th** - Strings and Conditioning Orchestra Summer Camp - 9 am - 12 pm -Rushing MS

## *Beginner Side-by-Side Performance*

### *Wednesday, March 23rd (3rd through 5th period)*

The beginners will travel to PHS to play with the top orchestra at the high school and have a pizza party. This will occur during the school day and students will miss all of 3rd period and lunch. They will return in the middle of 5th period.

Parents, feel free to come and watch the performance. You will need to check-in at the front office at PHS and it will go from 10:30-11:30 am. We will feed the students pizza and drinks before we return to Rushing.

Students should wear their orchestra shirt and jeans.

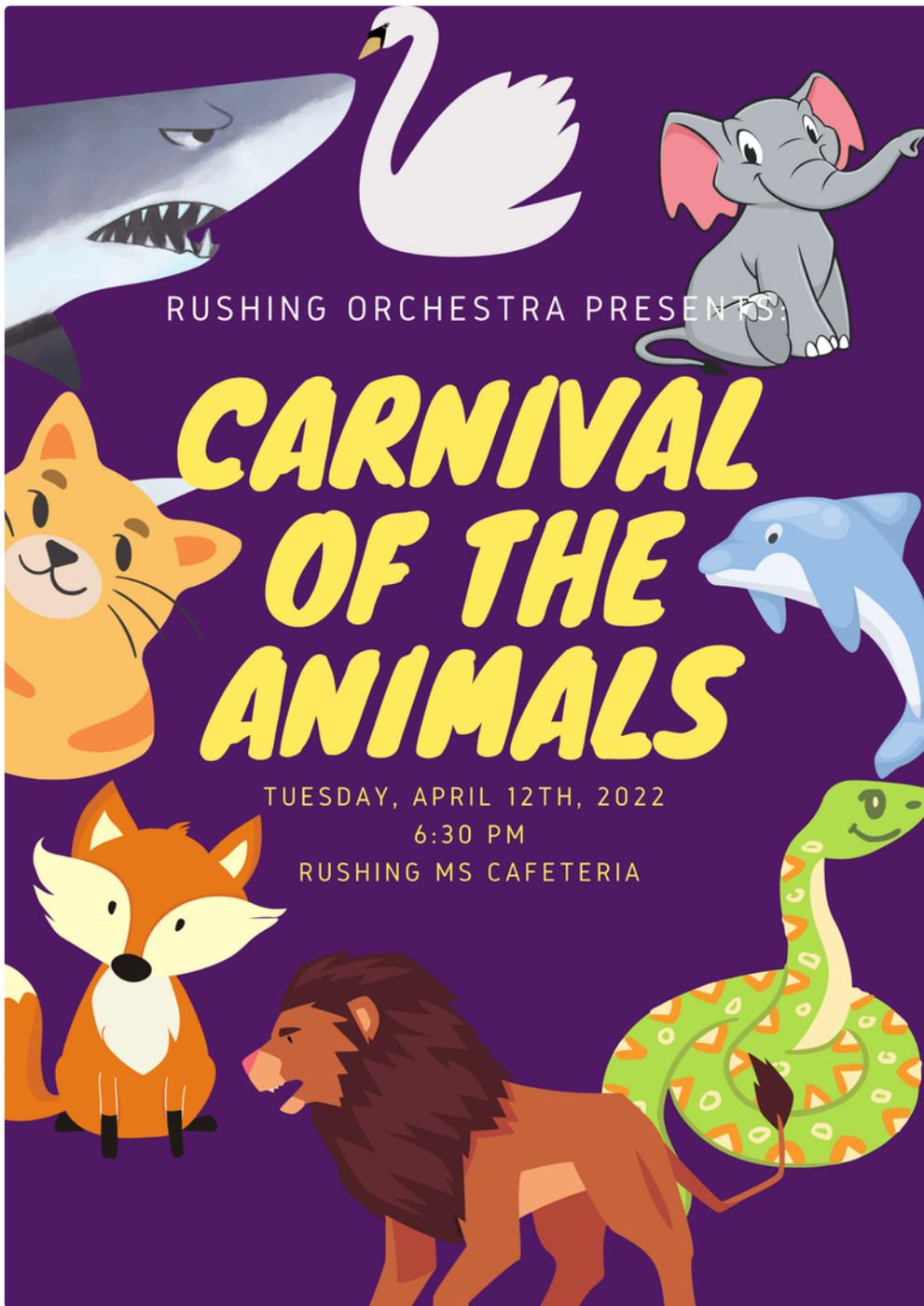


Rushing Beginner Side-by-Side (2).pdf

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18.0 KB

## *Spring Concert*



*Tuesday, April 12th - Rushing MS - Required Event*

**Location:**

- Rushing Middle School Cafeteria

**Attire:**

- Sunday Best/Business Casual. No blue jeans or sneakers. Dress slacks, dress shoes, dress shirts, dresses, or skirts. Any color is fine.

**Arrival Time for Students:**

- Beginners - 5:45 pm
- Camerata, Sinfonia, and Chamber - 6:00 pm

### **Arrival Time for Parents:**

- Cafeteria doors will open at 6:15 pm

### **Concert Begins:**

- 6:30 pm

As a reminder, this concert is a major curricular grade, and students are required to attend. Other activities and events will not be excused absences. The only excused absences are extreme illness and death in the family.

## *NJHS Induction Ceremony Performance*

*Wednesday, April 13th - Rushing Middle School Gym (Chamber and Sinfonia*

We will be performing the music for the National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony.

**Location:** Rushing MS Gym

**Attire:** Concert Black

**Arrival Time:** 5:45 pm

**The performance begins:** 6:30 pm, ends at 7:30 pm

If a student is being inducted, they do not need to worry about playing the concert.

## *Spring Music Festival - Pinstack*

*Thursday, April 14th - Time TBD - Camerata and Beginners Only*

I will have an exact timeline for you as we get closer to the date. We will leave at the beginning of 2nd period (block day), and return during of 8th period, so students will miss most of school.

The beginner and Camerata orchestras will perform 2 pieces for a judge and receive feedback on their performance. After the performance in the morning, students will then get to play at Pinstack which also includes an unlimited pizza and drink buffet.

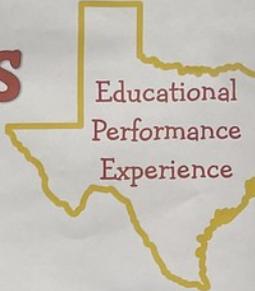
Students will be given a \$10 game card but may bring extra money if they would like to add more points. All of the other attractions are unlimited.

I will need parent chaperones, so if you are interested, please email me.

Beginner & Camerata



# Pride of Texas



April 14th, 2022

## Music Festival



Group Trophy

# at

# PIN STACK

B O W L   B I T E



Participant Souvenir

**2 Level Laser Tag      Rock Climbing Wall**

**Bumper Cars          Video Games**

**Lazer Maze              Bowling**

**Pizza, Pasta, Salad, Dessert, and Drink Buffet**








## *Solo and Ensemble Contest*

### *Saturday, April 30th - Required Performance*

**Solo & Ensemble** is a contest in which students will prepare a solo or an ensemble (or both!) to perform in front of a judge. The judge will give you verbal and written feedback and will also give you a rating based on your performance.

All students are required to prepare an ensemble. All ensemble members must be in the same orchestra class. You are welcome to perform both a solo and an ensemble at the contest if you choose.

All Rushing Orchestra students are required to participate in Solo & Ensemble and it will be counted as a major grade.

Students may request a morning or afternoon time. Once the performance time is assigned, students will need to plan to arrive 20 minutes early. After the performance, students may go home. The entire process should take about 40 minutes from arrival to departure.

## *Final Exams/Auditions*

### *Final due date - Tuesday, May 3rd*

**Who:** All current 6th and 7th grade orchestra students will complete this assessment.

**When: May 3rd.** You will submit a recording on google classroom. You may submit at any time before this date. May 3rd is the final deadline for submission. **No late submissions will be accepted.**

**Why:** This assessment serves two purposes - 1) To assess your progress from this school year. It will count as your final exam grade. 2) An audition for placement in either Camerata (intermediate), Sinfonia (lower advanced), or Chamber (higher advanced) orchestra next school year.

***Please note: completing the Level 2 audition does not guarantee you a place in the sinfonia or chamber orchestra.***

Please read the chart below carefully to ensure that you prepare the correct level.

#### **Current Orchestra Level**

##### **Orchestra Placement**

Beginner

Placement in Camerata: Prepare all of Level 1.

Consideration for placement in Sinfonia or Chamber: Prepare all of Level 2.

If not continuing in orchestra, prepare all of Level 1.

Camerata

Placement in Camerata: Prepare all of Level 1.

Consideration for placement in Sinfonia or Chamber: Prepare all of Level 2.

If not continuing in orchestra, prepare all of Level 1.

Sinfonia and Chamber

Placement in Sinfonia or Chamber: Prepare all of Level 2.

If not continuing in orchestra, prepare all of Level 2.

#### **How will it work?:**

1. All students must join the Assessment Google Classroom: **dbbkk3y**
2. Prepare the appropriate level listed above. The point of this assessment is to see what you have learned through the year. Just like a test in a core class, I will not be able to teach you this music. You are responsible for learning it all on your own. I can answer questions, and I can demonstrate the music for you.

3. When the audition window opens, you will record a video of yourself playing the correct level. You and your instrument must be in the camera at all times. Your audition will not count if the camera is off. Upload the video to the assessment assignment in google classroom.

***Placement results and grades will be posted before the last day of school.***

## *Strings and Conditioning Summer Camp*

*Monday July 18th - Wednesday July 20th*

**Dates:**

July 18-19, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

July 20, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM (Field Day!)

**Where:** Rushing Middle School

**Tuition:** \$100 (myschoolbucks link will be available in April)

**What's Included:**

Orchestra rehearsals + daily technique masterclasses with professional musicians over vibrato, scales, shifting, and more!

July 20th -End of Camp Field Day! We will have Kona Ice, inflatable water slides, inflatable obstacle courses, and lots of fun!

## *Mrs. Nguyen Baby Update*

### *Maternity Leave Begins May 2nd*

Baby Ayla will be here really soon! We are very excited to welcome her to the family. My due date is May 8th, but I will go on leave starting May 2nd.

There will be a substitute and a project about music careers that the students will work on for the remainder of the year.

After the baby is born, I will be grading all of the final exams/auditions and results will be posted before the last day of school.

## *Beginner Orchestra Update*

### *1st, 4th, and 6th Period*

The beginners are now working on a new scale, the C scale, and learning a new concept of slurs, ties, and hooks. We have learned several difficult skills including 8th notes, hovers, tunnels, and playing on multiple strings.

We are also working on our Spring Concert Music. Students are continuing their work on Impulse, and we have added The Dolphin Pool and Dragonhunter to the mix. These pieces will sound fantastic on the spring concert! Students will also be working hard during class with their ensembles and learning how to be independent leaders in a group setting.

Please continue your student to continue practicing at home and aim for 20 minutes, 5 days a week.

## *Camerata Orchestra Update*

### *Intermediate - 2nd Period*

Camerata Orchestra performed at UIL contest for the first time ever and did an amazing job! They received a rating of excellent on stage and a rating of excellent in sight reading. UIL rates from 1 to 5, with 1 being superior, and 5 being poor. Their rating was a 2 overall. This is a fantastic achievement and a real marker of growth from this year.

For now, we have set our sights on Solo & Ensemble contest, our spring concert, and our spring festival. Students will be working hard during class with their ensembles and learning how to be independent leaders in a group setting.

Please continue your student to continue practicing at home and aim for 30 minutes, 5 days a week.



# *Sinfonia Orchestra Update*

## *Advanced II - 7th Period*

Sinfonia Orchestra performed at UIL contest and did wonderfully! They received a rating of Superior (1) on stage and a rating of Excellent (2) in sight reading. UIL rates from 1 to 5, with 1 being superior, and 5 being poor. This is a fantastic achievement and a real marker of growth from this year.

For now, we have set our sights on Solo & Ensemble contest, our spring concert, and our NJHS performance. Students will be working hard during class with their ensembles and learning how to be independent leaders in a group setting.

Please continue your student to continue practicing at home and aim for 30 minutes, 5 days a week.



# *Chamber Orchestra Update*

## *Advanced I - 5th Period*

Chamber Orchestra performed at UIL contest and continued orchestra excellence from last year by receiving a Superior Sweetstakes! They received a rating of superior on stage and a rating of superior

in sight reading. UIL rates from 1 to 5, with 1 being superior, and 5 being poor.

For now, we have set our sights on Solo & Ensemble contest, our spring concert, and our NJHS performance. Students will be working hard during class with their ensembles and learning how to be independent leaders in a group setting.

Please continue your student to continue practicing at home and aim for 35 minutes, 5 days a week.



## *Rushing Orchestra*

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*Follow us on social media for updates!*

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