

# ILION JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT



## 2011-2012 PERFORMING ENSEMBLE HANDBOOK

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## **PURPOSE OF THE PERFORMING ENSEMBLE HANDBOOK:**

This Performing Ensemble Handbook has been compiled to make clear the goals and expectations you and your child should have as a member of any performing ensemble in the Ilion Junior-Senior High School Music program. Your understanding of these responsibilities will increase individual achievement and make our ensembles, as a whole, more successful. It is our goal to allow participants to have a greater sense of pride and enjoyment in our program. The success of our groups will be based on individual commitment to our program and the policies that are included here.

Please take time to read this handbook carefully and be sure to ask any questions you may have. Lastly, we hope you share our excitement regarding the success our program has had. We are confident that we will continue to grow and succeed, and your participation will be more greatly rewarded in years to come.

## **MUSIC DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY:**

We always strive for the highest possible level of performance with each of our performing groups. By participating in a performing ensemble, you will learn how to improve your singing/playing and be educated in a variety of musical styles through performance of various types of literature. Participation in a performing music group provides many other long-term rewards that will benefit students throughout their entire lives. The discipline and individual practice time necessary to be successful in a large performing group will help each student be more successful in other scholastic areas and group situations. Students involved in music develop great mental capability through self-discipline and practice. The teacher spends rehearsal time and approximately ½ hour a week with the student and is merely a guide; thus, the student is responsible for the vast majority of the actual teaching and learning. This ability to learn independently is, perhaps, the most valuable skill participation in music can provide in a public education setting. Therefore, our main goal is to use music as a vehicle that will allow us to better prepare you for a productive, enjoyable, and successful future.

## **NEW YORK STATE LEARNING STANDARDS FOR THE ARTS:**

Standard 1: Creating, Performing, and Participating in the Arts-  
Students will actively engage in the processes that constitute creation and performance in the arts (dance, music, theatre, and visual arts) and participate in various roles in the arts.

Standard 2: Knowing and Using Arts Materials and Resources-  
Students will be knowledgeable about and make use of the materials and resources available for participation in the arts in various roles.

Standard 3: Responding to and Analyzing Works of Art-  
Students will respond critically to a variety of works in the arts, connecting the individual work to other works and to other aspects of human endeavor and thought.

Standard 4: Understanding the Cultural Dimensions and Contributions of the Arts-  
Students will develop an understanding of the personal and cultural forces that shape artistic communication and how the arts in turn shape the diverse cultures of past and present society.

## **PERFORMANCE ETIQUETTE AND ATTIRE:**

1. Be on time for warm-ups and come prepared to concentrate and perform at your best. This will allow for the best possible and most enjoyable performance for you and the audience.
2. Good behavior at performances is critical as good musicianship both on and off stage. Do not talk when you are performing. When seated in the audience, please **DO NOT** talk or leave your seat for any reason. If you need to leave (for example, to go to the bathroom), leave between musical numbers.
3. Concert dress for all performing groups is as follows:  
BOYS: Black pants, button down white dress shirt, black socks, black shoes and a tie.  
GIRLS: Black pants, short or long sleeve white blouse (NO SLEEVELESS TOPS OR SKIRTS), black socks/stockings and black shoes. (NO SANDALLS!) *No jeans or clothing that is torn and ripped should be worn at a concert. Please wear light undergarments!*  
We want to look as good as we sound!

## **PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

The most educationally fulfilling aspect of a music performing group is participation in various performances throughout the year. As a result, the music department enforces the following policies with regard to performance and attendance:

1. In accordance with school policy, students must be in attendance prior to the tardy bell for morning session in order to be eligible to perform in a concert. Illness, oversleeping, illegal absence, and truancy exclude a student from performing in concerts. Examples of acceptable excuses include dental/doctor appointments, funerals, and college visitations. Illegal absences and truancy are unacceptable excuses for missing a concert.
2. Students who are illegally absent from a performance, (or unexcused by the director), will receive a zero for the concert participation portion of their grade for the marking period in which the performance occurred. This makes 80% the highest grade possible for that marking period.
3. All students who miss a performance for any reason will be expected to perform part of their concert materials in a lesson or small group in front of the ensemble as per the director's choice.

Excuses which are unavoidable, legitimate conflicts will be considered by the director **no later than two weeks prior to the performance.** All excuses must be written and signed by a parent/guardian.

Excuses for unforeseen emergencies will be considered at any time. It is the responsibility of each child and his or her parents / guardian to be aware of the performance schedule and provide excuses which are necessary in a timely fashion.

## **JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS AND CHOIR GRADING POLICY:**

Students in Junior High Chorus and Choir do not receive required lessons and as a result; will be graded in four main areas listed below:

### Rehearsal Participation – 40%

Students will start out each marking period with an A and loose points from their participation grade for constant interruptions in the rehearsal process or being assigned a lunch detention(s). If a student has a participation grade of below fifty, they will not be allowed to participate in the concert.

### Recorded Singing Examples – 20%

Students will be recorded individually while the chorus is singing on one solo or part of a chorus piece each marking period and graded using a NYSSMA style rubric.

### Written Work and Tests – 20%

Students will be given at least two assignments and or tests each marking period that will be graded and averaged into their grade. Failure to complete written work will result in a zero given for each assignment or test.

### Concert Participation – 20%

Our concerts are an essential part of our curriculum. Missing a concert is like missing a major exam, but a concert is more difficult to make up. Students will receive a grade for each concert as an exam. If you must miss a concert, see the concert attendance policy on page 3 for guidelines.

8<sup>th</sup> grade junior high choral students will receive group vocal lessons. Each group has the opportunity to attend 3 lessons a marking period that rotate class periods throughout the day. In these lessons, students will learn vocal technique, how to read music and learn solos that they can use to perform at a Levels I-IV solo evaluation festival if they wish to attend. Students receive 2 points for each lesson attended. These points are added onto their participation grade and make it possible for students to obtain a 100 participation average.

## **GRADING POLICY FOR ALL OTHER PERFORMING ENSEMBLES:**

Grades for all students in any performing ensemble (except Junior High Chorus and Choir) will be comprised of four main areas. The following are a breakdown of each area:

### Lessons – 30%

Students are required to attend a minimum of 6 lessons to receive a 90 lesson average and perform sight-reading exercises, scales, assigned lesson material and ensemble music. You will receive five extra credit points added to your lesson average for each additional lesson you attend above the 6 required. Missed lessons can be made up during, study halls, lunch or before and after school.

### Test Grades – 20%

Students will take a ten-week test every marking period during lessons encumbering:

Sight Reading / Scales, a prepared piece assigned by the teacher and ensemble part checks. Students may also have written tests during the marking periods. In this case, the grades will be averaged together be weighted as 20% of the marking period.

All students will be required to complete a written concert evaluation of the Holiday Concert which will be averaged into the test grades the second marking period. This assignment fulfills the New York State Learning Standards requirements, as well as the Ilion Central School District Policy of including writing in all subjects.

A written final exam will be given at the end of the year for all ensembles. The exam will cover basic music reading, terminology, techniques and questions concerning literature performed during the year at concerts.

### Rehearsal Participation – 30%

Students will be assessed on their participation habits. All students will begin with an A and points are deducted for infractions listed below:

- Skipping rehearsal.

- Constant interruption of the rehearsal process.

- Coming to rehearsal without your music, instrument, pencil, etc.

- Coming to rehearsal late without a pass.

- Chewing gum / eating in rehearsal. Using a Cell-phone, MP3 Players, etc.

### Concert Participation – 20%

Our concerts are an essential part of our curriculum. Missing a concert is like missing a major exam, but a concert is more difficult to make up. Students will receive a grade for each concert as an exam. If you must miss a concert, see the concert attendance policy on page 3 for guidelines.

Your overall character in the above four areas may also affect seating placement in ensembles and future participation in Honors Ensembles, Solo Festivals, All-County and Area All-State Music Festivals.

All students will receive numerical grades, which will be used when computing Class Rank and averages for Honor Role. All BOCES students will be graded on a pass/fail system and are only required to attend lessons during the time periods they are in attendance at the Junior-Senior High School Building. Each performing group generates a ½ credit per year.

## **REHEARSAL RULES:**

The quality of each performance and success of our year will be determined by the quality of our rehearsals. Your careful attention to these rules will guarantee our success:

1. **BE ON TIME.** Everyone in the ensemble has an important role to play. Warm-ups are very important. Please be in your assigned spot ready to learn when class begins.
2. **BE PREPARED.** Make sure you have your instrument, music and pencil with you at rehearsal.
3. **REHEARSAL IS NOT A STUDY HALL.** No schoolwork is to be done in rehearsal.
4. **NO FOOD, GUM, CANDY, OR BEVERAGES (except water) ARE ALLOWED AT REHEARSALS.** You can not create good music with food in your mouth.
5. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN FOLDER AND MUSIC.** Each student will receive an assigned folder and music, as well as a folder slot in the rehearsal rooms. Music is very expensive and some of our pieces are on loan from other schools and the county music library. *You will be charged for missing and damaged materials.*
6. **BE KIND AND POLITE TO YOUR DIRECTORS AND FELLOW CLASSMATES.** We will accomplish more in rehearsals if you listen to the conductor at all times. Stop performing when the conductor stops and raise your hands if they have a question. These simple rules will result in no discipline problems and allow us to have a productive year.

## **LESSON RULES AND POLICIES:**

Lessons are an important tool for us to use as an accurate evaluation of each student's progress. In lessons, students will learn vocal and instrumental techniques and music theory and history principles that meet the four New York State Learning Standards for the Arts. Only through scheduled lessons can we best help your child improve their voice/instrument, musical knowledge and properly evaluate them to compute ten-week averages. Therefore, the music department will follow these lesson rules very closely.

1. **COME ON TIME WITH LESSON MATERIALS IN HAND TO EACH LESSON.**  
Bring your lesson materials, ensemble music, and lesson schedule to every lesson, even if we do not use them at every lesson.
2. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMING TO SCHEDULED LESSONS.**  
Keep track of the lesson schedule. Your lesson schedule is your pass to come to lessons.
3. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO LET YOUR TEACHER KNOW YOU ARE AT A LESSON AND MAKE UP THE MISSED CLASS WORK.**  
Do not use lessons as a reason for not making up work or completing homework for your teachers.
4. **BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR ACTIONS IN LESSONS.**  
The consequences are your responsibility.

## **ILION JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ENSEMBLES:**

### **JUNIOR HIGH SYMPHONIC BAND:**

Students in grades 7 and 8 who already play a band instrument and prefer to perform in a wind ensemble setting, as well as fulfill their Junior High music requirement may enroll in this course. Band members can expect to perform a variety of literature from the classical, jazz, pop, folk and contemporary genres at three yearly concerts. Students must already play a traditional band instrument to participate in band. Students entering from outside the district must demonstrate proficiency on the instrument of their choice to participate in band. Seating auditions may be held any time during the year. Materials and results can be obtained from the director. Students will also receive group lessons in which they learn basic music theory, history, and instrumental techniques. Rehearsals take place every other day and lesson and concert attendance is necessary to receive a ½ unit of study. Students will receive numerical grades for this course, which are used when computing Honor Roll and admission to National Junior Honor Society.

### **JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS / JUNIOR HIGH CHOIR:**

Students in grades 7 and 8 can continue to enjoy singing, as well as fulfill their Junior High music requirement by enrolling in either one of these groups. Each of these choral ensembles performs a variety of literature from serious, folk, and popular music at three yearly concerts. Rehearsals take place every other day and concert attendance is necessary to receive a ½ unit of study. Eighth graders will receive approximately 3 rotating lessons a marking period that count as extra credit. Students will receive numerical grades for this course, which are used when computing Honor Roll and admission to National Junior Honor Society.

### **JUNIOR HIGH ORCHESTRA:**

Students in grades 7 and 8 who already play a string instrument and prefer to perform in an orchestral setting, as well as fulfill their Junior High music requirement may enroll in this course. Orchestra members can expect to perform a variety of literature from the classical, folk and contemporary genres at three yearly concerts. Students must already play a traditional string instrument to participate in orchestra. Students entering from outside the district must demonstrate proficiency on the instrument of their choice to participate in orchestra. Seating auditions are held at the beginning of the year. Materials and results can be obtained from the director. Students will also receive group lessons in which they learn basic music theory, history and instrumental techniques. Rehearsals take place every other day and lesson and concert attendance is necessary to receive a ½ unit of study. Students will receive numerical grades for this course, which is used when computing Honor Roll and admission to National Junior Honor Society.

### **\*JUNIOR HIGH PHOENIX CLUB:**

This choral group is for students in grades 7-8 who wish to sing more advanced choral literature. Membership in this group is open to any student in Junior High Chorus or Choir. The major requirements include attending 90% of the rehearsals and having a positive attitude which will contribute to the quality of the ensemble. Rehearsals are held every Thursday after school from 3:00pm-3:30pm. The Junior High Chamber Singers will perform on the Junior High Holiday and Spring Concerts. Phoenix Club may also perform at other events such as the spaghetti dinner.

**SENIOR HIGH CONCERT BAND:**

Students in grades 9-12 who already play a band instrument and prefer to perform more advanced literature in a wind ensemble setting may enroll in this course. Band members can expect to perform a variety of literature from the classical, jazz, pop, folk and contemporary genres at four yearly concerts. All Concert Bands members will participate in Marching Band. The Marching Band will perform at the Homecoming Parade. Students must already play a traditional band instrument, or make special arrangements with the director to fulfill this goal, to participate in band. Students entering from outside the district must demonstrate proficiency on the instrument of their choice to participate in band. Seating auditions may be held during the year. Materials and results can be obtained from the director. Students will also receive group lessons in which they learn basic music theory, history, and instrumental techniques. Rehearsals take place every other day and lesson and concert attendance is necessary to receive a ½ unit of study. The numerical grades from this course are used when computing class rank and averages for Honor Roll and admission into National Honor Society.

**SENIOR HIGH CHORUS:**

This is a highly accomplished four-part chorus made up of students in grades 9-12. Students gain the opportunity to continue performing in a first-rate vocal ensemble, as well as complete their state arts requirement for graduation. Emphasis is placed on learning traditional choral literature in a variety of styles, including classical literature from each historical period, multicultural, folk, jazz, and Broadway music, and performance at four annual concerts and special events throughout the year. In certain years, some voice lesson groups may become ensembles (such as Chamber Choir men's and women's ensemble), which will perform on the Kaleidoscope Concert, Spaghetti Dinner and other events. Students in Chorus will also receive weekly group voice lessons in which they learn basic music theory, history, and vocal techniques. Rehearsals take place every other day and lesson and concert attendance is necessary to receive a ½ unit of study. The numerical grades from this course are used when computing class rank and averages for Honor Roll and admission into National Honor Society.

**SENIOR HIGH ORCHESTRA:**

Students in grades 9-12 who already play a string instrument and wish to further advance their knowledge and ability and perform in an orchestral setting may enroll in this course. Orchestra members can expect to perform a variety of literature from the classical, folk and contemporary genres at four yearly concerts. Students must already play a traditional string instrument to participate in orchestra. Students entering from outside the district must demonstrate proficiency on the instrument of their choice to participate in orchestra. Seating auditions are held at the beginning of the year. Materials and results can be obtained from the director. Students will also receive group lessons in which they learn basic music theory, history, and instrumental techniques. Rehearsals take place every other day and lesson and concert attendance is necessary to receive a ½ unit of study. The numerical grades from this course are used when computing class rank and averages for Honor Roll and admission into National Honor Society.

**\*SENIOR HIGH CHAMBER SINGERS:**

This auditioned choral group is for students in grades 9-12 who wish to sing more advanced choral literature. Membership in this group is by audition only using the rubric enclosed in this handbook. Rehearsals are held during lessons from 6:30pm-7:30pm every Tuesday evening. The Senior High Chamber Singers will perform with the Senior High Chamber Choir on the Holiday and Spring Classics Concerts and graduation.

**\*SENIOR HIGH CHAMBER CHOIR:**

This choral group is for students in grades 9-12 who wish to sing more advanced classical choral literature. Membership in this group is by audition only using the rubric enclosed in this handbook. Rehearsals are held every Tuesday evening from 7:00pm-9:00pm. The Senior High Chamber Choir performs a Holiday and Spring Classics Concert consisting of major choral works. The women's and men's section of the choir may also perform at special events. The Senior High Chamber Choir goes on tour during the even years and is often asked to perform at special community events.

**\*SPRING MUSICAL PRODUCTION:**

The spring musical production is open to any student in grades 7-12. It is a production of a major theatre work. The musical requires intensive rehearsal time in January, February, and March. Roles are selected on an open audition basis consisting of singing, dancing and reading parts. There are also opportunities to play in the orchestra and work backstage on costumes, props, lights, sound, scenery, and publicity.

\*Denotes performing ensembles in which students must complete the Ilion School District Extra Curricular Performing Arts Code in order to participate

**ALL COUNTY MUSIC FESTIVALS:**

All-County music festivals involve music students from every school in the county. The Herkimer County All-County I Festival is held the first weekend of November and includes the Junior High Band and Senior High Chorus. The Herkimer County All-County II Festival is always held during the March Superintendents Conference Day and includes the Junior High Chorus and Senior High Band. Directors attend a round table meeting and submit student names for inclusion in these ensembles. Each director reserves the right to create their own policies for selecting students. At various times an extra ensemble will be held for students in which admission is granted through county wide auditions. String students will participate in the Oneida County Music Festivals. Junior High string students must audition for Oneida County All-County Festivals in January. Once a student is chosen for All-County, directors will set up a rehearsal schedule. All students must attend a minimum of five rehearsals to participate in the All-County Music Festivals.

**AREA ALL-STATE MUSIC FESTIVALS:**

Each fall, Herkimer, Oneida and Oswego Counties hold an Area-All-State Festival for High School students in Band, Chorus and Orchestra. Students are selected based on their NYSSMA solo grades from the previous spring. Once a student is chosen for All-County, directors will set up a rehearsal schedule. All students must attend a minimum of five rehearsals to participate in the Area All-State Music Festivals.

**TRI M MUSIC HONOR SOCIETY:**

Any music student in grades 10-12 is eligible for the Tri M Music Honor Society. Following the spring NYSSMA Solo Festival, all students who receive an 90 or above on a Level VI/All-State solo will have their names submitted to the Guidance Department by the Director of Music. All students who meet the solo requirement and hold an overall average of 90 or above (sophomores) or 87 and above (juniors) will be inducted into the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Students in Tri M will perform on the Annual Music Boosters Spaghetti Dinner, help stage manage and usher at concerts and be eligible to attend special concerts and other music events at a free or reduced cost in the Mohawk Valley.

**NYSSMA SOLO FESTIVAL:**

All students enrolled in a school, credit bearing sponsored ensemble are encouraged to participate in NYSSMA Solo Festivals. Students must see their directors at least two months in advance prior to the festival to complete this contract, select a solo and set up a rehearsal schedule. Students who fail to follow through any portion of the NYSSMA Solo Contract will be required to reimburse the school for their participation fee. **Participation in Solo Festival is required for students interested in attending Area All-State, Conference All-State All-Eastern,** and to be selected as a candidate for the Tri M Music Honor Society.

Attending NYSSMA Solo Festival is a privilege. NYSSMA Solo Festival is scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_. If you are interested in attending solo festival you must adhere to the following guidelines:

- 1 Turn in this contract signed by your parents and yourself to your teacher by \_\_\_\_\_. Your name will not be submitted until you have returned this form to your teacher.
1. If you are aware of a conflict, you must let your teacher know at that time. Teachers can request a specific day, but can not guarantee that their requests will be granted.
2. Agree to practice and learn your solo and other materials:
  - Instrumentalists: Scales, Solo and Sight reading
  - Vocalists: Memorize your solo and Sight reading
3. You must attend a minimum of six lessons with your teacher in order to attend the festival. It is suggested that you do this once a week.

If you study with a private teacher, please indicate this with your teacher at school. Your school music teacher must hear your solo prior to attending the festival. If your solo is not prepared, your school music teacher has the right to pull you from the festival or send you for a Festival Rating.

4. If you do not follow through and attend the festival for any reason, you must reimburse the school for the amount of your solo as determined by NYSSMA:

Levels I-IV: solos	\$16.00	Levels I-IV piano solos	\$21.00
Levels V-VI solos	\$24.00	Levels V-VI piano solos	\$28.00
All-State Solos	\$28.00		

Failure to adhere to the above guidelines, may also prevent participation in future solo festivals and honor music ensembles.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(student signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(parent signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

**Audition Rubric for Spring Musical Production:**

Vocal Quality		
5	Artistry Level	The student exhibits a mature, well supported, exemplary tone quality with minimal pitch problems throughout the range
4	Highly Competent	The student exhibits a well-controlled, idiomatic sound with some intonation problems
3	Competent	The student exhibits an acceptable basic sound quality on pitch
2	Progressing To Competent	The student exhibits a somewhat idiomatic sound with fair breath support and attempts to sing most pitches in tune.
1	Not Yet Competent	The student exhibits an uncontrolled and/or unfocused sound with poor breath support and extreme pitch inconsistencies
Dance Ability		
5	Artistry Level	The student exhibits outstanding control of pulse, rhythm, and motor memory skills and uses these elements to enhance their performance
4	Highly Competent	The student exhibits excellent control of pulse, rhythm, and motor memory skills and basically performs what's on the written page.
3	Competent	The student exhibits minimal variations in pulse, rhythm, and motor memory skills and basically has a good understanding of basic concepts
2	Progressing To Competent	The student exhibits an attempt to control pulse, rhythm, and motor memory skills and attempts to use basic dance concepts.
1	Not Yet Competent	The student exhibits inconsistent pulse, rhythm, and motor memory skills and has little knowledge of basic dance concepts.
Acting Ability		
5	Artistry Level	The student creates a strong character, stays in character, projects and is at ease on the stage.
4	Highly Competent	The student creates a character, stays in character and projects most of the time and is mostly at ease on the stage.
3	Competent	The student attempts to create a character, attempts to stay in character, basically projects and is basically comfortable on stage.
2	Progressing To Competent	The student reads the dialogue, attempts to project and tries to maintain an ease on the stage.
1	Not Yet Competent	The student has no sense of character, does not project and looks uncomfortable on the stage.
Citizenship and Character		
5	Artistry Level	The student exhibits a very mature, above average behavior and is a leader and role model for others.
4	Highly Competent	The student exhibits above average behavior and maintains leadership and role model qualities.
3	Competent	The student exhibits good behavior and is a good role model.
2	Progressing To Competent	The student exhibits some behavior problems and attempts to be polite and do the right thing.
1	Not Yet Competent	The student exhibits little self-control and has no leadership qualities.
Cooperation and Effort		
5	Artistry Level	The student shows respect to authority, is highly motivated, polite, works well with all people in any given situation, & places the group above personal gains.
4	Highly Competent	The student is respectful, motivated, polite and works well in a group setting.
3	Competent	The student is respectful, works with the group and does what told without complaining or arguing.
2	Progressing To Competent	The student has to be reminded often to stay on task and can be argumentative and disrespectful with his/her peers and authority.
1	Not Yet Competent	The student has no respect for his/her peers, authority and can not work in group settings.

### **Audition Rubric for Chamber Singers and Chamber Choir:**

<b>Vocal Quality</b>		
5	Artistry Level	The student exhibits a mature, well supported, exemplary tone quality with minimal pitch problems throughout the range
4	Highly Competent	The student exhibits a well-controlled, idiomatic sound with some intonation problems
3	Competent	The student exhibits an acceptable basic sound quality on pitch
2	Progressing To Competent	The student exhibits a somewhat idiomatic sound with fair breath support and attempts to sing most pitches in tune.
1	Not Yet Competent	The student exhibits an uncontrolled and/or unfocused sound with poor breath support and extreme pitch inconsistencies
<b>Vocal Technique</b>		
5	Artistry Level	The student exhibits outstanding control of pulse, rhythm, breath, pitch, diction and uses these elements to enhance their performance
4	Highly Competent	The student exhibits excellent control of pulse, rhythm, breath, pitch, diction and basically performs what's on the written page.
3	Competent	The student exhibits minimal variations in pulse, rhythm, diction, pitch and basically has a good understanding of basic concepts.
2	Progressing To Competent	The student exhibits an attempt to control pulse, rhythm, diction, pitch and attempts to use basic vocal concepts.
1	Not Yet Competent	The student exhibits inconsistent pulse, rhythm, diction, pitch and has little knowledge of basic vocal concepts.
<b>Sight Reading</b>		
5	Artistry Level	The student sings with perfect intonation and rhythm.
4	Highly Competent	The student sings at least 90% of the example correct with some pitch and rhythm problems
3	Competent	The student sings at least 75% of the example correct with pitch and rhythm problems.
2	Progressing To Competent	The student sings at least 50% of the example correct and stays in the same key.
1	Not Yet Competent	The student has no sense of pulse or key.
<b>Citizenship and Character</b>		
5	Artistry Level	The student exhibits a very mature, above average behavior and is a leader and role model for others.
4	Highly Competent	The student exhibits above average behavior and maintains leadership and role model qualities.
3	Competent	The student exhibits good behavior and is a good role model.
2	Progressing To Competent	The student exhibits some behavior problems and attempts to be polite and do the right thing.
1	Not Yet Competent	The student exhibits little self-control and has no leadership qualities.
<b>Cooperation and Effort</b>		
5	Artistry Level	The student shows respect to authority, is highly motivated, polite, works well with all people in any given situation, & places the group above personal gains.
4	Highly Competent	The student is respectful, motivated, polite and works well in a group setting.
3	Competent	The student is respectful, works with the group and does what told without complaining or arguing.
2	Progressing To Competent	The student has to be reminded often to stay on task and can be arguementive and disrespectful with his/her peers and authority.
1	Not Yet Competent	The student has no respect for his/her peers, authority and can not work in group settings.

## Ilion Music Department Calendar:

All Dates and Events are subject to change.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Groups Involved</b>
Fri., Oct. 14, 2011	6:00pm	Homecoming	Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Chamber Choir
Sat., Oct. 29, 2011	7:30pm	Auditorium Grand Opening Concert with Rob Evans	Sr. High Band, Chorus and Orchestra Tickets \$5.00 in advance / \$7.00 at the door
Fri., Nov. 4, 2011	12:00	HCMEA All-County	Jr. High Band, Sr. High Chorus
Sat., Nov. 5, 2011	3:00pm	HCMEA All-County	Jr. High Band, Sr. High Chorus
Thur., Nov. 10, 2011	5:00pm	Spaghetti Dinner High School Café.	High School Chamber Ensembles Phoenix Club Jr. Jazz Band
Tues., Nov. 15, 2011	6:30pm	Musical Auditions	Any interested 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Student
Thur., Nov. 17, 2011	6:30pm	Musical Auditions	Any interested 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Student
Fri., Nov 18, 2011	2:00pm	Zone IV Area All-State	Sr. High Band, Chorus and Orchestra
Sat., Nov. 19, 2011	3:00pm	Zone IV Area All-State	Sr. High Band, Chorus and Orchestra
Dec. 1 – Dec. 4, 2011		Conference All-State	Sr. High Accepted Students
Wed., Dec. 7, 2011	7:30pm	Sr. High Holiday Concert	Sr. High Band, Chorus and Orchestra
Wed., Dec. 14, 2011	7:30pm	Jr. High Holiday Concert	Jr. High Band, Chorus and Orchestra
Sat., Dec 17, 2011	7:30pm	Holiday Classics Concert	Chamber Choir
Tues., Dec. 20, 2011	7:30pm	Holiday Concert	Make-up Date for Jr. High or Sr. High
Wed., Jan. 11, 2012		OCMEA Auditions	Jr. High Orchestra
Sat. Feb 5, 2012	8:00am	Music Boosters Applebees Pancake Breakfast	
Wed., Mar. 7, 2012	9:00am	Spring Musical Assembly	Selected Cast and Crew Members
Wed., Mar. 7, 2012	10:00am	Spring Musical Assembly	Selected Cast and Crew Members
Thur., Mar. 8, 2012	7:00pm	Spring Musical	Cast and Crew Members
Fri., Mar. 9, 2012	7:30pm	Spring Musical	Cast and Crew Members
Sat., Mar. 10, 2012	7:30pm	Spring Musical	Cast and Crew Members
Sun., Mar 11, 2012	2:00pm	Snow Date for Musical	Cast and Crew Members
Fri., Mar. 9, 2012		OCMEA All-County	Jr. High Orchestra
Sat., Mar. 10, 2012	3:00pm	OCMEA All-County	Jr. High Orchestra
Fri., Mar. 16, 2012	12:00pm	HCMEA All-County	Jr. High Chorus, Sr. High Band
Sat., Mar. 17, 2012	3:00pm	HCMEA All-County	Jr. High Chorus, Sr. High Band
Sat., Mar. 10, 2012	3:00pm	OCMEA All-County	Jr. High Orchestra
Wed., Mar. 21, 2012	7:30pm	Jr. High MIOSM Concert	Jr. High Band, Chorus and Orchestra
Wed., Mar. 28, 2012	7:30pm	Sr. High MIOSM Concert	Sr. High Band, Chorus and Orchestra
Thur., Mar. 29, 2012	7:30pm	MIOSM Concert	Make-up Date for Jr. High or Sr. High
Thur., Apr. 19, 2012	3:30pm	Levels I-IV In-house NYSSMA Solo Festival	Interested Levels I-IV students
Apr. 26-29, 2012		Tour to Boston	Chamber Choir and Singers
Sat., May 5, 2012	7:30pm	Spring Concert	Chamber Choir and Singers
TBA		Mohawk Valley Choral Society and Chamber Choir	Chamber Choir
May 18-19, 2012		NYSSMA Solo Festival	Interested Levels V-VI students
Tues., May 22, 2012	7:00pm	Tri M Music Honor Society Induction and Recital	Tri M Members Held in the Vocal Music Room
Thur., May 31, 2012	7:30pm	Jr. High Spring Concert	Jr. High Band, Chorus and Orchestra
Fri., June 1, 2012	7:00pm	Evening of Songs & Scenes	Theatre Class
Tues., June 5, 2012	7:30pm	Sr. High Spring Concert	Sr. High Band, Chorus and Orchestra
Mon, June 18, 2012	7:00pm	Baccalaureate	Chamber Choir
Fri., June 22, 2012	7:00pm	Graduation	Chamber Choir and Singers

## ILION CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PERFORMING ARTS CODE AND PROCEDURES

**PHILOSOPHY** – Our Performing Arts philosophy is aligned with our academic philosophy. To that end, we use performing arts to encourage our students to become productive, responsible citizens in their community. Students will experience how the performing arts are run professionally from the beginning audition process to the final performance. Performing Arts offer the opportunity to teach our students desirable character and working traits setting apart from the traditional classroom. Our students can learn to be lifetime achievers by practicing self-discipline, loyalty, responsibility, commitment to a group effort, as well as develop self-esteem through public performance. Our entire community of students, parents, directors, teachers and administrators will work together to produce in our students an appreciation for those values, principles, and goals which produce a student performer who is prepared for the challenges of today and tomorrow.

**EXTRA CURRICULAR PERFORMING ARTS** - For the purpose of this document, the following groups and/or activities are considered extra-curricular Performing Arts by the Ilion Central School District. For all of these activities, students must complete a successful audition to be eligible to participate. With the exception of the Spring Musical and Drama Club, all participants of extra curricular music groups must be enrolled in Band, Orchestra or Chorus.

Extra Curricular Music Organizations:

Chamber Choir	Fiddle Ensemble
Chamber Singers	Jazz Band
Phoenix Club	Jazz Ensemble

Extra Curricular Theatre Organizations:

Drama Club
Musical Production

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY** - Participation in Performing Arts Activities is a privilege, not a right, extended to all students. In accepting this privilege, our participants must assume certain responsibilities. We expect students to show their appreciation by their appearance and their conduct. Only those students capable of assuming these responsibilities will be permitted to share this privilege.

Application of this Code: The following standards, prohibitions and penalties deal with students involved in performing arts and pertain to the entire year, except for the case of the musical, which is only for that event. The student performer may be disciplined for conduct that is (1) a criminal offense, or (2) causes such adverse notoriety and is such a nature that it has, in the judgment of the Ilion School District, the potential to negatively impact the educational program and unless addressed, to create the impression among other students that it is condoned by the District. In either of these events, the administration may impose such penalty, as it deems appropriate under the circumstances.

**Citizenship Standards:**

Good behavior is expected. Rude, disruptive or insubordinate behavior will not be tolerated on or off the stage in rehearsal or performance. Any insubordinate or disorderly behavior that endangers the health, safety, rights or property of others is prohibited. Students engaging in such activities are subject to disciplinary action, and the case will be referred to the principal and Director of Music for further action.

1. Students must dress in the appropriate attire as directed by the director.
2. A student may be dismissed from the performing group by the director if he/she is affecting the morale adversely, uncooperative, continually reporting late or skipping rehearsal.
3. Any student who steals or defaces personal or school equipment will be suspended from the ensemble or production. The case will be referred to the principal and Director of Music for further action.

4. A student performer shall not use, consume, possess, buy, sell or give away alcohol, tobacco, or any controlled substance. It is not a violation for a student performer to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student performer's own use by his/her doctor.
5. A student performer shall not host parties where alcohol, tobacco or any controlled substances are present and/or used, NOR remain at parties where such illegal activities are taking place.
6. A student who receives a criminal summons, appearance ticket or is arrested must notify the Director of Music within 48 hours.
7. Any student charged with a felony will be suspended from the performing ensemble/ production.

### **Academic Standards:**

A student performer is eligible to participate in a performing arts organization if he/she is a bonefide student of the Ilion Central School District. If a student is failing more than one subject, the guidance counselor, teacher, student, parent and director will meet to review his/her case and develop an academic program for improvement. The counselor will provide the director will a failure list at both five and ten week intervals. The committee will make evaluations periodically.

### **Attendance Requirements:**

In order to produce high quality performances, as well as, protect the well being and safety of the students in performing arts, the following policies are in effect:

1. Any performing arts participant must be in school prior to the tardy bell for morning session in order to be eligible to practice or perform on that day. Illness, oversleeping, illegal absence and truancy exclude a student from practicing or performing on that day. Examples of acceptable excuses are dental/doctor appointments, funerals and college visitations.
2. Students must attend rehearsals on time. If an emergency prevents your attendance, you or your parents must contact the director immediately.
3. Students must attend all rehearsals. A student may be excused for up to three practices with a written excuse given a week in advance. Absences from school due to illness, an athletic competition, or other valid school approved activities will be considered legal absences. The student should give the director a list of conflicts prior to the beginning of the rehearsal process.
4. If there is a snow day, there will not be practice due to school policy.
5. ***For participants of the Musical Production:*** All students must be present at every rehearsal the last two weeks of production.
6. Students are expected to be at all performances of their performing ensemble or activity. Legal absences are excluded. All others must be approved by the director two weeks in advance.

### **Equipment Policies:**

All student performing art participants are responsible for any equipment used during a rehearsal, performance or production. The following policies are in effect regarding equipment:

1. All student issued music and scripts must be returned to the director in their original condition immediately following a performance. Failure to return materials will result in the student being billed for missing materials.
2. ***For participants of the musical only:*** All costumes/props must be returned to the director following the final performance. If a costume/prop is lost or damaged through the student's negligence, he/she must pay for it.
3. ***For participants of the musical only:*** Students are responsible for supplying their own shoes and make-up. Information regarding these requirements will be given out at the information meeting.

### **Injuries:**

All injuries must be reported to the director and parent/guardian immediately.

1. The director will fill out a school insurance form. If no school insurance form is completed, payment for medical treatment will not be made.
2. The school insurance form will be sent to the parent/guardian with instructions on how to complete it.
3. The student may go to the school or family physician for treatment.
4. The school will accept the responsibility within the limits of legal liability and the insurance being carried.
5. Questions regarding insurance should be directed to the school nurse.

### **Patrons and Advertisements:**

*For participants of the musical only:* The costs of producing a quality musical increase each year. The musical budget (which includes costumes, sets, orchestra, and rental fees, etc.) needs to be paid for with ticket sales, advertisements and patrons. To offset these costs, we ask that each participant collect at least \$100.00 (more is appreciated) of either ads and/or patrons for the program.

### **PROCEDURES FOR SUSPECTED VIOLATIONS**

1. Suspected violations should be reported to the Director of Music, who will investigate the report as he/she deems appropriate and make a determination whether a violation has occurred. If a violation is found, he/she will determine the proposed penalty in accordance with this Code.
2. The student and person(s) in parental relationship to the student will be informed in writing of the violation and proposed penalty and given an opportunity to appear, informally, before the Director of Music to discuss the proposed violation and penalty. If the student and/or parent do not respond to the Director of Music within a reasonable time, the sanction is final.
3. The Director of Music will then determine whether the proposed sanction is warranted and if so, said sanction is imposed.

If unsatisfied, the student and/or person(s) in parental relationship may appeal to a committee consisting of the Director of Music, High School Principal and Director involved. The committee will review the matter and meet with the student if they deem appropriate. The committee will make a final determination and inform the student of its decision in writing. The penalty remains in effect until the committee's decision is rendered.

### **CONSEQUENCES FOR FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THE STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. First offense – the student will be issued a warning by their director
2. Second offense – the student's guardian will be notified along with the Director of Music.
3. Third offense – the student may be asked not to participate in an upcoming concert and/or removed from scenes or certain numbers.
4. Fourth offense – the student will be removed from the performing activity for the year.

Please note that prior behavior and citizenship is a part of the audition process and may affect a student's success returning to a performing activity the following year.

The Consent Form duly signed shall be required of every student participant qualifying for any performing arts organization before the initial rehearsal process.

**ILION CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

**PERFORMING ENSEMBLE HANDBOOK and PERFORMING ARTS CODE**

**PARENT / GUARDIAN / STUDENT CONSENT FORM**

I, (parent/guardian) \_\_\_\_\_ have read the performing ensemble handbook and performing arts code and understand the rules governing these activities at Ilion Central School and agree to cooperate with the school authorities in their enforcement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

I, (student) \_\_\_\_\_ have read the performing ensemble handbook and performing arts code and understand the policies of the music department at Ilion Junior-Senior High School. I agree to cooperate with the music teachers and school authorities in their enforcement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student Performing Arts Participant Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**Please complete this page and return it to your director by October 1<sup>st</sup> for music ensembles and at the informational meeting for theatre participants. Failure to turn in this consent form will result in five points being deducted from your first ten week average on your report card. Failure to return this form to the director of extra curricular performing activities will result in the student's immediate suspension from rehearsals until the completed form is received.**