

# Los Altos Brethren School



## Music Department Handbook

**Mrs. Corrie R. Villa**  
*Music Director*

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## ***Welcome to the Los Altos Brethren School Music Program!***

Los Altos Brethren School offers one of the most outstanding elementary school music programs in southern California. Our instrumental music, which includes 3 bands, has been a distinctive of the school for 15 years! In the past, our students have been introduced to instruments here and continued to progress through high school and beyond. Numerous students have gone on to receive music scholarships to college. One group of kids who are now in their twenties still meet together and play every week. It has become a lifelong passion. We also look forward to growing our choir and to add more performances along the way.

Research has shown that music enhances cognitive development and academic achievement. This is another advantage we are able to offer all of our families. Success in music takes hard work. As we partner together with you we can break through barriers, which inevitably will come. Keep your eyes on the goal and let's teach our kids that through perseverance and hard work they will succeed.

I am pleased to introduce our new Music Director is Mrs. Corrie Villa. Mrs. Villa has a rich background in music, vocal, and dance performance and instruction. She loves sharing her gift and passing it along to the next generation. I think you will be most impressed with the personal instruction Mrs. Villa will offer and her godly example. We are most blessed to have her. She will defer the percussion instruction to Mrs. Sara Lindsay Dolmage, who many of you know from her years of leading worship at Green Oaks Ranch at our church summer camp. What a team!

Thank you for seeing the value and being a part of our program for the 2012-2013 school year. I look forward to watching your child grow in their music knowledge and performance skills as we journey through the new year together.

Sincerely,

Mr. Rick Lenger  
Principal  
Los Altos Brethren School

## A Note From the Director

Congratulations on your decision to carry on this outstanding tradition of excellence in music. There is something special about being at Los Altos Brethren Elementary, and about being a part of the Music Department. Every aspect of music is important and will be emphasized at various stages in a student's development. In order to achieve a balanced musical education for all students enrolled in the music program participation is a **yearlong** commitment.

The instrumental program is open to all 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and consists of Beginning Band and Advanced Band. Groups such as Jazz Band, Pep Band, and Honor Band are comprised of students from Advanced Band who have shown outstanding musicianship. The LABS bands have been successful in competitions, and have received high ratings at both Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association (SCSBOA) adjudicated festivals.

The Choir is an exciting and fun way for your children to sing and praise our God through various styles of vocal music. It is open to all 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. The LABS choir has been successful in both concert and competition.

Hard-working students, dedicated music staff, involved parents, along with a supportive faculty, and school community make it possible for our program to offer a wide range of musical opportunities. Students are expected to set and reach high standards of excellence, both individually and collectively. The rewards of meeting those standards are beyond measure!

Together we will continue this wonderful tradition of music at Los Altos Brethren and pray that the children will grow in both mind and spirit as they learn to make music together.

Sincerely,

Corrie R. Villa, Director

# Statement of Purpose

*It is the mission of the music department to develop a life-long love for music and to be salt and light in the world through musical excellence.*

**God encourages us toward this goal with the following verses:**

“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men...” Colossians 3:23

“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lamp stand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:13-16

# General Band Information

## Basic Band Materials

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Instrument          | <input type="checkbox"/> Tote bag         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Instrument case tag | <input type="checkbox"/> Band Method Book |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Instrument Care Kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Metronome/Tuner  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Three-ring binder   | <input type="checkbox"/> Concert outfit   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Page protectors     | <input type="checkbox"/> Garment bag      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pencil              | <input type="checkbox"/> Music Stand      |

## Additional Band Materials

Lyre and flip folder for BCHS Band Night (Concert Band Members only)

## Mouthpieces

Mouthpieces are very important when buying, renting or borrowing an instrument. They can change the quality of sound dramatically. Mouthpieces are also a very personal part of your instrument, and need to be cleaned often to prevent bacteria from growing and spreading. Vandoren B45 – clarinet

Selmer C – classical saxophone

Beechler Custom 95 (hard rubber) – jazz saxophone

Bach 7C – trumpet and cornet

Marcinkiewicz 5GW – trombone, baritone and euphonium

## Mutes for Trumpet & Trombone students in Jazz and Concert Band (optional)

Straight

Cup

Plunger

Harmon

\*If purchasing multiple mutes, it is suggested that you get a mute bag to protect them.

*Rehearsal Times and Performances are listed on the “Placement and Rehearsal Times” page.*

## Transportation Policy

Transportation to and from all band-related events is the responsibility of each band member’s family. Parent-driven carpools will be organized for some of the field trips.

## Parent Participation, Prayer, and Support

We need parents to help coordinate and supervise all band activities. This includes concerts, festivals, and parties. We cannot accomplish the many activities in this rich program without the help of volunteers. Mrs. Villa is currently looking for members of a parent Band Boosters who can help her coordinate the various band activities.

# General Choir Information

## Basic Choir Materials

- Three-ring binder
- Page protectors
- Pencil
- Tote bag
- Garment Bag
- Concert Outfit

## Additional Choir Materials

- Props for the Musical Variety Showcase in the spring

## Rehearsal Times

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. to 8:25 a.m. in music loft.

## Performances

- Christmas Concert: Holiday performance for the school, beginning band, concert band, jazz band and choir.
- Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) Festival: off campus. 5-10 schools from this region participate and perform for each other and then work together for a mass choir performance.
- Musical Variety Showcase: On campus concert for our choir. Music revolves around a theme each year. This is a chance for us to work on solos as well as small group songs.
- Band/Choir Chapels: preview performances prior to the Christmas and spring concerts
- Spring Concert: final performance of the school year for Bands and Choir.

## Transportation Policy

Transportation to and from all choir-related events is the responsibility of each choir member's family. Parent-driven carpools will be organized for some field trips.

## Parent Participation, Prayer and Support

We need parents to help coordinate and supervise all choir activities. This includes concerts, festivals, and parties. We cannot accomplish the many activities in this program without the help of volunteers. If you are interested in helping out contact Mrs. Villa for details.

# Concert Attire

## Concert Outfit for Band and Choir

**Boys:** White long-sleeved oxford shirt, black slacks, black belt, solid black dress shoes, black socks, and black bow tie. All shirts must be tucked in.

**Girls:** *Valentina* Concert Dress from Cousins Concert Attire (dress orders will be taken first 2 weeks of school), black tights, and solid black “Mary Jane” style shoes. No make-up, jewelry, or large hair accessories.

## Jazz Band Outfit

**Boys & Girls:** Jazz Band polo shirts, black slacks, black belt, black socks, and black dress shoes. \*\*Jazz band shirts will be ordered in January, after the second round of Auditions\*\*

## BCHS Band Night Outfit

**Boys & Girls:** BCHS Band shirts (ordered through the BCHS band program), black pants, black belt, black socks, and solid black shoes.

## Piano/Voice Recital Outfit

A “Sunday best” outfit of your choice.

**Boys** are encouraged to wear a button-down shirt with tie and slacks.

**Girls** are encouraged to wear a dress that allows for flexibility of movement, especially around the arms and waist. Dress hem-line should fall below the knee, longer is better because it rises when you sit!



# Placement and Rehearsal Times

## **Choir**

All students in grades 3 through 6. Rehearsals are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 8:25 a.m. Rehearsals begin on the second week of school and end the week after the spring concert.

## **Beginning Band**

All first-year band students in grades 4 through 6. Rehearsals are Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. to 8:25 a.m. Rehearsals will begin second full week of school and end the last week of September.

## **Concert Band** (second year players)

Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 8:25 a.m. Rehearsals will begin the second week of school and end the week after the spring concert.

## **Jazz Band**

Jazz Band auditions will be held 3 times per year (September, January, and June).

Jazz Band is open to fifth and sixth grade students who have finished their beginning band method book, and successfully completed the audition process as listed on the Jazz Audition Preparation Sheet.

Rehearsals are Mondays and Fridays during recess from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

\*If your child wishes to be part of the jazz band – they will need to also be in the concert band. Auditions will be scheduled in September, January, and June. Please see the Audition Preparation Sheet.

## **Lessons**

Band, piano and voice lessons will begin the second week of school. A lesson schedule will be sent home as soon as possible.

# Music Lessons

Each band member will receive thirty lessons per school year, starting the second week of school and ending the week after the spring concert. For the first month of school, each student will be “picked-up” for their lesson time by the music teacher. Classroom teachers will have a copy of the lesson schedule and can help the students remember their lesson time. After the second month, students will need to remember their lesson day and time.

Lessons cannot be “made-up” if missed due to a school holiday **or** if your child forgets their instrument and/or music on their appointed day. The music teacher will try to make up any lessons missed due to a field trip, class project, or party scheduled during the student’s regular lesson time.

\*Two weeks prior to concerts, it will be necessary to replace individual lessons with **sectionals**. Sectionals are a time for small groups of like instruments to work together outside of the band rehearsal. Children will be able to hear and understand how their parts integrate with others. This will help them play more confidently and give them a chance to work on specific passages of music that are challenging to their section.

**Percussion lessons** will be given by Mrs. Dolmage.

Sara Lindsay Dolmage graduated from Brethren Christian High School and grew up heavily immersed in all things music. During that time, she became proficient in piano, drums, vibraphone, and guitar. She studied Commercial Music and Songwriting for three years at Citrus College and has performed and toured with many different groups and artists around the nation. She currently leads worship at Emmanuel Reformed Church in Paramount, CA and teaches private lessons on piano, percussion and guitar. She also writes, records, and performs her own music, while continuing to perform with different instruments and singing for other artists.

# Piano Lessons

Piano Lessons are taught by Mrs. Villa. Students will receive a 30 minute lesson during school hours. Limited slots are available for after school lessons. Lessons begin the second week of school.

## Materials Required:

- Method/Theory Books as assigned
- Practice Record – due at every lesson, completed, and signed by parent!
- Metronome for home use (optional but highly encouraged!)
- Piano or Keyboard (full sized pianos have 88 keys. Recommended keyboard brands are Casio, Yamaha, Boss, and Krogg.)

## Practice Requirements:

- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> graders practice 20 minutes/5 days a week
- ❖ 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders practice 30 minutes/5 days a week
- ❖ Advanced 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade students may be asked to practice 45 minutes/5 days a week

## Missed Lessons

Semesters:     Fall- September to December  
                  Spring- January to June  
                  Summer – July and August

A weekly lesson day/time will be assigned. If you are unable to keep your scheduled time, please notify your teacher at least 24 hours in advance. Only one missed lesson per semester can be made up. If you miss more than one lesson in a semester you will be charged for the missed lesson(s). Remember, you are paying for my reserved time. Lessons missed due to school functions (class parties, field trips, etc) cannot be made-up but will be credited if payment has already been made.

## Payment

Piano and Voice lessons are privately contracted with Mrs. Villa, and payment will be made directly to her. **Payments must be delivered in a properly marked CRV Studios envelope.** 10 envelopes will be distributed to each family at the Info Meeting, one for every month. The cost of lessons for the school year is \$650 and guarantees 30 lessons between the second and last weeks of school. Monthly tuition of \$65 will be due by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month (except for September tuition which is due on September 20<sup>th</sup>). The cost includes lessons and supplemental music materials.

Payments received after the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month will be subject to a \$25 late fee.

## Recitals

Recitals will be held January 26 and June 9.

# Voice Lessons

Voice lessons are taught by Mrs. Villa. Students will receive a 30 minute lesson during school hours. Limited slots are available for after school lessons. Lessons begin the second week of school.

## Materials Required:

- Binder
- Page protectors for assignments
- Pencil
- Practice Record – must be signed and returned at the beginning of each lesson.

## Practice Requirements:

- ❖ 20 minutes/day, 4-5 times a week
- ❖ Always begin practice time with warm up drills
- ❖ Don't push your voice if you are sick

## Missed Lessons

Semesters: Fall- September to December

Spring- January to June

Summer – July and August

A weekly lesson day/time will be assigned. If you are unable to keep your scheduled time, please notify your teacher at least 24 hours in advance. Only one missed lesson per semester can be made up. If you miss more than one lesson in a semester you will be charged for the missed lesson(s). Remember, you are paying for my reserved time. Lessons missed due to school functions (class parties, field trips, etc) cannot be made-up but will be credited if payment has already been made.

## Payment

Piano and Voice lessons are privately contracted with Mrs. Villa, and payment will be made directly to her. Payments must be delivered in a properly marked CRV Studios envelope. 10 envelopes will be distributed to each family at the Info Meeting, one for every month. The cost of lessons for the school year is \$650 and guarantees 30 lessons between the second and last weeks of school. Monthly tuition of \$65 will be **due by the 1<sup>st</sup>** of each month (except for September tuition which is due on September 20<sup>th</sup>). The cost includes lessons and music books. Payments received after the 10<sup>th</sup> will be subject to a late fee of \$25.

# Buying / Renting Instruments

## The Importance of Brand Name

You get what you pay for. A better instrument will last longer and play better. A cheap, poorly made instrument may not even last a single school year. Choosing a good brand name is as important when buying an instrument as it is when buying any valuable item. The brand name is usually a good indicator of overall quality, including how well the instrument will last over time, its ease of play, its tone quality, and the eventual resale value of the instrument.

## Beginning Instrument Choices

- Flute
- Clarinet / Bass Clarinet
- Alto / Tenor Saxophone
- Cornet / Trumpet
- Trombone
- Baritone/Euphonium
- Percussion

Our school does not offer a strings program. If your child plays an instrument not listed above, please contact Mrs. Villa and we can find a suitable placement or 2<sup>nd</sup> instrument if they wish to join the Band Program.

## Renting/Buying an Instrument

**Rental:** Many companies offer rental programs. Costs differ from company to company. Some programs may allow you to use rental fees towards the purchase of an instrument. Other programs may offer a discount if you pay for an entire year at once. Insurance may or may not be included.

**Rent-to-own:** Many companies offer rent-to-own programs, often including free products or services such as maintenance kits and repairs. Early buy-out options are usually available.

**Purchasing new retail:** Most retail music stores carry at least a few band instruments. When purchasing new, you are assured of obtaining the brand you want, in mint condition. Although it costs more up front to buy new, there will be fewer mechanical problems, thereby reducing any factors that might limit progress in learning to play.

**Purchasing used retail:** Some stores also sell used instruments. When purchasing a used instrument, ensure that it has been properly maintained, repaired, and sterilized before use. If possible, have someone test its playability before purchase.

**Purchasing privately:** There are many instruments available from private parties. This can be the least expensive, but also the riskiest, way of obtaining an instrument. While individuals will often sell instruments at a lower price than a retail store, there is no guarantee that the instrument is playable. Expect that the less you pay for the instrument, the more you will need to pay in repairs and maintenance to keep it in playing condition.

# Local Music Stores

## **Anaheim Band Instruments**

504 South State College Blvd, Anaheim, CA 92806

<http://www.abimusic.com>

(714) 999-5015 – *mention our school and we will receive reward points for your purchase*

## **Sam Ash** (Mrs. Villa recommends this location, Bryan for instrument repairs)

18031 Gale Ave

City of Industry, CA 91748

(626) 839-8177

## **Sawday & Holmes Music, Inc.**

3100 East Willow, Signal Hill, CA 90755

<http://www.snhmusic.com/store.html> (562) 426-0774

## **Morey's Music**

4834 Woodruff Avenue, Lakewood, CA 90713

Open 11:00 am – 7:00 pm Mon - Fri and 9:30 am – 5:30 pm Saturdays (562) 420-9532

## **Bellflower Music**

17125 Bellflower Boulevard, Bellflower, CA 90706

<http://www.bellflowermusic.com/>

Open 11:00 am – 7:00 pm Mon – Thurs. and 11:00 am – 6:00 pm Fridays (562) 867-6715

## **Alley Kat Music Center**

9205 Valley View Street, Cypress, CA 90630 (across the street from Cypress College) <http://www.alleykatsheetmusic.com/>

Open 10 am - 8 pm Monday thru Friday and 10 am - 6 pm on Saturdays (714) 229-8528

# How to Be Successful in Band...

## Practice, Practice, Practice!

Practicing – the art of learning what you don't know and improving your technique. It is a time for exploration, analysis, and discovery. It is a skill that students will learn and fine tune over time when done on a consistent basis.

Weekly assignment sheets will be given to your student during each lesson. These assignments have 3 major sections: (1) Warm-Up, (2) New Materials, and (3) Review Materials. Each section has sub- categories that are listed below.

Practice sessions should be broken into two, fifteen-minute sessions or three ten-minute sessions. This will give your child time for resting their minds and bodies, and improve their focus and alertness during their allotted time. Once a day, students should play Band Music at performance tempo so they know what still needs work and then finish each with a piece of music they love and can play well.

### **Minimum practice time requirements:**

Beginning Band: 25 minutes a day, 5 days per week

Concert Band: 35 minutes a day, 5 days per week

Jazz Band: 45 minutes a day, 5 days per week

**\*\* Practice records must be filled out, signed, and returned at each lesson.  
\*\***

*Practice is about repetition, so it is necessary to repeat this routine daily for a week or more to see progress.*

### **How to Practice for Concert and Jazz Band**

1. Warm up: work on buzzing, grip, hand position, embouchure and posture
2. Play long tones, lip slurs, scales, and finger exercises
3. Go through lesson materials & method book assignments
4. Play band music – difficult sections 1<sup>st</sup>
5. Warm down – more long tones

### **Helpful Hints**

1. Name the notes while placing your fingers on the correct keys
2. Clap the rhythm and count out loud
3. Tap your foot and say the note name out loud
4. Sing your part
5. Play the piece of music - starting slow and slowly get faster
6. Play difficult sections first. Reward yourself with the easy sections
7. Play the assigned music in “small bites”: divide and conquer
  - Practice 1 or 2 measures at a time, then 3-4 measures.
8. Use repetition to build positive habits

### **Review Daily!**

***“Definition of Insanity: Doing the same thing over and over again, expecting the same results.” Yes, we practice repetitively, but HOW we practice should improve each time through!***

# Behavior / Classroom Policies

All students are to arrive at school by 7:30 a.m. for early morning rehearsals and will be released from class at 10:05 a.m. for Recess Rehearsals. Ample time will be given for everyone to be inside the auditorium, set up the chairs, stands, sheet music, instruments, and all other necessary materials.

**Choir** members should have their music with them at every rehearsal and strive to memorize their part as quickly as possible. Practice CD's will be available for some concerts.

**Brass** players should have proper lubrication for moving parts (valve oil or Slide-O-Mix, and tuning slide grease), and all necessary mutes. All trumpet players should have both a straight mute and a cup mute.

**Reed** players should have at least one spare reed at their seat during rehearsal. Ideally, they should have four or five reeds that all play, and are rotated from day to day. (The reeds will last longer and get better play if the same reed is not used all the time, from the day it is new, until it is worn out.) Cork grease, swabs, and any other needed accessories should be on hand, as well.

**Percussionists** should each have a pair of concert snare drum sticks and a practice pad. Percussion equipment and music are to be put away at the conclusion of rehearsals. If your instrument has a cover or a case, use it. Otherwise, please return it to the appropriate storage area. This will help keep non-percussionists from "playing around" and keep the equipment in better working order.

**All Students:** Problems of an individual nature (missing music, problems with instruments, etc.) should not take class time. These issues should be dealt with either before or after class. There is no talking during rehearsals, unless given special permission by Mrs. Villa to discuss music the topic at hand. Music is a learning activity. Rehearsals, whether before, during or after school, are one of the means by which students learn, and by its very nature cannot be made up. Therefore, it is imperative that students be present unless the absence is absolutely unavoidable. Please do not schedule doctor's appointments on rehearsal/performance dates. Participation in rehearsals and sectionals are required in order to perform with the ensembles at our various concerts throughout the year.

Performances are learning experiences that cannot be duplicated in a rehearsal hall or practice room. A performance is an important evaluating tool, which allows for a comparison of the students' performance in relation to classroom objectives and prior performances. Absences from performances are only excused in the event of an extreme emergency, such as serious illness or hospitalization of a student, a death in the family, or other reasons deemed excusable by the director.

*The music department, as an organization, provides a medium in which students can progress musically, socially, and academically. Musicianship, attendance, punctuality, conduct, and a desire for excellence are absolutely necessary and expected from each member. Therefore, individual practice and preparation are essential.*



# Jazz Audition Preparation Sheet

In order to be in Jazz Band, a student must finish their beginning band method book, be a music student in good standing, and pass the following audition requirements:

## Seven Scales

- C major, G major, D major, F major, E flat major and B flat major on your instrument.
- Chromatic scale from your lowest to your highest known note
- Know the key signature of each scale (Name and number of Flats or Sharps)
- Have the scale memorized (two octaves preferred)

## A Prepared Piece

- Prepare one piece of your choice to play at the best of your ability.
- It is preferred that you choose a piece that you have not played before, either at an audition or in a performance.
- It is suggested that you select your piece a week or two in advance.

## Sight Reading

- When you come to your audition, music will be given to you to sight read
- To practice for this, find music that you have not played before. At a slow tempo, try playing it from beginning to end. Repeat this with another new song.

Please note the limited instrumentation (saxophone, trombone, trumpet, percussion, piano, guitar, and bass). Occasionally, students who play instruments *other* than those mentioned above will be asked to join the band to help fill out the sound.

Each student is required to be part of the Concert Band and will need to read and sign the *Jazz Band Policy*.

## Listening

You must listen to Jazz music. A local radio station dedicated to Jazz is: 88.1FM – KKJZ from Cal State Long Beach. Also available online at: <http://www.jazzandblues.org>. For CD recommendations – see Mrs. Villa.

Jazz students will be asked to take summer lessons to help maintain the high musical standards of this ensemble.

# Expense Summary

The following is a list of projected yearly costs for the music program. Event charges have been estimated, and parents, family members, and friends will cost extra.

<b>Music Lessons</b> <i>September – June</i>	\$ 650
<b>Choir</b> <i>September – June</i>	\$ 350
<b>Material fees - including concert outfit</b>	Up to \$200
<b>Jazz Band Outfit</b> – <i>Girls &amp; Boys</i>	\$ 25 – 30
<b>BCHS Band Night</b> – <i>Concert Band members only</i> BCHS Warrior Band t-shirt	\$ 15 - 20
<b>Honor Band</b> – <i>Concert Band members only</i> (Includes admission to a Theme Park)	\$ 25 – 50
<b>Band/Choir Photos</b> (Purchase of photos optional)	\$ 15 - 45
<b>Disneyland Magic Music Days - Jazz Band members only</b> (Includes admission to theme park and souvenir shirt)	\$60 - 75

# Los Altos Brethren School Lesson Payment Policy (Band Members)

The cost for music lessons for the school year is \$650. Your student is guaranteed thirty lessons between the first and last days of school. \$50 of your yearly lesson fees will be used toward the purchase of new music for the music program, while \$600 will go towards the music teachers for their time. The music program uses the same payment plan as the school. Payments are divided into 10 equal monthly payments – September through June.

## MUSIC LESSON PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

\$65 (10 monthly payments, September through June)

As stated in the *Music Department Handbook*, tuition and music lesson **payments are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month** and are late if not **received by the 10<sup>th</sup>** – with the exception of September payments. You may write one check to cover both tuition and music lessons; just indicate it in the memo portion of your check.

Payments received after the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month are subject to a \$25.00 late fee.

All returned checks will result in a \$25 charge to your account and will be deposited again. A check turned in on time that bounces and cannot be re-deposited before the 10<sup>th</sup> is a late payment and subject to the \$25.00 late fee.

**The music program is a full school year commitment. You will still be liable for the full payment (\$650) should you decide to drop your child's music lessons anytime after November 1<sup>st</sup>.**

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(Please sign and return)

I understand and agree to abide by this lesson payment policy. I have also received the Music Department Handbook & Calendar and have noted the performance dates.

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_

# Los Altos Brethren School Choir Payment Policy

The cost of the choir program for one school year is \$350. The music program uses the same payment plan as the school. Payments are divided into 10 equal monthly payments – September through June.

## **CHOIR PAYMENT SCHEDULE:**

\$35 (10 monthly payments September through June)

As stated in the *Music Department Handbook*, tuition and choir payments are **due on the 1st** day of the month and are late if not **received by the 10<sup>th</sup>** – with the exception of September payments. You may write one check to cover both tuition and choir; just indicate it in the memo portion of your check.

Payments received after the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month are subject to a \$25.00 late fee.

All returned checks will result in a \$25 charge to your account and will be deposited again. A check turned in on time that bounces and cannot be re-deposited before the 10<sup>th</sup> is a late payment and subject to the \$25.00 late fee.

**The choir program is a full school year commitment. You will still be liable for the full payment (\$350) should you decide to drop the class after November 1<sup>st</sup>.**

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(Please sign and return)

I understand and agree to abide by this choir payment policy. I have also received the Music Department Handbook & Calendar and have noted the performance dates.

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_

# Jazz Band Policy

Los Altos Brethren School Jazz Band is an audition based musical group. The Jazz Band requires a full commitment to the band's scheduled events - over other commitments (including sports). All band dates are given well in advance.

All fifth and sixth grade advanced band members may try out for Jazz Band three times throughout the school year (September, January, and June). Selection is the sole decision of the band director. If there are too many qualified students in an instrumental section, preference will be given to sixth graders. Being in sixth grade does not mean automatic selection to Jazz Band. Once selected for Jazz Band, a student must keep up the level of practice (45 minutes per day, five days per week), commitment, and positive attitude required to remain in the band. The band director has the exclusive prerogative to remove a band member and replace him/her with another qualified player if the student fails to maintain these standards.

Fourth graders may not try out for Jazz Band. Exception: (very rare) If a fourth grade student was qualified to play an instrument that is needed by the band *and* if that instrument spot cannot be filled by a fifth or sixth grader, then that student would be allowed to join the jazz band.

Jazz Band will participate in several activities and special performances during the school year that will have costs over and above the regular band fees. Additional mandatory after-school practices will also be needed in preparation for these special performances. Advanced notice will be given.



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(Please sign and return)

## Jazz Band Policy

I have read this policy with my student and we understand the commitment involved in participating in the Los Altos Brethren School Jazz Band.

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_

# Music Calendar

Date	Event	Call Time	Start Time	Ensemble	
Tues	Sept 10	Informational Meeting	7:00pm	7:00pm	All
Mon	Sept 10	Lessons Begin	All Day		Advanced
Mon	Sept 17	Jazz Band Rehearsals Begin	10:00am	10:00am	Jazz Band
Mon	Sept 17	Beginning Band Rehearsals Begin	7:30am	7:30am	Beg. Band
Tue	Sept 18	Choir Rehearsals Begin	7:30am	7:30am	Choir
Wed	Sept 19	Concert Band Rehearsals Begin	10:00am	10:00am	Advanced
Wed	Oct 3	Mandatory Rehearsal for Band Night	3:45pm	4:00pm	Advanced
Fri	Oct 5	"BCHS Band Night"/ Football Game	6:00pm	6:45pm	Advanced
Wed	Nov 14	Biola Music at Noon Concert (Field Trip)		12:30pm	1 <sup>st</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>
Fri	Dec 14	Chapel Concert	7:30am	9:30am	All
Thur	Dec 20	Christmas Program & Concert	6:20pm	7:00pm	All
Sun	Jan 26	Piano Recital	1:00pm	1:30pm	Piano
Mon	Jan 28	Honor Band Auditions Begin	During Lessons		Advanced
TBD	TBD	Band & Choir Photos	7:00am	7:00am	All
Fri	Feb 15	Honor Band (by audition only)	All Day		Select
Sat	Feb 16	Honor Band (by audition only)	All Day		Select
Fri	Mar 1	ACSI Choir Festival	5:00pm	7:00pm	Choir
TBD	Mar	Musical Variety Showcase Rehearsal	TBD		Choir
TBD	Mar	Musical Variety Showcase Rehearsal	TBD		Choir
Thur	Mar 14	Musical Variety Showcase	6:15pm	7:00pm	Choir
TBD		Coffee Concert w/ Lakewood Christian	AM	8:00am	Beg/Adv.
Tues	April 30	Extra Rehearsal for Brookhurst	3:00pm	3:00pm	Jazz Band
Wed	May 1	Extra Rehearsal for Brookhurst	3:00pm	3:00pm	Jazz Band
Thur	May 2	Extra Rehearsal for Brookhurst	3:00pm	3:00pm	Jazz Band
Sat	May 4	Brookhurst JHS Jazz Festival	All Day		Jazz Band
Thur	May 9	ACSI Band Festival	All Day		Beg/Adv.
Fri	May 17	LABS Open House performance	5:00pm	5:30pm	Jazz Band
Fri	May 24	Chapel Concert	7:30am	9:30am	All
Thurs	May 30	Spring Concert	6:15pm	7:00pm	All
Mon	June 3-6	Last Week of Lessons	All Day/ All Week		All
Mon	June 3-14	Instrument Try-outs (incoming 4 <sup>th</sup> graders)	Various Times		
Sun	June 9	Piano Recital	1:00pm	1:30pm	Piano
Mon	June 10?	Music Department Awards Breakfast			
	July	Summer Lessons Begin			

*\* All Dates and Times are Subject to Change. Notice of any changes will be given in a timely manner \**