

Casa Music: First Music Department Newsletter for Students & Parents!!!



CGHS Music Department Newsletter *February 13-19, 2022*



Casa Music Building Gets New Toy!!!

Thanks to a great deal of help and support from Casa's own Dr. O, the music department now has a brand new Yamaha baby grand piano in our choir/jazz ensemble room! The choir, jazz band, and students who play piano will benefit tremendously from this fine gift for years to come! It's like a little Ferrari of pianos!!! See some pictures below...including one where the piano is getting officially tuned by a professional piano tuner!!!

Millard's Message

Welcome!

I am going to try and create a weekly newsletter for the Casa Grande High School Music Department for the students and parents.

The goal is for this to come out on Sundays or Mondays for the upcoming week and beyond.

There may be weeks where I miss a newsletter due to scheduling or other potential unseen



factors, but I will make every attempt to continue this so you can all be informed.

I hope this helps keep you updated. I will add any new rehearsal and performance dates as they come up, so keep checking back here!

Please feel free to contact me at smillard@petk12 if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Mr. Millard



Construction Moving Forward in Music Building's "Front Yard"

There has been a landscaping construction project taking place just in front of the music building at Casa Grande High School. When completed, there will be new concrete, new plants and foliage, a new large shade structure, benches and tables, as well as a small "stage area" where the bands and choir can perform outside!!! Casa has never had that before!!!

We are hoping that this will be completed by mid-March, but there are no guarantees. When completed, we will be moving forward on having the first outdoor concert at Casa just outside of our music building.

Details on this will be forthcoming as the construction projects is completed and we can organize an outdoor concert!!!! Very exciting!!!



Practice Logs for Band & Jazz Ensemble



Google
Classroom



Practice Logs are weekly assignments for the Freshmen Band, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Jazz Ensemble. They are assigned every Sunday and due by 11:59 PM the following Saturday evening. Students are asked to practice a minimum of 60 minutes each week on their instrument for their band classes. That can be 20 minutes a day for 3 days, 10 minutes a day for 6 days, 15 minutes a day for 4 days, or 1 session of 60 minutes. Students need to practice techniques on their instruments (scales, arpeggios, tone, rhythm, range, etc.) as well as the music we are working on in class. I give the students suggestions every class on what they could/should be practicing. Students in the jazz ensemble have TWO separate practice logs to maintain...one for each class. One focuses on their band music and technique skills and one focuses on their jazz ensemble music and their jazz technique skills. Each time a student practices...they should go into the Google form for the assignment that week (via their Google Classroom) and log in their minutes. They can do this more than once each week. BE SURE TO CLICK "SUBMIT" OR "DONE" AFTER THEY COMPLETE THEIR GOOGLE FORM LOG ENTRY!!! Several students have been forgetting to do this.

Musition & Auralia Assignments for Choir



Google
Classroom



The choir receives online assignments each week on the Musition or Auralia software via their Google Classroom. These assignments focus on basic musical notation (reading music) skills as well as listening skills for choir. Listening as a performing musician is very different then listening as an audience member. These assignments work on those skills. Assignments are given in the first class of the week and are due by 11:59 PM on the Saturday evening at the end of each week.



Upcoming Important Dates

Thursday, February 17

- Jazz Ensemble official video recording session during class (onsies/PJ's/comfy blankets)



Saturday, February 19

- Practice Log #7 due for Freshmen Band, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Jazz Ensemble by 11:59 PM [60 points]
- Choir Assignment: Musition - Note Reading (B-L2 / Higher & Lower) due by 11:59 PM [25 points]
- Choir Assignment: Musition - Note Reading (B-L2 / Cancelling Accidentals) due by 11:59 PM [25 points]

Thursday, February 24

- End of 1st Grading Period

Friday, February 25

- Guest clinician Mr. Rogers (Director of the Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra) in Symphonic Band & Freshmen Band classes

Wednesday, March 16

- Marching Practice (2:15 PM - 3:20 PM)

Wednesday, March 23

- Marching Practice (2:15 PM - 3:20 PM)

Monday, March 28 - Friday, April 1

- SPRING BREAK

Monday, April 4 - Friday, April 8

- Emergency Make-Up Days if necessary...otherwise no school

Wednesday, April 20

- Marching Practice (2:15 PM - 3:20 PM)

Thursday, April 21

- End of 2nd grading period
- E.F.M. Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom (6:30 PM)

Saturday, April 23

- Butter and Eggs Day Parade (Marching Band)

Thursday, May 26

- Music Department Spring Awards Concert (all bands & choir)

Friday, June 10

- Graduation Ceremony (all bands & choir performing)