

Instructions for the 2021 - 2022 RHS Band Placement Assessment

Thank you for your interest in joining the Band Program at Ridgewood High School. We have a place for all brass, woodwind and percussion players who wish to continue their music education at the high school level.

The curricular band program at RHS follows a sequential course of study that prepares students for college level music performance upon graduation. Students typically enter the high school as members of the Symphonic Band and progress into the Concert Band after mastering the necessary skills. The most advanced students will complete their band experience as members of the Wind Ensemble. A description of each band can be found in the RHS Course Catalog.

- **Symphonic Band** - Emphasis on developing skills in rhythm, pitch, balance; use of method books, exercises, and appropriate concert selections up to level 3.5.
- **Concert Band** - Emphasis on developing technical ability, characteristic tonality, and knowledge of phrasing; use of exercises and appropriate concert selections up to level 4.5.
- **Wind Ensemble** - Emphasis on developing musical maturity appropriate to college/professional music literature (levels 5&6). Students are encouraged to audition for Maroon & White Recitals and County/Regional Bands. Members may audition for Chamber Orchestra.

Below are the instructions for how to join the Band at RHS:

1. Join the **RHS Band Placement Assessment** class on Google Classroom:
 - BF Class Code: **k33igsg**
 - GW Class Code: **odd3d34**
2. Complete the RHS Bands New Student Information Form found on Google Classroom.
3. All eighth graders are welcome and encouraged to participate in Symphonic Band for their freshman year at RHS. You will receive a recommendation for Symphonic Band in Skyward.
4. Students who wish to be considered for one of our more advanced groups must prepare and perform a video audition, which will include a scale exercise and a solo excerpt.
5. To audition for the Concert Band, students must perform the following material and submit through Google Classroom:
 - six consecutive scales from the RHS Bands Scale Assessment Exercise
 - the RHS Concert Band Audition Etude for his/her particular instrument(s)
6. To audition for the Wind Ensemble, students must perform the following material and submit through Google Classroom:
 - the entire RHS Bands Scale Assessment Exercise
 - BOTH the RHS Concert Band Etude AND the RHS Wind Ensemble audition etude.
 - Students auditioning for Wind Ensemble *may* be asked to perform a brief sightreading example.
7. Placement video assessments will be reviewed by the high school band directors. Adjudication will be based upon each student's demonstration of technique, tone quality, intonation, and musicality.
8. All Concert Band & Wind Ensemble auditions must be submitted by **January 22**.
9. Upon completion of the placement assessment, each student will be placed into an ensemble that is most appropriate to his or her performance ability. Students will be informed of placement results in early February.

QUESTIONS? Contact:
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For more information, visit our website: www.rhsbands.org