

Conway Public Schools High School Orchestra Parent Guide

2017-2018 School Year



Director:

Mr. Casey Buck
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Assistant Directors:

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**Find copies of this parent guide, other important forms,
and our calendar online!**

orchestra.conwayschools.org

2017-2018 Orchestra Calendar

September 16	South Region Orchestra Auditions Conway High School
September 22-23	South Region Orchestra Clinic (by audition) James H. Clark Auditorium, Formal Concert Dress
November TBA	La Fiesta Orquesta Taco Supper Conway High School Cafeteria & Buzz Bolding Arena Times TBA, Orchestra T-Shirts and Jeans
November 15	Trip Deposit due (\$150 or remaining balance)
Full Orchestra REQUIRED After-School Rehearsals: December 4, 6, 12, 13, January 8 - 4:00 - 5:30 at CHS Band room	
December 13	Trip Payment #2 due (\$100 or remaining balance)
January 10	Full Orchestra Dress Rehearsal 4-5:30 pm, James H. Clark Auditorium
January 11	Full Orchestra Concert 6:30 pm, James H. Clark Auditorium, Formal Concert Dress
January 17	Final Trip Payment due (\$100 or remaining balance)
February 3	All-State Orchestra Auditions (grades 10-12 who made All-Region), ASU-Jonesboro
February 14-17	All-State Orchestra Clinic (by audition) Austin Hotel and Convention Center, Hot Springs
February 26	Orchestra Pre-Assessment Concert Times TBA, James H. Clark Auditorium, Formal Concert Dress
March 8-9	Region IX Concert Assessment (“Contest”) Day/Time TBA, James H. Clark Auditorium, Formal Concert Dress
March 29	Solo and Ensemble Assessment After school, Times TBA, Conway Junior High
April 24	Spring Concert and Awards Ceremony 6:30 pm, James H. Clark Auditorium, Formal Concert Dress
April 26-29	CHS Orchestra Spring Trip Departure Times and Itinerary TBA

****ALL CONCERTS ARE REQUIRED EVENTS.
ATTENDANCE WILL BE REFLECTED IN THE STUDENT’S GRADE****

Online Registration Form

**Registering your information with the
Conway Orchestra program is as easy as 1-2-3!**

1. Visit our website at **orchestra.conwayschools.org** and click the “Online Registration Form” link
2. Fill out the parent contact information and parent guide contract
3. Click submit – you’re done!

**Sync our Google calendar to yours: add
conwayorchestras@gmail.com**

**Find copies of this parent guide, other important forms,
and our calendar online!**

Orchestra Online Resources



Conway Orchestra website:
orchestra.conwayschools.org

Sync our **Google calendar** to your own by adding
“**conwayorchestras@gmail.com**”

Like our page on **Facebook!**
www.facebook.com/ConwayOrchestra

Follow us on **Twitter and Instagram!**
@conwayorchestra

Paperless Policy:

As Conway Public Schools moves toward a paperless environment, most important information will be sent home via email, text, and/or social media. Please provide and keep current email addresses on file with your child’s orchestra director.



Conway High School Orchestra

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Conway High School Orchestra is to offer Conway High School string students the opportunity to continue to develop personal performing, listening, and musical skills at advanced levels, and to work together to perform a variety of string and full orchestra music. The participation of string, wind, brass, and percussion students in full orchestra grants students a chance to experience performing symphonic music.

CLASS EMPHASIS

Class emphasis is on technique and ensemble playing. String and full orchestra literature of many styles will be rehearsed and performed. Various materials will be used to improve technique including technical exercises and scales. Student advancement will be demonstrated and assessed through individual progress and required performances.

SCHOLASTIC ELIGIBILITY

Scholastic eligibility for participation in orchestra events will be consistent with the current Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) Guidelines. All 10th, 11th & 12th graders must pass (4) courses and have a 2.0 GPA. If they pass four courses but don't have a 2.0 GPA they must attend SIP classes. Info on this class will come out shortly after the beginning of the year. If a student misses a class they automatically become ineligible. In addition, students must not have any unexcused absences or disciplinary action that results in suspension. No ineligible student will be permitted to participate in interscholastic orchestra events. Ineligibility will also prevent a student from receiving an award and from traveling with the orchestra to out-of-state performances.

A PASSING GRADE IN ORCHESTRA IS REQUIRED FOR EACH SEMESTER OF ENROLLMENT AS A PREREQUISITE FOR MOVING TO THE NEXT GRADE LEVEL.



Orchestra Supply List

REQUIRED ITEMS

Each student should have the following items at their seat daily:

- A 3-RING BINDER will be provided by the orchestra. This may be checked to make sure all music is present and has been marked appropriately. Replacements are \$2 each.
- A sharpened PENCIL with an eraser
- Workable ROSIN and a SOFT CLOTH to keep the instrument clean
- Violinists and Violists: a SHOULDER REST to support the instrument.
- Cellists and Bassists: an ENDPIN STOP to keep the instrument from sliding on the floor.

OPTIONAL, BUT HELPFUL

- MUSIC STAND for home practice
- METRONOME or app gives steady beat at different tempos; its use will improve a student's rhythmic accuracy.
- ELECTRONIC TUNER or app to have an available pitch to tune to.
- AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING DEVICE to record and play back your performance



Orchestra Procedures

ATTENDANCE

Absences and tardies will be handled as stated in the school handbook. **Attendance at all concerts is required and will be reflected in the student's grade.**

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

Students should be ready at their seat with their instrument, music, and a pencil. You may tune and warm up in your seats until it is time to tune. Do not do homework or read books during rehearsal. At the end of the period loosen bow, pack instrument, and put music and instruments in the proper storage space. Inappropriate treatment of school instruments will result in forfeiture of use.

INSTRUMENT STORAGE

The orchestra room will be unlocked and supervised before and after school for students to drop off and pick up instruments. Cellos and basses should be stored on the appropriate racks. Parents who need to pick up or drop off instruments during the day should go through the front office. Storage rooms are not for keeping personal items such as backpacks or binders. The storage room is not a social meeting place. **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR INSTRUMENT IN THE CAR!** Violin and viola players will be assigned a locker. The school will provide a combination lock for those who would like to use one. If a student chooses to use their own, they must provide the teacher with the combination. No keyed locks will be allowed. A lost lock is subject to a \$10 fee. Lockers are subject to search at any time and without warning, and should be kept clean and free of trash. Students who do not adhere to these guidelines may forfeit their use of the locker.

EVALUATIONS AND SEATING

Students will be asked to play individually for assessment and chair placement throughout the school year. Evaluations may be audio or video-recorded during class time. Seating will be assigned according to the directors' decision on what will most benefit the sound and presentation of the orchestra. The decision of the directors concerning seating will be final. There will not be any consideration given for seniority. Procedures will be posted. **Concert attendance and conduct may also be considered in chair placement.**

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT CONDUCT

- **Respect all people and things in the Orchestra room.** Any teacher in the music room is to be respected as the person in charge.
- Instruments other than yours are off-limits, including percussion instruments and pianos.
- The office is off-limits unless you need to speak to a teacher. Please knock on the door.
- Food, drink, candy, and gum are not allowed in the orchestra room or storage rooms.
- Storage shelves, cubbies, and storage rooms should be kept neat and free of trash.
- Large ensemble rooms and storage rooms are off-limits before school, during lunch, and after school unless you are getting your instrument or putting it away, or with prior permission. Do not loiter in these rooms.
- The elevator at the high school may be used only by those students who are transporting cellos or basses or in extenuating physical circumstances.
- **Fingernails** should be trimmed so that the pad of the fingertip can easily make contact with the string. This is necessary to facilitate playing in tune.

All rules and regulations contained in the Conway High School student handbook apply to ALL orchestra students during ALL orchestra activities.



Grading Policies

Orchestra will be recorded on your permanent records as academic credit. This is a performance-based class, and performance and progress in class are the primary areas in which students will be assessed. **Students are expected to practice at home to reinforce concepts presented in class.** A student's grade is made up of the following components:

PLAYING TESTS

Students will be expected to play by themselves periodically during each 9 weeks for assessment and/or chair placement. Playing exams may contain excerpts from the literature, technique books, scales, or rhythm patterns and may be live or recorded by video or audio. Observed performance during class (correct notes, style, bowing, etc.) will also be considered.

PROFESSIONAL DEMEANOR

Personal responsibility and teamwork is very important in an orchestra, just as it is in a community or society. For this reason, it will also be counted as part of the student's grade. A musician's positive attitude and participation (professional demeanor) is very important in order to have an orchestra that will excel and grow in quality throughout the year. **A STUDENT WITHOUT AN INSTRUMENT OR MUSIC IN CLASS WILL LOSE POINTS FROM THEIR GRADE FOR EACH INFRACTION.** Students may earn extra credit by attending recitals and concerts containing orchestral string instruments. Students should bring in programs signed by a parent for verification. These points will not be added if the student habitually forgets their instrument.

CONCERTS

Concerts are a ***required*** part of the Orchestra program. They are not only an opportunity for the students and teachers to evaluate musical progress, but they also serve as a common performance goal and let the students share the music with their families and friends. A concert and performance calendar is at the front of this parent guide. ***Please post these dates on your calendar.*** School activity conflicts will be handled on an individual basis and should be worked out prior to the concert. Parents should contact the orchestra director before the concert in the event of illness or emergency. **Unexcused absences will result in a zero for the concert grade.** Grades will also be adjusted for the following infractions: tardiness, uniform violations, forgotten music, forgotten instrument, and professional demeanor.

After-School Rehearsals

It is occasionally necessary to call extra after-school rehearsals. Failure to attend these after school rehearsals may affect a student's grade and/or chair placement. As much advance warning time as possible will be given for extra called rehearsals.

Full Orchestra rehearsals will take place after school in the band room at Conway High School in December until the Full Orchestra Concert in January from 4:00-5:30 pm. See the calendar at the beginning of this parent guide for the exact rehearsal dates. Students should make arrangements in advance to avoid conflicts with other activities. **An after-school job is not a valid excuse.** Failure to attend these after-school rehearsals will affect a student's grade and chair placement. Requests for excused absences due to legitimate school-related conflicts must be submitted IN WRITING and APPROVED by the director prior to the rehearsal. Excused absences will be considered on an individual basis.



Concert Attire

Uniform concert dress is very important to the professional appearance of the orchestra. At the current time, the uniform code does not require identical dresses or jackets. To keep this flexibility, students should follow concert dress guidelines closely. Grades will be adjusted for students out of uniform (see grading procedures). If you have any problems purchasing uniforms, please inform an orchestra director immediately. If you were enrolled in high school orchestra last year and already have a formal uniform, please check now to see that it still fits you. Don't wait until the night of the concert to find out if your pants are long enough!!

FORMAL CONCERT DRESS

Women: dressy or semi-formal floor- or ankle-length black dresses, skirts, or slacks and black blouses, black hose, and black close-toed dress shoes. Sleeves must be at least $\frac{3}{4}$ length. No sleeveless, spaghetti straps, strapless or backless dresses. No flashy or distracting jewelry. Midriffs must be covered front and back when playing.

Men: Tuxedo: Black bow tie, black tuxedo jacket, black cummerbund, white pleated tuxedo shirt and black tuxedo pants (with stripe), black dress socks, black dress shoes. No tailcoats or sport coats, and no plain black dress pants. **Check with Paul Morrell Formalwear, 120 S. Victory, Little Rock at 501-374-8899 – they sell used rental tuxes in excellent condition.**

STUDENTS SHOULD PULL LONG HAIR BACK AND OUT OF THEIR FACE SO THEY CAN SEE THEIR CONDUCTOR AND SO THEIR AUDIENCE CAN SEE THEM.

INFORMAL CONCERT DRESS

Women: Conservative dresses, skirts, slacks or split skirts, hose & dress shoes OR Orchestra T-shirts and long blue jeans (depending on audience)

Men: slacks and a dress shirt, no jeans or athletic shoes OR Orchestra T-shirts and long blue jeans (depending on audience)

CONWAY ORCHESTRA T-SHIRTS

All students will be asked to purchase a Conway Orchestra t-shirt. Wearing these shirts serves to promote unity within the group. If your student already has one, make sure it still fits and is in good condition at the beginning of the school year – some of you have grown considerably since you bought them!

Orchestra Online Resources



Conway Orchestra website:

orchestra.conwayschools.org

Sync our **Google calendar** to your own by adding
“**conwayorchestras@gmail.com**”

Like our page on **Facebook!**
www.facebook.com/ConwayOrchestra

Follow us on **Twitter and Instagram!**
[@conwayorchestra](https://twitter.com/conwayorchestra)



“La Fiesta Orquesta” Taco Supper

The annual “La Fiesta Orquesta” Taco Supper is our primary fundraiser for the year. All proceeds from the Taco Supper are used to provide things beyond music and instruments for the Orchestra such as camp scholarships, trips, awards, and class parties. Taco Supper is in late Fall and will feature all Conway orchestra students performing in an informal setting. We serve a meal to over 1,000 people in a single night in addition to hosting the concerts and a silent auction. The concert itself is free, and tickets for the meal may be purchased in advance or at the door. We will need lots of parental help both prior to the Taco Supper and during the supper itself (it takes over 100 parent volunteers to pull off a night like this!). Please watch for and return the Taco Supper volunteer form as soon as you receive it. At the high school level, Taco Supper ticket sales are the primary way for students to fundraise all or part of the cost of their Spring orchestra trip (see below).

Program Ad Sales

Students will have the opportunity to sell ads for our formal concert programs. Local businesses and individuals will be able to purchase space in our program and support the Conway orchestra program. A portion of ad sale revenue will be credited toward the student’s trip account. Details will be distributed in class.



CHS Orchestra Spring Trip

The CHS Orchestra competes in an adjudicated festival and attend a symphony concert in the spring of each school year. The orchestra program covers about half of each student’s cost in an effort to keep the expense for you as minimal as possible. The trip’s cost includes transportation, hotel, dinner Friday night, symphony tickets, and most of the other activities that weekend. Other meals and incidentals are not included.

Students are given the opportunity to sell program ads and “La Fiesta Orquesta” Taco Supper tickets to fundraise all or part of the cost of their trip. A letter of intent detailing the student’s account balance, including funds raised, will be sent home in early November so students are aware of their financial obligation for the trip. Payment will be broken up into three monthly installments. The first payment is a \$150 non-refundable deposit.

It is expected that each high school orchestra student go on the trip, as we are a team that relies on the entire group in order to be successful. All students will be given an intent form that must be returned signed by a parent or guardian. If a student fails to return the completed permission form by the deadline, it will be assumed that the student will not be attending the trip, after which point they may not be added on. Once students have agreed to attend the trip and the deposit has been paid, they are financially responsible for the cost regardless of their attendance. There is no possibility of a refund or credit if the student does not attend, as the orchestra program will be making payments to our festival on the students’ behalf.

There will also be a mandatory parent meeting in the weeks leading up to the trip in order to discuss the discipline procedures and the itinerary. Parents must make arrangements to attend one of several meetings and have all forms and paperwork turned in or students will not be allowed to participate in the trip.

ALL SCHOOL RULES APPLY ON OVERNIGHT TRIPS. SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF THE RULES WILL RESULT IN STUDENTS BEING SENT HOME IMMEDIATELY AND AT THEIR OWN COST.



Extra Performance Opportunities

Students who are enrolled in the Conway High School Orchestra have the opportunity to perform in the following extracurricular organizations, which will also count toward their award points (see the following pages for details):

SOUTH REGION ORCHESTRA CLINIC: An orchestra of students who audition from the southern half of Arkansas. Consists of a Saturday audition in the fall, with the Festival that occurs on Friday and all day Saturday one to two weeks later. Participants in the Southern Region Orchestra are eligible to audition for the Arkansas All-State Orchestra.

ALL-STATE ORCHESTRA: Members of the South and North Region Orchestras are re-auditioned the first Saturday in February. Students selected to participate are bused to the Hot Springs Convention Center to participate in rehearsals and perform a final concert on the following Saturday afternoon in conjunction with the ASBOA Convention and All-State bands and choir. Meal and hotel expenses are paid by the Music Department.

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE ASSESSMENT: In March or April, individuals and small groups of students perform prepared accompanied solos and chamber music before a judge who rates it from I - V. Award medals are presented for ratings of superior (I) and excellent (II). The judge's comment sheets are given to all participants. Students desiring a superior rating must play with a pianist if the composition was written for one. Recipients of a I rating whose compositions are on the required music list are eligible to participate in the State Solo and Ensemble Contest in May.

STATE SOLO AND ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL: Students receiving superior ratings at the region level Solo and Ensemble Festival are eligible to perform the same piece for a higher level of judging in May. All pieces must be on the approved State Solo and Ensemble list, and accompanied if the composer wrote it to be accompanied by piano. Awards are given for ratings of I and II.

ARKANSAS SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA: Students can audition for and participate in the Arkansas Symphony Academy and Youth Orchestras in Little Rock, sponsored by the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. Both of these groups utilize winds, brass, and percussion as well. Private lessons are required for these organizations, and members are eligible for lesson scholarships. For more information and to set up an audition time, please contact Barbara Burroughs at 501-666-1761, x 116, or bburroughs@arkansassymphony.org.



Instrument Care

- Loosen the bow hair and wipe off any rosin dust after playing.
- Instruments are very sensitive to heat and cold. Avoid extremes of temperature.
- Instruments can sometimes open at the seams, especially in winter. Bring it to school to be sent off for repair. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO FIX IT YOURSELF!!!**
- Since they are made of wood, be careful of banging instruments into things when transporting. Also, do not put weight on the instrument!!
- Extra strings, rosin, and other supplies are available from your orchestra director at cost as a convenience. Your director will let you know how much each item is.
- An orchestra teacher can usually handle small repairs (broken strings or fallen bridges) at school for the cost of the replacement part. Bring the instrument to school and let the teachers decide what repairs must be made.
- **Please DO NOT take your instrument to a shop for a broken string!!!**



Awards

The following awards are presented by the Conway High School Orchestra each year.

HONOR BARS AND HONOR CERTIFICATES:

Presented to CHS juniors and seniors who have earned at least 8 points and already have letters. Points must be earned in at least two different categories. Concert attendance is mandatory to receive an Honor Bar. See next page for details.

CONWAY HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA LETTERS:

Presented to 10th-12th graders who have earned at least 8 points for the first time.

SENIOR PLAQUE:

Presented to all graduating seniors in recognition of their commitment to orchestra.

JAMIE LEA STANTON MEMORIAL AWARD:

This award is presented to one student at CHS who, in the opinion of the directors, best preserves Jamie's memory by reflecting her ability to get along with everyone, volunteer when help is needed, and play to the utmost of her ability while a member of the orchestra.

KEITH MULBERRY MEMORIAL AWARD:

This award is presented to one student at CHS who, in the opinion of the directors, best preserves Keith's memory through his or her dedication to the orchestra, love of music, and lively, energetic, and fun-loving spirit.

OUTSTANDING MUSICIAN AWARD (pin and certificate):

A student must earn at least the number of points required for an Honor Bar or Letter and show a positive and professional influence on the orchestra.

DIRECTOR'S AWARD FOR ORCHESTRA:

This award will be presented to the tenth grade student who best represents the orchestra based on fulfillment of the Honor Bar qualifications, professional attitude, and positive contribution to the orchestra, as decided by the members of the CHS Orchestra. It consists of a permanent wall plaque for the orchestra room with each recipient's name, and an individual plaque for the recipient.

NATIONAL SCHOOL ORCHESTRA AWARD:

This award will be presented to the senior who best represents the orchestra based on fulfillment of the Outstanding Musician Award qualifications, professional attitude, and positive contribution to the orchestra, as decided by members of the CHS Orchestra. It consists of a permanent wall plaque for the orchestra room that contains each recipient's name, as well as a pin, certificate, and engraved desk piece for the recipient.

KARLA FOURNIER HONORARY SCHOLARSHIP:

This award has been established in honor of Mrs. Fournier, long-time orchestra teacher in Conway, whose passion and dedication to the orchestra program during her tenure were transformative. This scholarship will be presented to one graduating senior who is planning to major or minor in music in college. Details on applying for this scholarship will be given near the end of the year.

SCHOLASTIC INELIGIBILITY, FAILURE TO ATTEND REQUIRED REHEARSALS OR PERFORMANCES, OR NOT MAINTAINING A HIGH STANDARD OF PROFESSIONAL DEMEANOR MAY RESULT IN A STUDENT NOT RECEIVING AN AWARD.

Awards (cont'd)

POINTS MUST BE EARNED IN A COMBINATION OF AT LEAST TWO AREAS

All-Region Orchestra:

Tryout for All-Region	1 point
All-Region alternate	1 point
All-Region member	2 points
All-Region principal	3 points

Region points will not be awarded until the eligible student completes the All-State audition. School conflicts will be considered.

All-State Orchestra:

Audition for All-State	1 point
All-State alternate	1 point
All-State member	2 points
All-State principal	3 points

Region & State Solo and Ensemble Contest (maximum 3 entries):

Rating of I	2 points
Rating of II	1 point

School-Related Extra Performances:

Jazz Band (bass)	1 point per season
CHS Pit Orchestra (Musical)	1 point
Extra group performances	1 point per performance

Other Auditioned Orchestras:

ASYO Academy/Youth Orchestra	2 points each semester
CHS Chamber Orchestra	1 point per semester

Private Lessons

1 point each 9 weeks

Extracurricular Performances

Performance of solo or small ensemble at church, recitals, etc. (max. 4 performances) <i>(Program must be turned in with parent signature)</i>	1 point per performance
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Summer Activities (prior to current school year):

String Camp	1 point
Weekly private lessons	1 point

Orchestra community service

1 point per service

CHS STUDENTS MUST EARN 8 POINTS IN AT LEAST TWO CATEGORIES TO QUALIFY FOR AN AWARD

CHS Chamber Orchestra

Students will be auditioned during the first few weeks of school and a select Chamber Orchestra will be formed from the top players on each instrument. The decision of the directors as to membership in the group will be final. This chamber ensemble will pull out from the large group several times each week. Membership in this ensemble is a privilege. Failure to maintain a high standard of musicianship and attendance at rehearsals and performances will result in removal from the Chamber Orchestra.



Instrument Upgrades

Students should upgrade the quality of their instruments and bows by the beginning of the 10th grade, if not sooner. At the very least, all high school orchestra members should have replaced Super-Sensitive strings with Dominant strings or their equivalent. Students are encouraged to progress to higher quality instruments for a more mature tone. Additionally, bows should be upgraded to help improve the tone quality and technical refinement available to the student. Strings should be replaced yearly and bows should be rehaired at least every two years. For suggestions on where to find these items, contact an orchestra teacher.

Private Lessons

Private lessons are strongly recommended for all Conway Orchestra students because they allow students to progress at their own pace and to work on solo repertoire that will increase their individual skill level. Almost all Conway Senior High students who have been awarded college music scholarships have studied privately during their public school days. Many highly-qualified teachers live in the area, including many Arkansas Symphony musicians. Please request a list of private teachers any time during the year.

Senior Solos

Any senior who is currently enrolled in private lessons and has been a member of the All-State Orchestra has the opportunity to perform a solo on one of the concerts. They should discuss repertoire selection with their private teacher and orchestra director during the spring of their junior year to make sure it is appropriate and that the orchestral accompaniment is available. They may have to play it for approval by early fall of their senior year.

Cadet Program

The Cadet Program serves as a vehicle to provide second and third year string students with individual tutoring by advanced high school students. Selection of tutors will be based on the following criteria: current Conway Orchestra member, studying with a private teacher, member of All-State Orchestra, and a positive influence on the orchestra program in the Conway Schools. Eligible students will be notified of their acceptance as Cadet Teachers in the spring of each year.

Summer String Camps

UCA, the Arkansas Symphony, and the University of Arkansas each sponsor week-long summer string programs that are a wonderful experience for all of our students. Intensive work on Region audition music, ensembles, and sectionals with master teachers provide an enriching experience and encourage students to advance their playing. The Conway Orchestra program awards a limited number of camp scholarships to help defray some of the cost. Scholarship applications will be available in late April or early May, along with details about each camp.

OPUS

In musical terms, an opus is a work or composition. In the context of the Conway Public Schools Orchestras, **OPUS** is **Orchestra Parents United in Support**. OPUS exists to ensure our children receive the full benefit of their orchestra experience. Quite simply, this is achieved by the volunteer efforts of parents like you working in concert with the orchestra teachers and other equally dedicated parents. Providing transportation for large instruments, helping set up the reception after a concert, and assisting at Taco Supper go a long way to the continued success of the orchestra program. Orchestra is a wonderful and enriching experience for our children not only as musicians, but also as young adults, and they will carry it with them long after they graduate from High School. Through the dedication of their teachers and most importantly, **YOU THE PARENTS**, the Conway Orchestra Program will continue to be a positive, strong, and successful experience for our children.

Go to Concerts!

Students need to know you think that they and their membership and success in orchestra are important. One way you can show this is by attending their concerts throughout their school music careers. It is the experience of your orchestra directors that in spite of the fact that they will tell you otherwise, even the High School students need to have someone in the audience that is there just for them! Out of respect for the performers, please stay for the entire concert – no one likes playing for an empty house!

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Performances are in Little Rock. Student tickets are free on Sunday afternoons with a paying adult!!!

Conway Symphony Orchestra: The CSO plays several concerts a year here in Conway at the Reynolds Performance Hall on the UCA campus.