

Christian Academy of  
Louisville  
*High School Band Handbook*

*700 South English Station Road  
Louisville, KY 40245*

*502-753-4517*

*Matt Wooten – Director of School of the Arts/  
Director of Bands*

*Kristin Ungaro – MS Band Director/Asst. HS Band Director*

*Nicole Bullard – Percussion Instructor/Asst. Director of  
Bands*

## **A. Table of Contents**

Philosophy and Overview of Band Program.....	3
Grading Policy.....	4
Standards of Behavior.....	5
Discipline.....	5
Dress Code.....	6
Field Trips.....	6
Music Booster Organization.....	6
Contact Us.....	7

## **CHRISTIAN ACADEMY OF LOUISVILLE BAND HANDBOOK**

### **I. Philosophy**

The band program at CAL, simply stated, is “committed to excellence, with Christ at the center”. The students in band will be given instruction on how to play wind and percussion instruments both individually and in a formal ensemble setting. Those ensembles will represent CAL with good public performances with demonstration of our “commitment to excellence”. Students are expected to strive for the highest level during their participation in the band program. Band students are most certainly considered to be some of the best students at CAL, and are expected to be held to the highest level of performance. It is a hope that all students will find an enjoyment by playing their personal instruments and throughout their band experience. Music is a God given gift that we hope all students within the program will grow closer to Christ by using that gift.

### **Overview of the Band Program**

The band program at CAL is a co-curricular activity, not extra-curricular activity. The ensembles meet during both the fall and spring semester, and will rehearse during class everyday, along with some rehearsals and performances outside the normal school day, the program will also have at least 4 concerts. The first concert will be held on October 8th, the second will be held on December 11th, the third will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup> and the fourth will May 9<sup>th</sup>. The band will also be expected to participate in the KMEA District Festival which will be held on either March 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, or 14<sup>th</sup>. These events will usually take place during the school day and will be treated as field trips. The

students will also be expected but not required to perform at the Spring Solo and Ensemble Festival and audition for KMEA All-District and All State Band and Orchestra.

## **II. Grading Policy**

### **A. Performances**

All band students will be expected to perform in each of our concerts throughout the year. Concert Requirements Part of being an excellent musician is knowing how to also be a good audience member and to know what behavior is acceptable and unacceptable at any public concert.

1. All music students are expected to be in attendance for all concerts where they are performing. If there is a conflict with another school event then it is the students and/or parents responsibility to inform the director at least 2 weeks prior to the concert event. At that time the director will handle conflicts on a case by case basis on whether or not the student is excused. In case of a family emergency or personal tragedy the director will excuse the student from the concert. For tournament games, senior nights and last games of the season, the director will do all they can to accommodate the student's request. However, sometimes it is impossible to work this out and the student is required to choose, if they choose the other event their grade will be dropped in accordance with the grading policy for all concerts. Athletic practices and regular season games are not excused. If a student misses a concert for an unexcused reason their concert grade will be at best 60% of the full concert grade.
2. Students are expected to attend the concert in its entirety unless prior approval has been given (requests need to be made in writing). If not approved students will not receive full credit for the concert if they are not there for the entire duration of the evening. To assist families in this area, all concerts will end in a timely manner.

3. Students will sit with their ensemble for the duration of the performance. Students observed in the hallways or classrooms during a performance will receive a lower grade and possible disciplinary action.

4. If you do have an emergency and need to leave (or enter), out of respect for the performers and the other audience members, please only exit (or enter) after a piece is finished.

5. The use of any and all electronic devices is not permitted during a concert. Any electronic device seen during a concert will be confiscated.

6. There should be no talking while a group is performing or while anyone is addressing the audience. During the course of the year, certain things are expected of each student on a daily basis.

1. A pencil is required at **ALL** rehearsals.
  2. Music should be brought to **ALL** rehearsals.
  3. Instruments should be in proper working order with good reeds, oil, etc.
  4. Students are expected practice their assigned parts.
  5. There will also be exit slips given periodically throughout the quarter worth around 5 points each time they are given.
- **Daily Grades will equal 150 Points of your final quarter grade.**
  - **Playing Tests will equal 50-100 Points of your final quarter grade.**
  - **Written Tests will equal 50-100 Points of your final quarter grade.**
  - **Performances will equal 250 Points of your final quarter grade.**
  - **Pep Band performances will equal 100 Points per game of your final quarter grade.**

### **III. Standards of Behavior**

- a. **Students will be expected to attend all extra rehearsals.**

- b. **Students must participate in all concert performances.**
- c. **Students have a responsibility to the band to attend all rehearsals and performances.** – Routine doctor and dentist appointments should be scheduled around band rehearsals and performances. In order for an absence to be excused, the student should see the director as early as possible for approval. In case an emergency arises, students should follow this procedure:
  - i. Contact Mr. Wooten, if no response;
  - ii. Contact your section leader, who will continue to call Mr. Wooten.
  - iii. Attempt to contact Mr. Wooten, Ms. Ungaro or Ms. Bullard.
- d. **General rules** – All band functions will follow the regulations of the CAL student handbook.

#### IV. **Discipline**

The Music students are most certainly considered to be some of the best students at CAL, and are to be held to the highest level of performance as well as discipline. Should discipline be required the following steps of action will be taken. Due to the severity of the issue however steps may be skipped at the director's discretion.

1. Give the students their first verbal warning.
2. Ensemble Director will have a conference with the student individually.
3. The Ensemble Director will offer a second verbal warning, assign a detention and contact the parents of the student.
4. The Ensemble Director, Student, Director of the School of the Arts and possibly the parent will meet with student.

5. Call a conference between the Ensemble Director, the Director of the School of the Arts, the Parent and the Principal or Assistant Principal to discuss removal from the music program.

## **V. Dress Code**

Our primary ensemble concert dress is very simple; the guys are expected to wear all black that will need to be purchased through the music boosters. It is vital that all students wear the same manufacturer to make certain that we do not get 50 shades of black on the stage. Guys must also wear black shoes that have no visible logo or color other than black. The girls are expected to wear our concert dresses that they will need to purchase through the music boosters, and black shoes that do not show their toes. No dangling jewelry will be accepted. Failure to comply with the dress code without prior discussion with Mr. Wooten or your ensemble director the student may not be allowed to perform with the ensemble and they will not receive their full concert grade.

Some secondary ensembles have their own dress code requirements but all fall within the Christian Academy of Louisville School System Handbook for dress code requirements.

Solo and Small Ensemble attire will fall within the Christian Academy of Louisville School System Handbook dress code requirements. Failure to comply with the dress code without prior discussion with Mr. Wooten or your ensemble director will result in an hour of detention and in some cases the student may not be allowed to perform and they will not receive their full concert grade.

## **Field Trips**

Each ensemble will take some form of field trip every other year. Information about each trip will be given well in advance and transportation will be planned according to the number of students going on the trip. Parents may be asked to drive and chaperone but will be notified well in advance of the field trip.

## **VI. Music Booster Organization**

Christian Academy is blessed to have a Music Booster organization. This organization is made up of parents who see the need, and share the vision of the music program here at our school. ALL PARENTS ARE INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

Without parental support we could not accomplish nearly as much as we have. The Music Boosters take care of fundraising, set-up and break-down for performances, and are actively involved in planning and chaperoning our trips, as well as many other things. I would HIGHLY encourage all parents to join our Music Boosters organization and become actively involved in the musical experience here at CAL.

## **VII. Concert Expectations**

Part of being an excellent musician is knowing how to also be a good audience member and to know what behavior is acceptable and unacceptable at any public concert.

1. All music students are expected to be in attendance for all concerts.
2. Students are expected to attend the concert in its entirety unless prior approval has been given (requests need to be made in writing). Students will not receive full credit for the concert if they are not there for the entire duration of the evening. To assist families in this area, all concerts will end in a timely manner.

3. Students will sit with their ensemble for the duration of the performance. Students observed in the hallways or classrooms during a performance will receive disciplinary action.
4. If you do have an emergency and need to leave (or enter), out of respect for the performers and the other audience members, please only exit (or enter) after a piece is finished.
5. The use of any and all electronic devices is not permitted during a concert. Any electronic device seen during a concert will be confiscated.
6. There should be no talking while a group is performing or while anyone is addressing the audience.

This certifies that I have read and understand the policies set forth in the Band Handbook:

---

**Parent Signature**

---

**Student Signature**

## **CONTACT US**

**Matt Wooten**

**School – 753-4517**

**Cell – 609 7073**

**Kristin Ungaro**

**School – 244-3225 ext. 1053**

**Nicole Bullard**

**School – 244-3225 ext. 1134**