

Working in Unison

The responsibility of directing the programs and students is shared by just two teachers. Mrs. Jacobi Caldwell and Mrs. Pat Lee work together to cover the district's seven campuses each and every week day. Balancing multiple duties, the two lend credibility, professionalism, and great enthusiasm to this thriving program. Today, they work to serve over 190 students in orchestra.



Patricia Lee—Patricia (Pat) Lee is the first orchestra director for the KISD Orchestra Program and currently teaches strings to students in grades four through twelve. She began the program at the invitation

of Dr. Dan Troxell, KISD Superintendent, in the fall of 2004. A noted strings specialist, Lee came to KISD with over twenty years experience in directing award winning public school orchestra programs in Texas. Lee also serves as the Conductor Chair for the Hill Country Youth Orchestra and is the Kathleen C. Cailloux Director of Education for the Hill Country Youth Orchestra. Patricia Lee is also an active performer in the Kerrville community as a member of the Symphony of the Hills, and as the concert-master for many local musical productions at Playhouse 2000 and the Point Theater.



Jacobi Caldwell— Jacobi received a Bachelor of Music, Cum Laude, from University of Southern California, and has enjoyed a wide variety of musical endeavors. Caldwell was part of the USC String Project and attended the USC Conductor's Institute for several seasons. She has conducted with the South Carolina Philharmonic Youth Orchestras and in the late 90's was performing for Atlantic Records while pursuing her classical viola studies. She moved to Kerrville in 2000 and has been instrumental in the Hill Country Youth Orchestra. This is her 5th year as co-director.

DID YOU KNOW?

Students benefit from orchestra boasting the highest college scholarships and SAT scores from members.

KISD ORCHESTRA PROGRAMS

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Strings Attached

KISD'S Award Winning Orchestra Program Grades 4-12



Strings and Scales



- In 2004, Kerrville ISD introduces elementary orchestra to the Hill Country.

• In 2005, program grows to include 6th grade, then in natural progression to Hal Peterson Middle School and Tivy High School.



- In March of 2009, KISD orchestra wins Sweepstakes in only the fifth year of the program's existence.

- In March 2010, KISD orchestra earns second consecutive Sweepstakes award. The composite orchestra of 7th - 12th grade students competed at the varsity level.



- Today, the KISD Orchestra performs across the district and community and works closely with the Hill Country Youth Orchestra.

• Two students have been named All-State players and multiple students have been selected into the All-Region Orchestra.



Q & A

Do students need any previous experience? No. Students may start as beginners on any instrument and learn to read music appropriate for beginning orchestra.

What is the cost of instruments? Instruments can be rented or purchased from several local vendors at an affordable price. KISD has a supply of used instruments for loan should your child need a district-owned instrument.

Is enrollment open to any student? Orchestra is limited in size due to rehearsal space and scheduling. Students must be passing all classes and further criteria includes musical aptitude and interest, work/study habits, and self-discipline.

What can students expect as they “grow” through the program? All students begin with learning to handle and care for the instruments. Students learn position and reading music and rhythms. They move to familiar songs that help them play with relaxed confidence. It is NOT necessary to know how to read music before you begin. By the 6th grade, they learn ensemble skills and more complicated note-reading. By middle school, students are playing artistically challenging music and participating in UIL. At the high school level, students are playing and performing some of the world's greatest music and participating in chamber music, orchestral workshops, and attending master-classes with artist clinicians, as well as having the chance to audition for Region Honor orchestras and All-State.

What are other costs a family will incur? Additional costs range from \$50-75 per year for the following:

- Folding music stand
- Rosin for bow
- Replacement strings
- Uniform/Concert attire (4th - 6th grade students must purchase white shirts, black pants or skirt, and black shoes. Peterson and Tivy students receive formal concert-wear signed out each year by the district. A nominal cleaning fee is due at the beginning of the year.)



How much time should be dedicated to practice? Families should dedicate a

minimum of 30 minutes per day. At every level, the practice environment should be quiet and structured, yet stress free and enjoyable. Practicing at school with friends anywhere from 2 to 5 times a week can produce tremendous artistic results.

Still have questions? Give us call!