

FAQ's  
(Frequently Asked Questions)

## Our Students Speak Out

*"I can honestly say that being in the music program was the best part of my school years. Playing music made me feel so good and the times I spent with the other kids were the best."*

E.G., Senior, TZHS

*"I love playing the string bass because it helps keep everyone together"*

J.G., 8th grade, SOMS

*"I can't wait to take French Horn lessons next year...it's so cool and I'll get to play with all my other friends"*

B.Y., 3rd grade, WOS



Q: **"What instruments are taught in our music program?"**

A: Group instruction on all string instruments (violin, viola, cello and bass) are offered. Wind instruction is given on the flute, oboe, clarinet and alto sax. The Brass instruments include trumpet, French Horn, trombone and for students interested in learning the tuba, the first two years are usually spent on the baritone horn.

Q: **"What are the hardest instruments to learn?"**

A: Each instrument has its' own set of challenges. All instruments require patience in the very beginning and a commitment to practice on a regular basis. As yet, no one has figured out a way for immediate gratification in learning to play a musical instrument but most children find individual success and accomplishment with a moderate amount of individual work at home.

Q: **"What are the most popular instruments to study?"**

A: Actually there is a great deal of interest in all of the instruments. We ask that all those considering percussion as a choice think carefully about alternatives, as there is limited performing opportunity for this instrument by the very nature of its' role within the musical organization. In general, there is always room for most instruments but from experience, ***we have found that when the number exceeds more than a few percussionists in an ensemble, those students may lose interest because the role played by the percussion is***

Cottage Lane Instrumental Music  
Mr. William Hughes  
Ms. Lisa Kahn  
Mr. Jonathan Rossi  
Mr. Matthew Rotjan  
Mr. Charles Yassky  
>Mr. Russell Wagoner



## Instrumental Music at Cottage Lane School 2016-2017



**Please Return by:  
March 7**

## Welcome to Instrumental Music at Cottage Lane

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We are very happy to inform you that your child will have the opportunity to enroll in the Instrumental Music Program at Cottage Lane Elementary School. This program is offered to all incoming students. It's an excellent opportunity to enrich your child not only musically but as many recent studies have shown, a way to develop and enhance analytical, organizational and problem solving skills which will benefit them throughout their lives (Please see the SAT score chart in the center section). Beginning in the fall, all of the students will receive one group lesson each week. After mastery of the basic skills have been achieved, the students will also receive one ensemble rehearsal each week. Near the conclusion of the school year, there will be an in-school performance and one evening performance for their peers, family and community. This year's program is on **Wednesday June 8 at 7:30 pm at Tappan Zee HS**, and we encourage you to come and see the performance. It is our experience that children who practice and attend lessons regularly achieve the skills necessary to participate in the music program throughout their school years with great joy and a sense of personal accomplishment. The overwhelming majority of students in our program have found their years in orchestra, band and chorus to be an extremely positive and satisfying experience. Did we also mention that it's fun and a tremendously positive social experience?

In the current school year, over 67% of Cottage Lane is enrolled in the Instrumental Music Program.

### VERY IMPORTANT!!

You will be contacted during the **summer** and provided with instrument rental information and lesson schedules for the fall.

Thank you!

William Hughes, Jonathan Rossi,  
Matthew Rotjan, Lisa Kahn and Charles Yassky

### Lessons Will be Given on these Instruments

#### Strings

Violin, Viola, Cello & String Bass

#### Winds

Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Alto Sax, Trumpet, French Horn, Baritone, Trombone and Percussion\*  
(\*limited enrollment)

For More Information Please Contact:

[cyassky@socsd.org](mailto:cyassky@socsd.org)

### SAT Scores

Studies by the College Entrance Exam Board have shown that students who participate in music programs and classes have significantly higher scores on their SAT exams.

Verbal	2002	2004	2012
With Music	533	530	527
Without Arts	473	473	472
Math	2002	2004	2012
With Music	535	532	547
Without Arts	492	494	493

<http://www.menc.org/information/advocate/sat.html>

Sources: The College Board, Profile of College-Bound Seniors National Report for 2003, 2004, and 2012.

Instrumental Music Registration-2016/2017

Child's Name (Parent-**Please Print**):

Current Grade:

Address

Phone

Email **very important** PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Parent or Guardian Signature

Please Select 3 Instruments in Order of Preference. Very Important!! First Choice

1

2

3

Lesson times for Third grade is usually at 8:50-9:20.

Please Detach and Return

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