

Ponderosa High School Music Department

Directors:

Mrs. Taylor Sabado (Instrumental)

Mr. Santiago Sabado (Vocal)

Who are we?

The Ponderosa Music Department is home to many award-winning groups and musicians and serves over 200 students. The instrumental music program consists of the concert, symphonic, jazz, and marching bands as well as color guard and percussion ensemble. The vocal music program consists of the multiple traditional choirs and a vocal jazz ensemble. Our talented young students work extremely hard and spend hours in preparation for exciting performances both local and afar. The programs consistently bring home Superior ratings and high marks in all their performance endeavors. We also offer entry level and general music courses such as Beginning/Intermediate Instruments and Music Appreciation.

What's our Mission?

Our mission is to ensure that the skills necessary to become first-class musicians, performers, and leaders, are being developed by providing high quality music instruction as part of a well-rounded education.

What do we offer?

All our courses meet Graduation, CSU, and UC requirements. Some courses require an audition, previous experience, and some are geared towards new learners.

Classes for incoming 9th Grade students with experience (*Indicates Audition Required):

- Advanced Band: Concert Band (#0656)
- *Advanced Band: Symphonic/Marching Band (#0655)
- *Color Guard: students are enrolled in Symphonic/Marching Band (#0655)
- *Advanced A Cappella Choir II: Chamber Choir (#0674)

Classes for incoming 9th Grade students with no previous experience required:

- *Color Guard: students are enrolled in Symphonic/Marching Band (#0655)
- Treble Ensemble (#0660)
- Baritone Chorus (#0663)
- Beginning/Intermediate Instruments (#0653)
- Music Appreciation (#0671)

What if you do sports and other activities?

Music students at Ponderosa are active in sports, AP classes, service clubs, academic decathlon, and many other campus activities and clubs. The key is communication. The coaches, administration and music directors work hard to make sure you are successful in whatever you wish to pursue and are flexible.

How do I audition?

Auditions will be held in the spring. The directors will be coordinating with the middle school music teachers to set up audition times. If you are interested just email [Mrs. Sabado](#) or [Mr. Sabado](#).

Continued on back----->

Exciting Extra Curricular Music Opportunities!

- After School Jazz Band: We have an After school jazz band that rehearse after school on Thursdays for those who are not in the regular day jazz band. They attend many of the same festivals as the regular day Jazz Ensemble. Open to all students enrolled in a music course.
- Lunch and After School Jazz Combos: Students will have the opportunity to participate in small jazz groups.
- Pep Band: Supporting our athletics program through pumped up popular music!
- Winter Percussion: Marching Percussion competes during the winter in festivals across northern California. Auditions open to all students.
- Winter Guard: Color guard competes during the winter in festivals across northern California. Auditions open to all students.
- Vocal Jazz Ensemble: An auditioned group for advanced singers to sing the jazz style and perform in jazz festivals

Course Descriptions:

- Advanced Band: Concert Band (#0656): This is the class that all incoming freshmen should sign up for if they want to be in a traditional band setting. We perform several times throughout the year, both at school and at music festivals.
- Advanced Band: Symphonic/Marching Band (#0655): The first semester is spent as a marching band, performing at all home football games, field show competitions and other community events in the area. There are weeknight and weekend rehearsals/performances that are required. After marching season the marching band becomes the symphonic band. Acceptance will be based on playing ability and instrumentation needs.
 - Color Guard: Our award winning Color Guard is an integral part of the Marching Band and students are enrolled in that class. Those who do not play an instrument sign up for another class the second semester. Previous dance experience is recommended, but not required. The color guard provides a visual interpretation of the music using flags, props, and body movement/dance. In addition to the weekly class time, the Color Guard has one evening practice per week.
- Jazz Ensemble (#0652): This is an advanced class for saxophone, trumpet, trombone, and rhythm players (piano, bass, drums, guitar) with limited enrollment and acceptance by audition only. There are weeknight and weekend rehearsals/performances that are required.
- Beginning/Intermediate Instruments (#0653): This course is designed for students with an interest in learning to play or improving their skills on an instrument. Students may study woodwinds, brass, percussion, guitar, piano, electric bass or strings (violin, viola, cello, string bass).
- Treble Ensemble (#0660): Part singing for treble voice. Two, three, and four part music. For those with higher voices.
- Baritone Chorus (#0663): A class in vocal performance for the baritone or changing voice. For those with lower voices.
- Chamber Choir (#0674): Audition based ensemble. Three to eight part singing, a cappella, as well as accompanied, of advanced choral literature.
- Music Appreciation (#0671): A streamlined course that introduces students to the history, theory, and genres of music, from the most primitive surviving examples, through the classical to the most contemporary in the world at large. The course is offered in a two-semester format: The first semester covers primitive musical forms, classical music, and American jazz. The second semester presents the rich modern traditions, including: gospel, folk, soul, blues, Latin rhythms, rock and roll, and hip-hop.

Please use personal email when making contact. Middle school email address will block a reply
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