

Join ORCHESTRA!

Dear Parents:

I am pleased to announce the start of Elementary Orchestra for the 1999-2000 school year. Your child has shown an interest in learning to play a stringed instrument! This is an amazing opportunity for them to learn something so exciting and different, right at their own school! And the learning is free- all you need to do is provide them with the right materials. This letter will hopefully help you provide that easily and efficiently.

During the past few days, I have been showing stringed instruments to the 5th and 6th graders, so they can see and hear the instruments of the string family, and what those instruments can do. *VIOLIN*, *VIOLA*, and *CELLO* are offered in elementary orchestra, and will meet on **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays starting Monday, Sept. 13.** I teach at three elementaries, plus Totem Junior High, so depending on where your son or daughter attends school will depend on what time orchestra is:

Adelaide Elementary:	8:25-9:10 (before school, buses will be provided)
Woodmont Elementary:	10:30-11:15
Mark Twain Elementary:	3:00-3:45

Orchestra students will need for class:

_____ **Instrument** in good working condition

_____ **CELLO** players will need a **rockstop**, which should be provided by the music store when you receive the instrument. **VIOLIN** and **VIOLA** players will need a **shoulder pad** of some type, which I will provide for them. Fancy shoulder pads are great, but not necessary; and certain styles do not work for all players.

_____ **Rosin** for the bow (should also be provided) and a **small, soft cloth** for cleaning

_____ **Folding music stand** for home practice

_____ **Orchestra book** for class: **ALL FOR STRINGS, BOOK 1**

Parents are encouraged to use the store's rent-to-own program. This gives parents the time and opportunity to pay off a valuable instrument, and gives the student a chance to find out if the instrument is right for them. Monthly rental fees vary, depending on the instrument.

