



“Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord.” Eph. 5:19

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the music program at SGCS! The music program has been one of the highlights of our school for several decades. It is an honor and a privilege to continue the tradition of teaching students to glorify God with instrument and voice. The program continues to provide an enjoyable choral and instrumental experience for everyone. Students with a range of musical ability join together each week to learn how to create beautiful music in a nurturing, Christ-centered environment. Praise God!

San Gabriel Christian School choral and instrumental ensembles study a wide range of repertoire and perform regularly throughout the year. Rehearsal attendance is expected and of utmost importance, as it equips each student with the skills needed to become a sensitive and knowledgeable musician. Personal practice time outside of school is required for all student musicians. A daily practice time builds confidence, trains muscle memory, and fosters consistency with faster results.

I am happy to announce that Mrs. Anna Young will be directing both the Prep Choir and the Senior Choir this year. Additionally, Miss Grace Gates (piano and voice teacher) will continue to offer private lessons on campus. Please reach out to them directly with questions regarding choir or private lessons; their contact information is included in this packet.

I am also excited to share that we will continue to offer two levels of year-long piano ensembles.

Kindly sign and return the attached documents to the office by Friday, September 5th so that I can make arrangements for each class. As a reminder, instrument rentals and class priority are given on a first come, first served basis. Please feel free to reach out with any questions. It is a privilege and my joy to make music together with your children. I am looking forward to a wonderful, musical school year!

Thomas Lovasz, Music Director
tlovasz@sangabrielchristian.org

CHORAL PROGRAM

Mrs. Anna Young, Choir Director: ayoung@sangabrielchristian.org

PREP CHOIR:

Mondays, 2:45-3:30pm (Grades TK-2)

Rehearsals begin on Monday, September 8, 2025.

The Preparatory Choir is specially designed for young musicians. Students will be introduced to group singing through fun and educational songs, the fundamentals of instrument care (their voice!), and ear training. This choir will participate in our 2 main music department concerts during the school year.

*Please send a snack for your student as there will be a short break before class begins.

SENIOR CHOIR:

Wednesdays & Fridays, 2:45-3:30pm (Grades 3-8)

Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, September 10, 2025.

The Senior Choir provides singers with an opportunity to grow in their knowledge and experience of vocal and performance techniques as an ensemble. Repertoire is carefully chosen to enhance students' musical range and ability, and encourage students to seek to honor the Lord through music and performing for others.

This choir will participate in 4 special chapels and performances, and our 2 main music department concerts during the school year.

*Please send a snack for your student as there will be a short break before class begins.

PIANO PROGRAM

BEGINNING PIANO:

Fridays, 2:30-3:30pm (Grades 1-2)

Rehearsals begin on Friday, September 12, 2025.

Students will become familiar with the piano as they learn to identify all note names on the keyboard, practice proper piano hand shape and gestures, and learn pieces that use finger numbers to guide them. Students will explore significant composers for the piano, and listen and engage with famous works for the piano. This class will allow the student to explore the piano and start on a trajectory toward continued musical growth. The Beginning Piano Ensemble will participate in the 2 main music department concerts. This class has a maximum of 16 students.

INTERMEDIATE PIANO:

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1:15-2:00pm (Grades 3-5)

Rehearsals begin on Tuesday, September 9, 2025.

Students will learn the fundamentals of piano playing and learn pieces in both individual and group contexts. Through rhythmic, pitch, and technical exercises, students will build a foundation of pianistic technique. Students will learn pieces by rote (listening and imitation) and reading, and will play pieces for solo and

ensemble playing. The Intermediate Piano Ensemble will participate in the 2 main music department concerts. This class has a maximum of 16 students.

*This class will meet during the last 15 minutes of math class (homework prep) and continue through afternoon recess.

INDIVIDUAL LESSONS:

On-campus private lessons can be arranged directly with the instructor and are available on a first come, first served basis. Please contact the instructor for more information and for her availability.

Miss Grace Gates (Piano and Voice): gracekgates@gmail.com

STRINGS PROGRAM

BEGINNING STRINGS:

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:45-3:30pm (Grades K-2)

Rehearsals begin on Tuesday, September 9, 2025.

Students in Beginning Strings will develop their musical ear and instrumental skill through lessons based on the Suzuki Method and its repertoire. Students will practice playing individually and as a group in preparation for more advanced ensembles. Students may choose to play the violin, viola, or cello. Beginning Strings will participate in various music events on campus, including music department concerts. This class is designed for students ranging from having no prior musical experience to those with up to 2 years of string instruction.

*Please send a snack for your student as there will be a short break before class begins.

PRELUDE STRINGS:

Mondays & Wednesdays, 1:15-2:00pm (Grades 3-5)

Rehearsals begin on Monday, September 8, 2025.

Prelude Strings is an extension of Beginning Strings. Students will continue to develop their musical ear and instrumental skills in more challenging ways. Instruction is based on the Suzuki Method and the method book, Learning Together, which consists of sequential unison and harmonic repertoire for string instruments of the orchestra. Prelude Strings will participate in various music events on campus, including the two music department concerts. This class is designed for students who have more than 2 years of prior string instruction or by special audition with Mr. Lovasz.

*This class will meet during the last 15 minutes of math class (homework prep) and continue through afternoon recess.

STRING ENSEMBLE:

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:00-2:45pm (Grades 6-8)

Rehearsals begin on Tuesday, September 9, 2025.

Students in String Ensemble will continue to develop musicianship and music literacy through personal and group practice. Students will analyze various composers, historical periods, and styles of music. The String Ensemble will participate in various campus music events and school functions. This class is designed for students who have more than 3 years of prior string instruction or by special audition with Mr. Lovasz.

*This class is a middle school elective that will meet during 7th period.



Music Department Calendar

September

- Friday, 5 Enrollment & Rental Forms Deadline
- Monday, 8 Prep Choir, Prelude Strings: Rehearsals Begin
- Tuesday, 9 Piano 2, Beginning Strings, String Ensemble: Rehearsals Begin
- Wednesday, 10 Senior Choir: Rehearsals Begin
- Friday, 12 Piano 1: Rehearsals Begin

October

- Friday, 3 Piano 1: No Rehearsal (Minimum Day)
- Wednesday, 22 Senior Choir & String Ensemble: Grandparents' Day Performance/Assembly

November

- W-F, 5-7 All Ensembles: No Rehearsal (Minimum Day & Parent-Teacher Conferences)
- Tuesday, 11 All Ensembles: No Rehearsal (Veteran's Day)
- M-F, 24-28 All Ensembles: No Rehearsal (Thanksgiving Break)

December

- Monday, 8 All Ensembles: Dress Rehearsal, 2:45-4:30pm (Prep Choir dismissed at 3:30pm)

- Friday, 12 Choral & Instrumental Christmas Concert, 6:30pm
Call Time: TBA

Note: Ensembles will not meet after December 12. Rehearsals will resume after Christmas break.

- Thursday, 18 TK-3rd Grade Christmas Musical, 6:30pm
Call Time: TBA

- Friday, 19 Senior Choir: All-School Christmas Chapel, 8:15am
Call Time: 8:05 am in the Sanctuary

January

Tuesday, 6	Beginning Strings, String Ensemble, Piano 2: Rehearsals Resume
Wednesday, 7	Senior Choir, Prelude Strings: Rehearsals Resume
Friday, 9	Piano 1: Rehearsals Resume
Monday, 12	Prep Choir: Rehearsal Resumes
Monday, 19	Prep Choir, Prelude Strings: No Rehearsal (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

February

Monday, 16	Prep Choir, Prelude Strings: No Rehearsal (Presidents' Day)
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March

Friday, 6	Senior Choir, Piano 1: No Rehearsal (Professional Development Day)
Friday, 13	Senior Choir, Piano 1: No Rehearsal (Minimum Day)

April

Friday, 3	Senior Choir: All-School Easter Chapel, 8:15am Call Time: 8:05am in the Sanctuary
M-F, 6-10	All Ensembles: No Rehearsal (Easter Break)
Friday, 24	Senior Choir, Piano 1: No Rehearsal (Minimum Day)

May

Monday, 11	All Ensembles: Dress Rehearsal, 2:45-4:30pm (Prep Choir dismissed at 3:30pm)
Thursday, 14	Choral & Instrumental Spring Concert, 6:30pm Call Time: TBA <i>Note: Ensembles will not rehearse after May 14th. Happy Summer!</i>
Thursday, 21	6th-8th Grade Spring Musical: "Cinderella", 6:30pm

June

Thursday, 4	Senior Choir: 8th Grade Graduation Performance Call Time: TBA
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Please Note: Students are expected to attend all rehearsals, special events, and performances. Absences due to personal illness or emergency may be excused as outlined in the SGCS Parent Handbook.

Concert Attire

Instrumental Ensembles Formal Concert Attire

Gentlemen:

White collar long-sleeved shirt
Black dress pants and black belt
Long black tie
Black dress shoes and black socks

Ladies:

Black formal dress with black tights **or**
black dress pants and white blouse with sleeves
Flat or low-heeled black shoes
Hair up (ponytail or bun)

Prep Choir Formal Concert Attire

Gentlemen:

White polo shirt
Navy blue pants
Nice dress shoes

Ladies:

White polo shirt
Navy blue pants or skirt
Nice dress shoes

Senior Choir Formal Concert Attire

Gentlemen:

White collar long-sleeved shirt
Black pants and black belt
Long black tie
Black socks and black shoes

Ladies:

Black formal dress with black tights **or**
black dress pants and white blouse with sleeves
Flat or low-heeled black shoes
Hair up (ponytail or bun)

All Ensembles Chapel Performance Attire

Gentlemen:

SGCS music department t-shirt
Denim pants
Close-toed shoes

Ladies:

SGCS music department t-shirt
Denim pants or skirt
Close-toed shoes

Please Note: The San Gabriel Christian School dress code will remain in place for all concerts and music events, *both on campus and off campus*. Please refer to the SGCS Student Handbook for specific guidelines.



Music Program Enrollment Form

Please return this form to the school office by **Friday, September 5, 2025**.
All fees will be billed by the school once the enrollment forms have been processed.

Student's Name _____ Grade _____

Parent Name _____

Parent Phone Number _____

Parent E-mail Address _____

Student Shirt Size Youth S Youth M Youth L Youth XL
 Adult S Adult M Adult L Adult XL

I would like my child to participate in the following ensemble(s):

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prep Choir (TK-2) | Yearly Fee: \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Choir (3-8) | Yearly Fee: \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beginning Strings (K-2) | Yearly Fee: \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prelude Strings (3-5) | Yearly Fee: \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> String Ensemble (6-8) | Yearly Fee: \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Piano 1 (1-2) | Yearly Fee: \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Piano 2 (3-5) | Yearly Fee: \$125 |

* The yearly fee includes the SGCS music t-shirt and attire rentals. It does not include instrument rental. Due to the school's limited rental availability, school instruments will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Rental stores are available upon request. Please see the rental agreement form for additional information.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____



Instrument Rental Agreement Form

Student Name _____

Grade _____ Ensemble _____

Instrument _____ Tag Number _____

- A \$125 fee to use a school-owned instrument for the school year will be charged through FACTS.
 - By signing this form, the parents and student assume liability for the instrument.
 - Upon receiving the instrument, please examine it thoroughly, noting scratches, dents, cracks, etc.
 - Any damage to the instrument while on issue to the student is the sole responsibility of the parents.
 - The user fee covers *only* the use of the instrument. It does not cover damage repair. The school will assume responsibility for general maintenance, which will be determined by the teacher.
 - Please contact Mr. Lovasz if the instrument needs any repairs.
 - In the event of malfunction or damage during the school year, the parents will be financially responsible for any necessary repairs to the instrument.
 - The instrument must be returned to the school on or before May 30, 2025 in the same condition in which it was issued.
 - Rental extensions through summer break will be available for returning students.
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Parent Agreement

I understand that a \$125.00 user fee will be charged to my FACTS account for my child's instrument. I agree to the above terms. I understand that I am financially liable for any damage (accidental or otherwise) while the instrument is under contract.

Print Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Students, please carefully read the following:

- Proper care includes keeping the instrument in its case when not in use and keeping the instrument from extreme heat. This means that the instrument cannot be left in the car for any length of time.
- Proper care also includes wiping down the instrument with a soft cloth after each use to prevent the buildup of rosin, sweat, or saliva.
- The instrument should only be played and handled by the student. At no time are others, including friends and siblings, allowed to touch or play the instrument.

Student Agreement

I agree to keep my instrument in the best condition possible.
I have read and understand the rules above.

Print Student Name

Student Signature

Upon visual inspection, I have noted the following regarding condition of the instrument:

Please return this signed document to the school office by **Friday, September 5, 2025.**