

Welcome to the St. Thomas Aquinas Music Department!

Dear Parents,

We personally invite all students who are attending St. Thomas Aquinas to become involved in the Music Department. Music is an inspiration to all and learning this art will only benefit their high school experience.

Students enrolled in music courses and extracurriculars will learn valuable discipline skills, but at the same time they will have fun and develop an enjoyment for learning.

Students will develop skills used in life as music demands organization, working collaboratively with others and discipline to the piece being played.

Please encourage your child to join and thank you for your support of the music department.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Verhoeven

Mr. Taraschi

Music Courses at St. Thomas Aquinas

Instrumental Music

AMU101 (Grade 9)

AMU201 (Grade 10)

AMU3M1 (Grade 11)

AMU4M1 (Grade 12)



Guitar

AMG201 (Grade 10)



Vocal Music

AMV201 (Grade 10)

AMV301 (Grade 11)



Music Courses at St. Thomas Aquinas

Instrumental Music

When students take instrumental music, they will learn to read music notation through playing a band instrument such as flute, sax, trumpet, horn, tuba, percussion, etc. They will also learn how to rehearse in an ensemble. Students learning a band instrument should continue their studies on their instrument by enrolling in music courses throughout their four years at STA and by joining the afterschool music programs.

Guitar

When students take guitar, they will learn how to 'bridge the gap' between reading TAB and musical notation. In addition, they will develop the fundamentals of guitar technique and they will also learn skills in composition.

Vocal Music

When students take vocal music, they will learn how to read musical notation, practice the fundamentals of vocal technique, and also develop confidence as an individual performer. It is highly recommended that students who are taking vocal music join the STA Singers club in order to improve their voice by exposing themselves to maximum rehearsal time.

Benefits of Music Education

Early musical training helps develop brain areas involved in language and reasoning. It is thought that brain development continues for many years after birth. Recent studies have clearly indicated that musical training physically develops the part of the left side of the brain known to be involved with processing language and can actually wire the brain's circuits in specific ways. Linking familiar songs to new information can also help imprint information on young minds.

Music study enhances teamwork skills and discipline. In an ensemble, all players must work together harmoniously towards a single goal, the performance, and must commit to learning music, attending rehearsals, and practicing.

Music study develops skills that are necessary in the workplace. It focuses on "doing," as opposed to observing, and teaches students how to perform. Employers are looking for multi-dimensional workers with the sort of flexible and supple intellects that music education helps to create.

After School Programs!

Concert Band

Instructor: Mrs. Verhoeven



Jazz Ensemble

Instructor: Mrs. Verhoeven



Singers Club

Instructor: Mrs. Verhoeven



After School Programs!

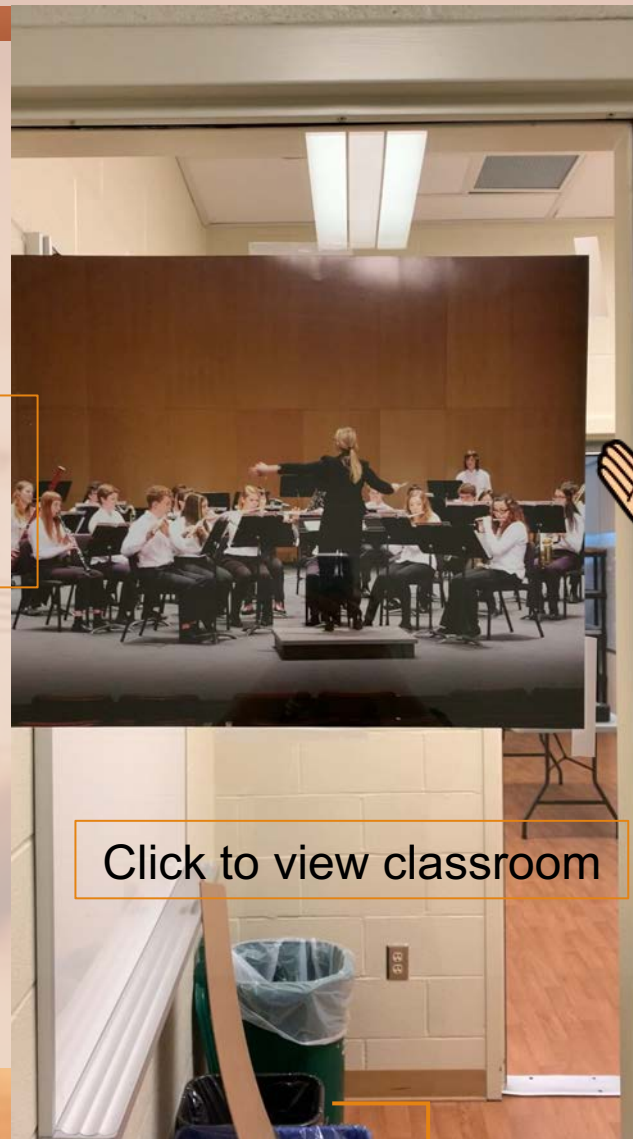


ROCK Club with Mr. Taraschi



Check out the music room!

WHEN YOU ENTER THIS
CLASSROOM...
You are *musicians*.
You are **PERFORMERS**.
You are *creators*.
You are *leaders*.
You are **explorers**.
You are *risk takers*.
You are **TEAMMATES**.
You are *important*.
You are *loved*.
You are **SPECIAL**.
You are *respected*.
You are *a friend*.
You are **THE REASON...**
I AM HERE — MRS. VERHOEVEN



See you soon!



**MUSIC GIVES A SOUL
TO THE UNIVERSE,
WINGS TO THE MIND,
FLIGHT TO THE
IMAGINATION, AND
LIFE TO EVERYTHING.**

PLATO