

SPRAGUE ORCHESTRA 2016-17

A message from our new director, Mary Alice McCann

Dear Sprague Orchestra Families,

I am absolutely thrilled to be here at Sprague High School! I come to you from the Boston area where I spent many years studying, teaching, and performing the full and string orchestra literature as a cellist, teacher, and conductor. My bio and photo will soon be posted on spragueorchestra.com, but wanted to share a little bit about myself here. At this point in my career, my greatest passion is sharing this vast cultural legacy with high school students. I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to help build the fine orchestra programs in Winchester and Wellesley, Massachusetts as well as in West Hartford, Connecticut. Now I am honored to have been chosen to continue the great traditions and high standards of the Sprague Orchestra Program, following in the footsteps of the greatly-loved and highly-regarded Stephen Nelson. I relish the charge of continuing to challenge your students, who in my few weeks of working with them have shown me tremendous potential and enthusiasm. My vision for them includes introducing them to a broad scope of orchestra literature, including more contemporary works in addition to the great classics. I will continue to set the bar high by providing music that offers technical and intellectual challenges, but also aim to expand each student's expressive capacity – to nurture an increasingly sophisticated and personal aesthetic sense. All aspects of music making offer us infinite opportunity for growth. My hope is also to lead students to rich music making experiences, rehearsing and performing great collaborative music that will expand their creative horizons and add meaning to their lives.

I look forward to getting to know you and your children!

Very best,
Mary Alice McCann

First Concert Attire

October 27, 2016 is our first orchestra concert. The attire for this concert is all black. Ladies please keep skirts and dresses below knees.

Charms

Your student has been given a form of how to sign up for Charms. If you have not received this form or your student has lost it, please visit the site below. Sign up for this as soon as possible. The profile asks for a great deal of personal info. It is really just necessary to input your child's instrument (violin, viola, cello, bass), best email addresses to send information to and a best phone number to reach parents.

<https://sites.google.com/site/spragueorchestra/my-forms>

Future Concert Attire

For our future concerts, the men are expected to wear tuxedos and the women are expected to wear dresses. The tuxedos and dress information can be found at: <https://tuxedowholesaler.com/index.php/>. Purchase of a tux is the responsibility of each student's parents. You may order from the site listed above, or choose your own source. One small detail for men: Camerata members wear burgundy bow ties and

cummerbunds. Symphony Strings, String Ensemble, and Advanced Symphony Strings wear black bow ties and cummerbunds. This year sizing of the dresses will fall upon the parents. Parents of girls, your student has been given a form on the sizing information that is required. If you need help with sizing, this link will help you.

<https://tuxedowholesaler.com/fittingvideo>

Dress Costs

\$75.00 per student for dress (This includes cost of dress, shipping, and hemming.)

Fair Share Fee

All students are to pay the fair share fee of \$50. Once this fee is received, your student will receive this year's Sprague Orchestra tee-shirt. You may turn in one check for the total fees made out to Sprague Orchestra Boosters.

Should you have any questions, below is the list of current board members:

- Francisco Zavala (Co-Chair) - vidalocafz@msn.com
- Yuri Silver (Board Secretary) – yurisilver611@gmail.com
- David Souza (Co-Chair) - David@powercompass.com
- Lori Souza (Treasurer) - lori.amazingocean@gmail.com
- Nicole Lewis (Board Member) – lewmart7477@msn.com



Sprague Orchestra Dress Requirements: Due: October 27, 2016

Name of student				
Orchestra(s)				
Bust				
Waist				
Hip				
Shoulder to floor (with bare feet)				
For hemming: will you be wearing (circle 1)	FLATS	1" Heels	2" Heels	3" Heels

Dress Cost: \$75.00