

Dear Third – Eighth Grade Families,

Welcome back for another school year! Gateway Organization Milwaukee, a local non-profit organization, is happy to return to your child's school with our ever-popular Band and Orchestra Program. Students who sign up for lessons will receive:

- A 20-minute private lesson once a week for 30 weeks throughout the school year. (Private lessons are scheduled during the school day and rotate weekly so students do not miss the same 20-minute block of time each week. **If your child has a class that they cannot miss please communicate this to their band or orchestra teacher at the time of registration.**)
- A weekly 45-minute group class, either before or after school.*
- The opportunity to perform at various school functions throughout the year.*

*Due to the ongoing Covid19 pandemic, group classes and participation in school concerts will be at the discretion of the leadership teams at each member school and the GoMKE Board of Directors.

Orchestra lessons are available to students grades 3-8.

Band lessons are available to students grades 4-8.

The cost of lessons is \$450 for the school year. Three payment plan options are available: Yearly, Semesterly, and Monthly. It is expected that students who sign up for lessons will commit to participating for the entire school year. Payments should be made to **GoMKE, Inc.**

Online registration is available via the links below. **Registration is due by Wednesday, September 7.**

- Orchestra registration: <https://forms.gle/Vk7d7Vh4SW9s6efD8>

- Band registration: <https://forms.gle/7vsi7hKG5miEU2iBA>

Lessons will begin the week of September 12. Tuition, either full or the first installment, is due at or before the first lesson. Your child's band or orchestra teacher will be in contact after September 9 with lesson schedules and payment information.

For the 2022-2023 school year partial scholarships will be available to students who are eligible for Free and Reduced Meals as determined by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. If you qualify for a scholarship and are interested in applying for one please indicate as such on the online registration form. **A scholarship application will be emailed to you and will be due by Friday, September 9.**

Band students will need an instrument and a music stand. New band students will need a copy of Essential Elements Book 1 specific to their instrument. Returning students should bring all of their old books to their first lesson.

Orchestra students will need an instrument. **Please note that orchestra students need to be sized for their instrument. Please take your child with you to rent a string instrument so they can be properly sized.** New orchestra students will need different books depending on their grade in school - your child's orchestra teacher will be in contact with which book(s) they will need as soon as possible after registration. Returning students should bring all of their old books to their first lesson.

Instruments are available for rental at several music stores throughout Milwaukee, including:

- White House of Music (online rentals and school delivery are available at <https://whitehouseofmusic.com/musical-instrument-rental/>)
- Korinthian Violins (<http://www.korinthianviolins.com/>) - violins and violas only!
- Brass Bell Music store (<https://www.brassbellmusic.com/>)

A limited number of scholarship instruments are available for rental through GoMKE for \$40 for the school year.

We are very grateful for the opportunity to continue to teach as part of your school community. Please feel free to get in touch with any questions you may have.

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