

**ALF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
PARENT MEETING INFORMATION SHEET
2023-2024**

- 1. Information:** Consult the ALF Website for all information and updates.
<http://www.alflintridge.org>. Questions: programs@alflintridge.org, (818) 790-2211 or Mary Carney at: instrumentalmusic@alflintridge.org
or Instructors: email addresses are on the website (staff) and on handout.

- 2. Communication:** The primary means of communication for ALF and the Instructors will be the parent email/s used at Registration. Most emails will come from either instrumentalmusic@alflintridge.org or programs@alflintridge.org. Be careful that you don't unsubscribe. All general emails that are sent from ALF Music will also be posted on the website.

- 3. Attendance:** Regular attendance is very important for your child's success. If your child needs to miss class, please let the instructor know. Your child should be prepared for class with his/her instrument & music. See the Student Handbook on the ALF website for more information.

- 4. Instruments:** ALF has a limited inventory of instruments available to rent for \$250 for the program year; this fee will be refunded if there isn't an instrument available for your child. Instrument rentals must be pre-ordered during registration. Rental Pick-up Day is Saturday, September 9th in the parking lot of Lanterman Auditorium. String students need to be present to pick up their instruments because they need to be matched with the correct instrument size. You may also rent from a music store or choose to purchase (not recommended for Beginners, or Strings, which are size specific.). We do not offer percussion rentals but they are available at music stores and online. Visit our website or check the Student Handbook for suggestions on acquiring instruments.

- 5. Instrument Groups:**
 - Band Instruments
 - Woodwinds: Clarinet, Flute, Oboe, Saxophone
 - Brass: Baritone, French Horn, Trombone, Trumpet
 - Percussion: Drums, Bells
 - String Instruments
 - Cello, Viola, Violin

Beginning students have very little or no experience with an instrument. Advanced students (Concert Band, Percussion 2, and String Orchestra) are in their second or third year with ALF or with permission from the instructor. This year we have added a Percussion 2 class for students who have completed a year of percussion.

- 6. Events:** We plan to have 2 concerts: December and May. Prior to the concerts we will offer Sectional classes where the students from all 3 schools gather to practice by instrument. Fall Sectionals are listed on the schedule. Additional practices may be added if feasible. Sectionals and additional practices will be held at ALF. You will receive email reminders and additional details closer to the dates.
- 7. Calendar:** The calendar is posted on the website and is kept updated. It will show when classes are canceled due to school holidays.
- 8. Practice @ Home:** It is important for students to practice in order to learn new skills and progress; **class time alone is not enough.** Instructors will give students assignments and help them learn how to practice effectively. More information can be found in the Student Handbook. You may always contact the instructor for assistance.
- 9. Curriculum:** Every student will receive an Essential Elements Book. Beginners use Book 1; Advanced students (Concert Band/Percussion 2 & String Orchestra) use Book 2. Students who already have Book 2 will not need a new book. Instructors may supplement with other materials. If your child loses his/her book, you will need to replace it. They can be purchased at a music store or online.
- 10. Essential Elements Student Resources:** On the back cover of each book there is a unique Student Activation Code to log into the Essential Elements website. Through the website, students can access the audio of all the songs in the book, so they can record themselves playing with the song track. There are also helpful videos, and pdfs of additional music to play. Students are strongly encouraged to use this tool which will allow them to progress more quickly.
- 11. Student Handbook:** The Student Handbook is available on the ALF website and can be downloaded. Topics include information about: ALF, Instructors and their emails, Schedules, Calendar, Choosing an Instrument, Attendance, Practice, Behavior Standards and FAQs. It is a valuable resource.
- 12. Registration for Class & Rentals:** Closes Wednesday, September 6th at 5:00 pm. The fee is \$250 for the year for class or rental. There are no refunds unless the class is canceled. Register at <https://alflintridge.org/programs/instrumental-music/>