

2020-21 Instrumental Music Course Descriptions

Beginning Guitar – No musical experience is required for this class! This year-long class is designed for students who have either very little or no experience playing guitar, or who may play using guitar tablature or chord symbols but do not know how to read standard music notation. Students will learn to read and play music and chords. Finger picking, chord strumming, and some rock techniques will be taught in a wide variety of music. Students **do not** participate in concerts for this class. Brea Junior High may provide a limited number of instruments and supplies for students' use.

Intermediate Band – This is a year-long class for designed for students who have at least one year of experience playing a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. This is the recommended class for students who have played an instrument throughout elementary school or who have completed Beginning Band at BJH or at another school. Students should already have some basic skills in reading music. Students will continue to develop music-reading skills and more advanced playing techniques, and will perform at a variety of concerts, competitions, and events throughout the school year. Intermediate Band will prepare students for future participation in Concert Band, as well as high school band. Brea Junior High may provide a limited number of instruments and supplies for students' use. Join the BJH instrumental music family!

Concert Band – Concert Band is the most advanced band at Brea Junior High, and students are placed in this class either after successful completion of Intermediate Band, successful audition, or recommendation of the teacher. In this year-long class, students will learn advanced music reading skills and playing techniques on a band instrument, and will perform extensively throughout the school year. The Concert Band regularly represents Brea Junior High at concert festivals and competitions across southern California, including an annual performance at Disneyland or Knott's Berry Farm. Auditions take place the June of the previous school year. Concert Band will prepare students for participation in high school band. Brea Junior High may provide a limited number of instruments and supplies for students' use. Join the BJH instrumental music family!

Jazz Band – Jazz Band is an advanced level band at Brea Junior High for students who are competent on saxophone, trumpet, trombone, or a rhythm instrument (piano, guitar, string bass, drum set). Students are placed in this class either after successful audition or recommendation of the teacher. In this year-long class, students will learn advanced musical skills and playing techniques in the jazz style as well as improvisation. Jazz Band will perform extensively throughout the school year. Jazz Band will prepare students for participation in the award winning BOHS Swingin' Wildcat Jazz Band. Brea Junior High may provide a limited number of instruments and supplies for students' use. **Jazz Band must be taken concurrently with Concert Band or Intermediate Band.**

Beginning Orchestra — No musical experience is required for this class! This year-long course is designed for students who have either very little or no experience playing a string instrument (violin, viola, cello, string bass). Students will learn the basics of reading music and playing a string instrument, and will perform at a variety of concerts and events throughout the school year. Beginning Orchestra will prepare students for future participation in either the BJH Advanced Orchestra or high school orchestra. Brea Junior High may provide a limited number of instruments and supplies for students' use. Join the BJH instrumental music family!

Advanced Orchestra – Advanced Orchestra is the most advanced string orchestra class at Brea Junior High, and students are placed in this class either after successful completion of Beginning Orchestra or recommendation of the teacher. In this year-long class, students will learn advanced music reading skills and playing techniques on a string instrument, and will perform at concert festivals and competitions across southern California. Advanced Orchestra will prepare students for participation in high school orchestra. Brea Junior High may provide a limited number of instruments and supplies for students' use. Join the BJH instrumental music family!