

Too Hot to Handel

Strings sound their symphonies

Orchestra leads students from learning a new instrument to winning medals in the AISD Solo and Ensemble competition. Directed by Mr. Jarrott and Ms. Berecek, Kealing's Orchestra is ranked one of the best in the state. Our school orchestras have had a 9 year streak of receiving perfect scores in UIL and this year would make it a decade, ramming up the pressure on each and every violinist, violist, cellist, and bassist.

In each of the four orchestras, "orch dorchs" grow into better and better musicians until they are finally ready to join the ever esteemed Symphony Orchestra. Andre Plackis (8), a three year orchestra participant and a member of the Symphony Orchestra, said, "Orchestra is one of the best fine arts ever. It is a great way to express yourself without wasting your breath."

In other orchestras such as the

Philharmonic Orchestra, musicians are already exploring complex pieces. Ari Wagen (7), a violinist in the Philharmonic Orchestra said, "It's not just about playing music, but about bonding and working together as a team and a group of friends. We spend the mornings before school together, sometimes practicing, sometimes talking. We're a diverse group of people brought together by our love of music."

But although practices are fun, it's the outcome that counts. In Kealing's periodic orchestra concerts, students are given an outlet to show off what they learned. In the Philharmonic Orchestra, Ethan Huie (8) a cellist said, "Orchestra is really fun and fulfilling. The concerts are really exciting because we get an opportunity to let out what we learned, especially because we get to perform in front of our parents and peers."

Story by Sarah Chieng and Claire Rudy

An Ensemble Cast

During the winter concert, Orchestra Director, Dave Jarrott leads by example. All three of the competitive orchestras take advantage of school concerts as an opportunity to showcase their talents, as well as to practice performing for an audience. "It's fun knowing how to play an instrument," Rylie Jones said.

Photo by Sylvia Reed



Photo by Amanda Eller

Take a Bow!

1. Imagining the melody in her head, Laura Butler(7) practices on her violin.
2. With their eyes on the director, Miguel Liu(7) and Crystal Zhou(6) rehearse a piece for their upcoming UIL competition.
3. Heads held high, Kaya Fagerstrom(7), Sophia Ayer(7), and Fritzie Schwenker(8) play their violins with intense focus.
4. Rocking out in Rockestra, Elias Little(8) performs hip and modern tunes, different from orchestra's classical selections.



Photo by Megan Ramsey



Photo by Mira Bella French

Photo by Mira Bella French

Sing a Song

Unlike Orchestra or Band, choir students only need their voices to wow an audience. Preparing for their winter concert, all choir groups works during advisories to perfect their singing extravaganza. Led by Ms. Parks, the choir groups sings many traditional songs, harmonizing their different pitches into enchanting melodies including 'Let it Snow' and 'Carol of the Bells'. Sam Buford (7) said, "In choir, you can join a part of something bigger than yourself."

But what is the bigger picture? Keyu Chen (7) said, "There are lots of people in choir and it helps you make a lot of friends." Similarly, Cora Dale (7) said, "It's fun to sing with a group of people that will not make fun of you."

Continuing the family fun, choir hosted the fall festival which had a great turnout! Sounds like all together, choir is not only one big voice, but they are also one big family.

Story by Matilda Krell

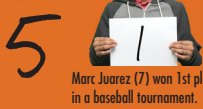
30. ORCHESTRA/CHOIR

Aytahn Ben-Avi (7) learned to ride a bike when he was 4.



Gilberto Trevino (6) has 1 dog and 1 sister.

Adriana Olvera (6) has 5 cousins.



Marc Juarez (7) won 1st place in a baseball tournament.

Catherine Weisbrodt (6) has 1 pair of converse.



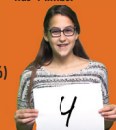
Tayah Villanueva (6) liked to draw when she was 6.

Jaquay Edmondson (8) has 0 dogs.



Jhalayne Williams (6) went to Six Flags when he was 9.

Sophia Takvorian (7) has 4 limbs.



Andrew Delgado (8) has 3 dogs.



Alexus Moux (6) went out of town for the first time when she was 3.



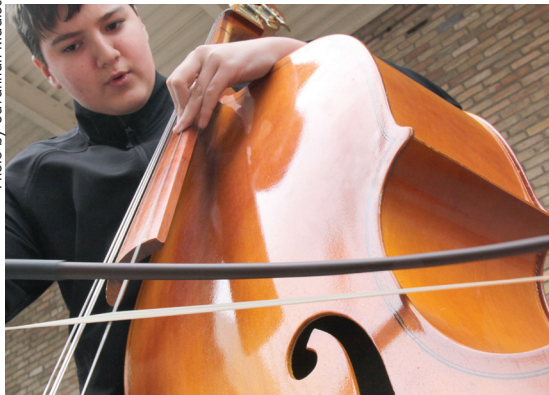
Alexandra Eusebi has had 5 dogs in her life.





Bring out the Bass: Kody Cardamone

Photo by Savannah Riddles



Playing an instrument's hard enough without it being the same size as you. But for double bass player Kody Cardamone, lugging his six feet and twenty-five pounds of musical instrument around has become a part of his daily routine, and he wouldn't trade it for anything. "I like it because its very versatile and I can play a little bit of everything." the eighth grader says. Keep pluckin' those strings Kody!

Story by Claire Rudy

We all know what a capella is. If you've haven't seen "Pitch Perfect" by now, you've been under a rock. For eighth grader Caroline Hemphill, she doesn't need to watch a movie to see a capella; she's in an a capella group herself. "We have to try to make the noises the instruments make, but we always end up arguing over the different instrumental parts. It always ends up all good, though." Caroline said. Awe, Sing em', Hornets.

Story by Lucia Melendez

A Whole Lot of Treble: Caroline Hemphill



Photo by Savannah Riddles

"In choir, you can join a part of something bigger than yourself."



Harmonizing Hornets

1. Sitting in the choir room, Alex Austin-Puhr(7), Sofia Buntz (6), and Georgia McLeod(6) study music in the bleachers. Photo by Amanda Eller 2. Putting all their voices together, the Boy's Choir creates one moving song. Photo by Mira Bella French 3. At the annual winter pep-rally, the Advanced Choir performs many frosty favorites. Photo by Abigail Daly 4. Conducted by Ms. Parks, the Beginning Choir uses vocal positions. Photo by Emily Baker 5. Lined up in neat rows, the Advanced Choir prepares to wow the crowd at the Magnet Showcase. Photo by Mira Bella French

Mary McClellan teaches 7th grade science.

7 2
James Miller (6) has 2 hands.

Braelon McKinley-Fowler's (8) favorite number is 7.

7

Ms. Ventura eats 0 animals because she is vegan.

Benjamin Villalpando (8) says that a triangle is the embodiment of three.

3

Marlen Avila (8) came to Kealing in 6th grade.

6

Alize Hernandez (8) has 5 favorite foods.

5

Allen Li (7) is in 7th grade.

7

Donye Cooper (6) has jumped from his grandfather's roof 5 times.

5

Samuel Eiler's (7) favorite number is 9.

9

Catherine Bergman had 5 cats as a child.

5

Asahi Jige (6) knows there are 9 classes including advisory.

9

Michael Gonzalez (6) has 1 dollar.

1