

1250 Highrock Ave. Esquimalt, BC V9A 4V7 Ph: (250) 384-7124 www.rockheightsmusic.com

Rockheights Music Uniforms and Winter Concert 7pm, Wednesday, December 6th, Rockheights School Gym

Monday, October 30th, 2023

Dear Rockheights Music Family:

The students have been working hard, and we are all excited about our first major concert of the school year, happening at 7pm, Wednesday, December 6th in our school gym. Here are the details!

Who is performing?

Every band, strings and choir student from grade 6 to 8 is performing with their ensemble. If your child is in more than one ensemble, there will be time for them to move across the stage. Don't worry! We wouldn't start without them!

What do we wear?

We are performing in the Rockheights Music T-Shirt Uniform. Please wear:

- Rockheights Music program t-shirt.
- Black skirt with black tights or black dress pants, black leggings or black or dark blue jeans. Please try to avoid wearing ripped jeans, bare legs or sweatpants with white or coloured stripes.
- Comfortable shoes (they will be lugging equipment).
- Any holiday flair is welcome (Santa hats, reindeer antlers, light-up necklaces, etc.)

How do I get the t-shirt?

Students will choose a size at school – this must be done this week, please! I will order them and distribute them in class. The t-shirt costs \$14 and can be paid for through School Cash Online, by cheque made payable to "Rockheights Middle School" or in cash. If you are paying in cash, please put it in an envelope or bag with your child's name on it. The t-shirts are then theirs to keep forever. If your family is in need and cannot pay the \$14 at this time, please get in touch with me via email at rmcdonell@sd61.bc.ca and we will make arrangements. Every student needs to wear the uniform in concert. Kindly please pay for the t-shirt by Friday, November 17th, thank you.

When Students Should Arrive?

All set-up will happen during the school day that day. **Choir students please arrive at 6:00pm**, so we can have a rehearsal with our accompanist in the gym. **Every other student performer is asked to please**



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arrive no later than 6:30pm. When band and strings students arrive, they will pick up their instrument from the music rooms and proceed to the gym.

Are there tickets? Does it cost anything?

Admission is free, however any donations in support of the Music Program are gratefully accepted The costs of running a quality music program are significant – purchasing instruments, repairing instruments, purchasing supplies and technical equipment, paying clinicians and accompanists, paying festival fees, and more. These kind gifts to the Music Program are hugely important. Please consider bringing a small cash donation, if you can.

When will it be over?

Celebrate, but please don't leave early! Many families like to celebrate their child's hard work afterwards – what a GREAT idea! Please keep in mind that **all students are very much needed and expected to help with take-down for about 20 minutes after the concert, or approximately 8:30pm**. Your engagement with their learning sends a profound message of love and support.

Do you need any extra help?

If you are able to help with any of these tasks on the day, please get in touch with me!

- Providing a gift for a door prize to be awarded at the concert. We typically do a door prize of a bottle of wine or two.
- Watching over the donation box and counting it afterwards.
- Moving chairs and stands around during the concert.
- Supervising backstage.

What else is new?

Here are a few bits of exciting news!

- Donald and Rose Carter, former Rockheights Music parents, have again generously **donated \$1500** to the music program!
- Rockheights' Choir will be performing at the Esquimalt Celebration of Lights again this year, at 5pm, Sunday, December 3rd outside Archie Browning Rec' Centre come see us!

If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with me at <u>rmcdonell@sd61.bc.ca</u> I look forward to seeing you at the concert!

Thank you,

Risa McDonell, Music Teacher, Rockheights Middle School