



Rockheights MIDDLE SCHOOL music

1250 Highrock Ave. Esquimalt, BC V9A 4V7 Ph: (250) 384-7125 www.rockheightsmusic.com

Rockheights Music Uniforms and Winter Concert 7pm, Wednesday, December 11th, Rockheights School Gym

Wednesday, November 6th, 2024

Dear Rockheights Music Family:

The students have been working hard, and we are all excited about our **Winter Concert, 7pm, Wednesday, December 11th** 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 anything distracting or colourful.
- **Comfortable shoes** (they will be lugging equipment).
- Any **holiday flair** is welcome but not necessary (reindeer antlers, light-up necklaces, etc.)

How do I get the t-shirt?

Students will try on sample sizes at school – this must be done this week, please! I will order them and distribute them in class shortly before the concert. **The t-shirt costs \$15** 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 theirs to keep. If your family is in need and cannot pay the \$15 at this time, they still need to have a t-shirt. Please get in touch with me via email at rmcdonell@sd61.bc.ca and we will make arrangements to borrow one. Having a uniform contributes to our sense of pride and belonging. Every student needs to wear the uniform in concert. **Kindly please pay for the t-shirt, or ask to borrow one, by Monday, December 2nd, thank you.**

When Students Should Arrive?

All set-up will happen during the school day that day. **All student performers are asked to please arrive no later than 6:30pm.** Students should please go to the following warm-up areas: band students to the



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large music room; strings students to the Library Learning Commons; choir students to the Indigenous Education Room. There will be signs as reminders.

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. Government funding makes it possible to provide a basic music experience, and fundraising is necessary to enrich that. Purchasing instruments, purchasing supplies, sheet music, and technical equipment, paying clinicians and accompanists, paying festival fees, travel and more. Donations to the Music Program are hugely important. Please consider bringing a small cash donation to help enrich our students' experiences, 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, at approximately 8:30pm.** Your engagement with their learning, by seeing the whole concert, sends your child a profound message of love and support.

Do you need any extra help?

Yes, absolutely. There will be 118 students performing in this event, some of whom will be in multiple ensembles. It's complicated! I will send out a link to a questionnaire asking for help with specific tasks, such as watching the donation bin or helping to move equipment. Please respond to the survey, or get in touch with me at rmcdonell@sd61.bc.ca if you think you can help. Thank you!

What else is new?

- Donald and Rose Carter, former Rockheights Music parents, have again generously **donated \$1500** to the music program for a 5th year in a row!
- **The Victoria Symphony** generously sponsored two workshops for our students with Ryan Cole, trumpeter, in October.
- Rockheights' **Choir will be performing at the Esquimalt Celebration of Lights** again this year, with the very fabulous Maureen Washington, at 5pm, Sunday, December 1st outside Archie Browning Rec' Centre – come see us!
- **Registration is open to attend Musical Discoveries** – a fantastic pro d day music camp specifically for middle school students. Visit www.rockheightsmusic.com for more information.

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

Thank you,

Risa McDonell, Music Teacher, Rockheights Middle School