

Alton High School Performing Arts

THEATER

Fall Play

Open auditions are held for the fall play the first week of September. Rehearsals are held after school and some evenings. We not only need help on stage with acting, but with behind-the-scenes with stagecraft, house management, make up, and publicity.

Contact: Kristi Doering kdoering@altonschools.org 474-2700 x12702

Winter Play

Open auditions are held for the winter play in December. Rehearsals are held after school and some evenings. We not only need help on stage with acting, but with behind-the-scenes with stagecraft, house management, make up, and publicity.

Contact: Kristi Doering kdoering@altonschools.org 474-2700 x12702

Spring Musical

Auditions are held in January for the annual spring musical held the first weekend in May. Rehearsals are held after school and some evenings. Students with musical talent, dance experience or who just want to try something new and have never been involved with music are welcome to audition. All students will learn to interpret and perform music and characters both contemporary and throughout history and of differing cultures. All students involved have the opportunity to study the history and culture in the script and the score as defined by the playwright, lyricist and composer. In addition, students are needed to assist with the creation and design of sets, costuming, house management and publicity.

Contacts: Ann Cirillo jnacirillo@charter.net
 Bev Kramer bkramer@altonschools.org 474-2234

Music Theory/Music Technology

Contact: Alyssa Cudney acudney@altonschools.org 474-6966

Music Theory/Music Technology is a continuation of the music tech class offered at Alton M.S. and is open to all students, regardless of musical background. Students will progress through basic music theory using Musition, apply their composition skills using Sibelius and create sequencing and recording projects using Acid Pro. The various software integrates the computer with a music keyboard and headphones so that students learn music theory and composition techniques through a hands-on experience.

BAND

Contacts: Matthew Banks
Alyssa Cudney

mbanks@altonschools.org
acudney@altonschools.org

474-2236
474-6966

Marching 100 is a music athletic activity that is open to all wind instruments, percussionists, dancers and color guard members. This ensemble meets during the summer and fall of the school year. The emphasis of this class is to give students an opportunity to perform music in motion and to experience teamwork, discipline, and a sense of accomplishment. Marching 100 performs at least 15 shows per year which include parades, local performances, and occasionally travel around the country to participate in activities at various venues.

Symphonic Band is an instrumental ensemble consisting of brass, woodwinds, percussion which meets 1st hour everyday as a class. The emphasis of this class is the development and improvement of fundamental band techniques: tone, intonation, breathing, posture, basic music theory, and rhythmic stability. Symphonic Band performs at least five concerts a year, including IHSA Organization Contest and Midwest Music Festival. Symphonic Band students are encouraged to audition for and participate in the IMEA District VI festival and IHSA Solo and Ensemble Contest. The Students must have prior experience playing a band instrument.

Wind Symphony is a wind ensemble of select musicians. The band meets 7th hour everyday as a class. An audition is required to enter Wind Symphony. The goal of this ensemble is to achieve a more advanced level of performance. Students study and perform challenging literature and are required to know fundamental music theory. There is a high expectation placed on the students' playing ability and work ethic. Wind Symphony performs at least five concerts a year, including the IHSA Organization Contest and Midwest Music Festival. Wind Symphony students are encouraged to audition for and participate in the IMEA District VI Festival and the IHSA Solo and Ensemble Contest. Juniors and Seniors receive honors credit.

Redbird Rhythm is the band that plays at boys and girls basketball games. This ensemble plays music from various genres such as pop, hip/hop, classic rock and funk. Redbird rhythm meets after school for 5 to 6 rehearsals and 10 to 12 basketball performances. In addition to performing at basketball games, the band is sometimes ask to play at assemblies, pep rallies or post season tournaments for Alton High School. This ensemble is a requirement for all band students.

Jazz Band is an audition ensemble open to all band students. The group meets after school on Wednesdays, 3:30-5:00 and studies various jazz styles like swing, blues, jazz/rock, ballads, Latin and standard jazz charts.

Contact: Tim Jarden

tjarden@altonschools.org

474-2087

CHORUS

Contact: Bev Kramer

bkramer@altonschools.org

474-2234

General Chorus (1 semester) is open to all students. Students gain a practical, usable knowledge of vocal skills and music reading through sight-singing, written assignments, listening assignments, rehearsal, and performance of 3-part and 4-part music representative of high school repertoire. Students are required to participate in a minimum of one concert per semester. **Students are responsible for partial expense of costumes.**

Advanced Chorus (2 semesters) PREREQUISITE: This course is open to students with previous choral experience in General Chorus, and teacher recommendation. The student must be able to sing his/her part independently of a rehearsed SATB choral arrangement at an audition for the director. The student must be able to sight-sing material using solfege. This ensemble works toward a more advanced level of performance, as well as studying and performing challenging literature and knowledge of fundamental music theory. High expectations are placed on student's individual work ethics and musical ability. Advanced Choir performs at least four concerts a year, in addition to IHSA Solo & Ensemble Contest and Organizational Contest. **Students are responsible for partial expense of costumes.**

Concert Choir (2 semesters) PREREQUISITE: This course is open to students with previous choral experience in General or Advanced Choir by audition, with teacher recommendation. Students must be able to sight-sing using solfege, sing independently, and meet audition requirements. The goal of this ensemble is to achieve an advanced level of performance. Students expected to perform challenging literature, as well as demonstrate a thorough understanding of fundamental music theory. High expectations are placed on each student's musicianship and work ethics, as well as the ability to work as a "well-oiled" ensemble. Concert Choir performs in at least six concerts per year (with additional concerts added on during the year), including IHSA Solo & Ensemble Contest and Organizational Contest. The students are encouraged to audition for and participate in the IMEA District VI Festival and the IHSA Solo and Ensemble Contest. Juniors and Seniors who excel may audition for honors credit.

Celebrations Extracurricular (2 semesters) PREREQUISITE: Students must currently be members of Concert Choir. Celebrations is an extracurricular music ensemble that rehearses after school on Monday evenings, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The vocal ensemble is made up of 18-20 students, balanced by parts. In addition to studying the various jazz styles like swing, blues, jazz/rock, ballads, Latin and standard jazz charts, the ensemble adds the element of "dance". Celebrations perform in four of the major concerts per year, in addition to outside venues during the day/evening hours. Membership in the ensemble is through "audition only". Auditions take place early in first semester of the year. **Students are responsible for partial expense of costumes.**

Honor Choir: Extracurricular (2 semesters) PREREQUISITE: This ensemble is open to all members of General Chorus by audition, with teacher recommendation. Honor Choir meets one time per week at 7:30 a.m. The ensemble performs at all major concerts during the course of the year. This ensemble provides an opportunity for General Chorus students, who meet the criteria, to develop independent singing skills, vocal technique, leadership skills, and perform a more advanced level of music. **Students are responsible for partial expense of costumes.**

ORCHESTRA

Contact: Laura Plummer

lplummer@altonschools.org

474-6967

Concert Orchestra is a string orchestra that meets 3rd hour everyday as a class. The emphasis of the class is the development and improvement of fundamental string techniques: playing in various positions, note reading, basic music theory, and rhythmic stability. Students must have prior experience playing a string instrument.

Symphonic Orchestra is a full orchestra ensemble of select musicians. An audition is required to enter the Symphonic Orchestra. The strings meet 6th hour everyday as a class. The goal of this ensemble is to achieve a more advanced level of performance. Students study and perform challenging literature and study music theory. There is a high expectation placed on the students' playing ability and work ethic. The Symphonic Orchestra performs at least six concerts a year, including the IHSA Organization Contest. Symphonic Orchestra students are encouraged to audition for and participate in the IMEA District VI Festival and the IHSA Solo and Ensemble Contest. Juniors and Seniors who excel may audition to earn honors credit.

Alton H.S Chamber Strings is open to any student enrolled in the orchestra program. We meet every Wednesday, 3:15 to 4:00, September through May. The Chamber Strings performs throughout the Alton area for weddings, banquets, and other various community functions.

Pit Orchestra performs with the annual spring musical. This is an audition ensemble for members of the Alton H.S. band and orchestra programs. Students are expected to dedicate quite a bit of time to the pit which meets twice a week March through mid-April and every night the last two weeks leading up to the musical performances.