

Band at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Ward Smith, Band Director, *Arch Band Program* Faculty
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Dear SEAS Parents,

I invite you to consider enrolling your child in the school band. Students in grades 4-7 may participate, and band classes will meet on Mondays during the school day. SEAS band students will perform Christmas and Spring Concerts, and the Advanced Band members will have the opportunity to perform at the Archdiocesan Band Festival later in the school year.

I am excited to offer band classes again this year. I previously taught band at St. Elizabeth during 2000-2007, and I returned to SEAS last year. Professionally I have over 30 years of teaching experience. I taught clarinet and saxophone at Tulane University from 1983-2005, and I have worked with the Arch Band Program since 1998. I perform regularly on the saxophone and clarinet, and presently I perform most often with *The Wiseguys*, a local band.

Registration

Please read and submit the registration form attached to this page. You may email me for additional forms. SEAS band students must register with the *Arch Band Program*, and a fee is required.

Please mail your registration and payment to:

ARCH BAND PROGRAM, 17647 Avalon Terrace, Hammond, LA 70403

To help me organize the band classes in a timely manner, please notify me once you've mailed in your registration and payment. Contact me (email is preferred) to inform me that your child is participating in band.

Renting or purchasing your band instrument

Students must provide their instrument in band class. Some parents choose to start with a rental plan. Beginner band members are not required to have their instruments by the first day of band. Take your time as needed. The following is an alphabetical listing of reputable local and online music stores:

C & M Music Center- 2515 Williams Blvd, Kenner, 468-8688- Sells new & used instruments.

Michon Music- 3200 Severn Ave, Metairie (across from Lakeside), 454-7581- Sells and rents instruments.

Woodwind & Brasswind- www.bw.com, or call (800) 348-5003- Sells instruments.

Selecting your instrument- "Instrument Trials" for beginning band members

I recommend that beginning band members explore and play some of the band instruments before selecting one. Beginner band instruments include the flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, snare drum, & bells (xylophone). During an "instrument trial" students and parents may explore the instruments together, and I will offer my recommendations. I will offer "instrument trials" at Michon Music on August 29, and other dates can be arranged if needed. Trials will be offered in order of arrival on Saturday.

Saturday, August 29- 1:30-4:00pm at Michon Music, 3200 Severn Ave, Metairie (across from Lakeside)

Other "instrument trial" dates will be available if needed, possibly even during the school day. You may contact me with your requests.

Band Schedule

Band classes will meet on Mondays during the school day, and classes will begin on Monday, September 14.

I hope that you will consider this exciting musical opportunity for your child. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Ward Smith
(504) 909-8499
wardwellsmith@gmail.com





Arch Band Program - Connecting students to MUSIC

God may have blessed your child with a special musical talent. We would like to help you discover and develop that talent!

MAKING A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD SINCE 1973!!

An investment in music education now could save you \$40,000 later!!

Special band classes are being offered at your school. It has been proven that instruction in music contributes to the students' ability to improve academically and score higher on standardized tests.

Lessons are offered weekly at school during the school day. The schedule is determined in conjunction with your principal, the classroom teachers and the music director.

Instruction is offered at the beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. At the beginner level it is recommended that the student select one of the basic band instruments: flute, clarinet, alto sax, trumpet, trombone, bells or snare drum. Guitar, piano or strings are not offered. If you do not already have an instrument, local music stores offer rental/purchase plans on good student line instruments.

This is a timeless, priceless investment in the education and future of your child. It could be the pathway to scholarships to high school and college. Success and gradual progress on the instrument will be the result of consistent practice and regular attendance at music classes.

As our students progress, they will be able to participate in school concerts, solo/ensemble festivals, honor bands and our own band festival that is now the largest in the state.

ARCH BAND PROFILE

- We follow state and national music education standards
- We offer a curriculum which aligns with national education standards
 - We follow all diocesan policies and procedures
- Our faculty members are degreed from accredited colleges and universities
- Our faculty are members of the National Association of Music Educators, Louisiana Music Educators Association and District VI Band Directors' Association.

If more information is needed, please call SISTER MARY HILARY, OP (a Dominican Sister) or Dr. Laura Mattingly, Faculty & Site Administrator, at 985-662-5030 - archband@charter.net You are asked to make a commitment for the school year so that the music teacher can properly develop and evaluate basic skills.

The registration cost includes a non-refundable \$50 fee. There is a \$50 fee for each NSF check. Your payment directly determines the monthly salary of the music teacher as well as the administrative and operational cost of running the program. The band program is not subsidized by any outside entity. Once your registration and payment is received and processed, a band method book will be issued to your child. **THIRD CHILD IS FREE!!** There is a \$15 late fee if the balance is not paid on time and \$5 for additional months. Please notify **THIS OFFICE** if your child needs to withdraw. If appropriate, \$25 per month is refundable should lessons be discontinued. The request for a refund must be done in writing with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the band office by the 1st of the month. There are no refunds after April 1, 2016. Your child's band instructor should also be notified in writing.

Our program is offered where the school cannot budget for a music teacher. If you were to get private or semi-private lessons, the cost **PER LESSON** would be \$20 - \$30.

Revised 5/15/15

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<http://archband@weebly.com>

REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE \$15.00

***Mail to/payable to: Arch Band Program - 17647 AVALON TERRACE HAMMOND, LA 70403
Questions?? archband@charter.net 985-662-5030 Calls will be received between 10am and 4pm,
Monday through Friday. Please be prepared to leave your name, your child's name, the name of the
school and the purpose of your call. Calls placed after 4pm will be answered the following day.

No social media or devices which connect to the internet are allowed for both students and parents
enrolled in our band program. The Arch Band Program, it's administrators and faculty are in compliance
with all policies governing social media. Parents are responsible for being aware of all policies and
procedures promulgated at each respective school. Your signature on the band registration form is
acknowledgement of acceptance

PLEASE RETAIN PAGE ONE AND THE ABOVE FOR REFERENCE - MAIL REGISTRATION FORM &
PAYMENT thanks!! REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE \$15.00

ARCH BAND PROGRAM 2015-2016 SCHOOL_____

Mr. Smith, Director

STUDENT NAME: _____
Please print LAST FIRST

GRADE: _____ INSTRUMENT _____ HAVE YOU PLAYED BEFORE? YES NO

PARENT NAME Please print _____

PHONES: _____ // _____ // _____
HOME MOM DAD

STREET: _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____ e-mail _____

OPTION ONE: (preferred) TOTAL COST \$410 Full payment enclosed \$ _____
After Sept. 15th \$425.00

OPTION TWO: \$250.00 After Sept. 15th \$265. Balance due Dec. 1st = \$175 Bills will be mailed by Nov. 7th.
After Dec. 1st Late fees will be applied in January, There is a \$15 late fee and \$5 for each additional month not
paid. There is a \$50 fee for each NSF check.

BANK: _____ check number _____ date _____ Amount paid: \$ _____

PAYABLE/MAIL TO: ARCH BAND PROGRAM - 17647 Avalon Terrace Hammond, LA 70403

Parent signature required

Revised 5/15/15

MAIL TO:

PAGE TWO: REGISTRATION FORM Payable to/mail to: ARCH BAND PROGRAM
17647 Avalon Terrace - Hammond, LA 70403

Do not return fee and form to the school office or the music teacher.