



Orchestra's 2nd violins rehearse for perfection.



Cellos and Bases are gathered together for rehearsal.



Both violin sections come together for a rehearsal.



Ms. Newell runs through a piece with the students before a performance.



Stringing along

by Lauren Tubbs and Claire Carpenter
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We all love the beautiful serenades of the violin harmoniously syncing with the underlying notes of the viola, cello and bass. But, did you know that Tupelo Public Schools offers the experience to participate in these concerts with their Orchestra (Strings) Program?

During class, students practice scales and music selections.

"You get to learn a lot of new music and where it comes from. You get to know a lot more about the composer," senior Kareah Freeman said.

However, it's not only technical training.

"On Fun Friday, we get to choose our favorite music and play it," freshman Diamond Little said.

When it is time for concert season, they get to volunteer to play fiddle, as well. And, not only that, but they get to experience the same thing on stage as their teacher, Miss Newell.

"Our teacher, on a regular basis, asks us if we would like to conduct for a concert," junior Kylie Moore said.

The Tupelo High School Orchestra Program is a great experience for the audience and for the students participating.

"It is very, very fun" said Freeman.

The class is composed of freshman through seniors and offers a summer camp for further instruction that is not given at school. For some students the course is enjoyable and something to look forward to for the start of the day.

"I like orchestra because it gives me and other students a musical outlet. Getting to play and be around such awesome instruments everyday is an opportunity I'm so glad the program provides," freshman Aleena Komerac said.

Komerac loved the idea of orchestra after seeing the movie "If I Stay" and decided to join when the class was offered in 6th grade.

The concerts usually take a lot of preparation and commitment. For the concerts, 3-4 pieces are prepared and the students play them for a large audience of families and friends.

"My favorite part of the concert is the part when we can walk off stage and I can breathe easily again," freshman John Thomas said.



PHOTO FROM T. NEWELL

Members of Orchestra perform at Celebration Village.



PHOTO FROM T. NEWELL

Tupelo High School's Orchestra showcases their talent in a Halloween concert complete with spooky lights.



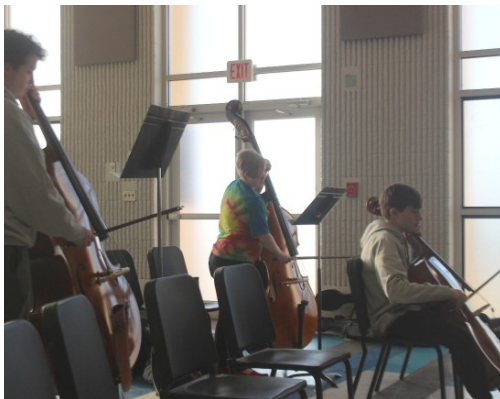
PHOTO FROM T. NEWELL

Students perform for the community at the CREATE Foundation luncheon.



PHOTO FROM T. NEWELL

Students line up beside the bus for the CREATE luncheon event.



Although often confused, the cello and the double Bass are different instruments that require similar but different skills.



Orchestra's 1st violins rehearse after school.



PHOTO FROM T. NEWELL

The North MS Youth Orchestra (NMYO) performs at the GLvic Auditorium.



Jordan Wayne conducts the orchestra during a practice. Ms. Newell likes to have the students conduct each other.



PHOTO FROM T. NEWELL

Orchestra members gather outside with their instruments for a their official group picture.