



## Instrumental Music Conservatory

Welcome to the Envision Music Conservatory! This special program is designed to help students become well-rounded musicians and to better prepare them for music in the university setting and beyond. Students will receive a handbook with important information at the beginning of the new school year during their Envision Day classes. The following contract is meant to be used as a supplement to that information.

**Expectations:** As outlined in the Envision Day Class Handbooks, students in the Envision program are held to the strictest standards of academic rigor, and of appropriate behavior. Envision Conservatory students are leaders and role models in the Envision program and are expected to demonstrate that behavior when representing CCA and the Envision program. Students may be put on Academic Probation if they do not uphold a sufficient GPA in all of their CCA classes. Students not able to uphold all of their CCA obligations over time may be asked to leave the Envision Conservatory Program.

**A typical week:** Students are expected to be dressed (if special attire is required, i.e. for movement exercises or for a dress rehearsal) and prepared for the day's activities by **3:25 PM**. Students are excused at 5:00 PM daily. Mrs. Villanova will have office time from 5-5:30 Monday thru Thursday. Students and families are encouraged to use that time to ask questions or seek help. Reminder-there is no Envision Conservatory class on during Finals Weeks.

**Attendance: As this is a class given for academic credit, Envision Conservatory attendance policies must be strictly upheld.** Students must complete 90 class hours of Conservatory each term. Students may choose to schedule their hours in a flexible manner so long as the following criteria are met

- Students must be present for all “projects” and “electives” classes
- Students must be present for Mandatory Monday and special event attendance (dates given in advance-see workshop calendar)
- Students must complete and turn in a weekly log form of activities attended
- Students participating in off-campus private lessons must have all the appropriate forms completed to receive credit for that time.
- Students that sign up for workshops are expected to attend-no flaking!
- Students not signed up for workshops are expected to be using conservatory time to diligently, carefully practice their instrument-attendance credit will not be given to students for simply “being there”
- Conservatory is generally scheduled until 5 PM, but students may elect to stay longer on certain days to bank time. There will be some days where Conservatory classes will go beyond 5 PM-those days are noted on the attached workshop calendar

- Students working with other conservatories on joint projects will arrange time credit for each project and will have their log signed by the teacher/teaching artist overseeing that project

While this schedule may change from time to time, the basic outline, proportions and goals are the same:

**Basic Musicianship:** *Currently scheduled for Mandatory Mondays.* One of the biggest challenges facing young musicians when they begin college is a lack of fundamental music knowledge, in music theory and music history. This section of the Envision program will emphasize music theory-both written and aural skills, as well as tie in to key parts of music history. First term, students will be assisted with an on-line music theory course offered through MiraCosta College for a college grade and unit credit. *Students electing not to take the MiraCosta course will still be given instruction and be tested on elements of music theory.* 2<sup>nd</sup> term, students will focus on Music History and may receive college credit for their work as well.

**Guest performances:** Guest performances by professional musicians and lecturers have been scheduled throughout the year. *Attendance at these on campus performances is mandatory.* Some performances may be scheduled to go beyond the traditional conservatory time schedule, so please consult your calendar when planning your week.

**Workshops:** Throughout the year, a variety of workshops will be offered. Students will sign up for the workshops that interest them, and are not mandated to participate in all workshops-in fact, students are encouraged to be selective in their workshop choices. Workshops will be primarily taught by teaching artists who have expertise in those areas. Please see the Conservatory Calendar and Workshop description list for more information.

**Individual Technique:** Students will work extensively on techniques designed to improve their musicianship, either in a group setting or individually. Students will further their technical skills and begin preparation for honor group auditions, as well as ensemble auditions and end of term juries, by spending quality time in the practice rooms. While the conservatory program provides many opportunities for students to explore different avenues of music and work with a variety of teaching artists NOTHING CAN PREPARE A STUDENT FOR SUCCESS IN MUSIC BETTER THAN INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE. Students not involved in workshop are expected to be in and around the music building practicing.

**Assessment:** At the end of each term students will perform individually for a panel of music teachers to demonstrate their progress and to assess future areas of focus. Students will receive guidance and preparation for this process throughout the program. This student friendly process is modeled after university music program assessment plans and is designed to make students more comfortable in a live audition and recording situations.

**Grading:** Envision Music Conservatory is a Pass/Fail course. Students will be graded in the following areas:

**Participation:** Students must attend class and fully participate each day. Absences must be cleared through the main office just like any other class. The fast paced nature of this course really makes each day's attendance crucial. Participation accounts for 50% of the students' grade.

**Individual Technique:** Students must pass their end of term juries to continue to the next level.

**Basic Musicianship:** Students must pass their Music Theory and History tests with a 75% or higher average to continue to the next level.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Amy Villanova  
Program Coordinator, Instrumental Music  
[amy.villanova@sduhsd.net](mailto:amy.villanova@sduhsd.net)  
<http://teachers.sduhsd.net/avillanova>