

INSTRUMENT ACQUISITION OPTIONS

****There are **MANY** options to acquiring an instrument****

****RENTAL:**

You may wish to rent an instrument. You can choose a rental source that you prefer and there are many available. For BCS purposes and possibly your convenience, Twin Village Music, 44 Central Ave., Lancaster, 14086 (716) 683-4879, will be our school's instrument rental source. Rental instruments will be delivered to school. There are other stores that rent instruments for different prices and different time increments. There are also rent to own options. Although we have a very excellent history with the quality and service of Twin Village instruments, you may wish to rent elsewhere and are certainly welcome to do so.

****PURCHASE:**

Some families prefer to purchase an instrument. A used instrument can be purchased for a reasonable price from many sources, including music stores, music repair shops, Craigslist, Ebay, and others. A quality used instrument may need a few inexpensive repair touch ups, but then be a very sturdy instrument for several years. Our instrument repair referral is listed on the next page.

Certain brands and models are MUCH better and have stood the test of time. The list below may help guide your purchase of a new or used instrument. These beginner instruments are intended for the first few years of playing. Once your student progresses, you will most likely want and need to upgrade for the purposes of tone, response, clarity, and mechanics.

Flute: Armstrong, Yamaha, Gemeinhardt

Clarinet: Buffet, Yamaha, Armstrong, Noblet, Selmer

Wood VS. Plastic Clarinet: By junior high, students should be playing on a wooden clarinet. The tone is far superior. However, wood being of greater expense, some prefer to start their student with a plastic clarinet which can be great for beginning students. If this is your choice, please be aware that as your student progresses, he/she should plan to switch to a wooden clarinet.

Alto Saxophone: Yamaha, Selmer

Trumpet: Bach, Yamaha, King

Trombone: Yamaha, King, Conn

Snare Drum: Ludwig, Yamaha, Pearl

BEWARE!! Flimsy or low quality “other” brand instruments are everywhere on the internet. They look lovely and brand new and seem to be a good value. These instruments will only frustrate your student, as they frequently break and are sometimes unrepairable. ******PLEASE****** let us know if you are interested in purchase and need help or direction. A great way to check with us on the purchase of a new or used instrument is to send us the link via email. Our email addresses are listed below. A Quality Used Instrument is the best value.

****SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS:**

French Horns, Baritone Horns, and Tubas are available to borrow from BCS.

****FAMILY OWNED**

If you already own an instrument that your child would like to play, please contact Ms. Johnson about that option. The instrument may be in need of a “tune up.” Our instrument repairs are done by:

Steve Socha
Socha Band Instrument Repair
247 Market St., Suite 12, Lockport, 14094
716-525-3317

****REEDS**

Reeds (used with Clarinets and Saxophones) are available at school for \$3. Please plan to purchase a BOX of 10 reeds once your student is established. Boxes can be ordered on the internet or through school. A box of 10 reeds will last your student a longer time, insure your student always has a reed, and be a better value.

Clarinet reeds: VanDoren (not Rico). Beginner strength: 2 or 2.5, Upper strength: 3

Alto Saxophone reeds: LaVoz. Beginner strength: Medium, Upper strength: Medium Hard

****MUSIC STAND**

Please supply your student with a music stand for optimal home practice posture. These are available from music stores or easy to order online at various prices.

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THANK YOU for taking the time to carefully select an instrument your student can be successful on. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

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