



# BEGINNING B A N D

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September 27, 2019

Dear 4<sup>th</sup> grade families,

Each year for the past 20 years, 4<sup>th</sup> graders have been invited to join the P.S. 321 Beginning Band. This two year program is open to all interested 4<sup>th</sup> graders, whether they have played an instrument or not. We have approximately 35 spaces for new band members.

The Brooklyn Conservatory of Music oversees the program and provides the teachers, all of whom are professional musicians. Children are provided with high quality instruction and loaned an instrument to use for the school year. Students are taught in ensemble groups: clarinets, flutes, percussion, saxophones and trumpets. The PTA offers to repair each instrument once and asks that you provide payment for any additional repairs or accessories.

**Beginning band classes are held from 2:50 – 4:05 pm every Monday** that school is in session from October 21<sup>st</sup> through May 27<sup>th</sup>. The cost of the instrument loan and small group lessons is **\$600.00 for 29 weeks.** This is far less than comparable lessons plus instrument rental at the Conservatory. It is possible to make two payments: \$300.00 prior to the first class and the remaining \$300.00 in January. No child will be excluded for lack of ability to pay; scholarship assistance is available. ***(You must visit the guidance counselors, Ben Halioua or Jon Alvarez, for scholarship assistance approval prior to submitting your payment in the fall.)***

Children will be asked to choose two or three instruments, and though we will try to give them their first choice, they will be assigned an appropriate instrument at the second band class on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Please talk with your child about this opportunity, and the commitment it involves - We've found in the past that if children are not enthusiastic about joining band, it is not a worthwhile experience for them or their ensemble. Please keep that in mind and be sure your child will take this class seriously.

**Please return this form by Tuesday October 5th to the Kid's Club box in the main office. Please do not return them to classroom teachers.** No late forms will be accepted unless there is space. You will receive an e-mail confirmation with a Band Contract once your child is enrolled.

*Lastly, your child may **not** enroll in 4<sup>th</sup> Grade PAC (Performing Arts Company) in January if they are enrolled in Band as they are on the same day ☺*

Courtney Gilbert  
After School Coordinator

**Yes, I would like to enroll my child in the P.S. 321 Beginning Band.**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class 4-\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s) (C)\_\_\_\_\_ (H)\_\_\_\_\_ (W)\_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form by Friday October 5th to the Kid's Club box in the Main Office.**