**Sir Alexander Mackenzie Sr. P.S.**

**Music Ensemble Membership Handbook**

We are glad to have you as a member of a Mackenzie Music Ensemble. We look forward to working with you to enrich your life through music and to help you become a better musician.

This handbook is a guide that answers many questions you and your family may have concerning your membership in a Mackenzie Music Ensemble. Add all schedules and letters you receive from us to your handbook so you will always have an accurate and up-to-date handbook and list of events happening with the music department.

Please read the handbook carefully. Do not hesitate to ask Mrs. Howells or Mr. Pattison any questions you may have concerning policies or procedures outlined in the handbook. Have a great year in MUSIC AT MACKENZIE!

**Membership**

Membership in a Mackenzie Music Ensemble is based on interest and musical ability, as well as musical potential. Any student that exhibits these traits is welcome to participate in our co-curricular ensembles.

**Parent Information**

Congratulations! Your child has been selected to represent Sir Alexander Mackenzie Sr. P.S. in a performing music ensemble. This is both an honour and an indication of your child’s musicianship. Feel free to contact us at any time during the year if we can be of assistance.

Please allow us to work with your child in a professional manner by adhering to our conditions of membership. Please encourage your child to work hard so we can make the best use of our limited rehearsal time with our ensembles. Thank you for letting us work with your young musician. We hope we can serve you in many ways and hope to see you supporting our young musicians at performances throughout the year.

**Mackenzie Ensemble Rehearsal Schedule:**

**Wind Ensemble**: Every Thursday from 3:15 until 4:30 p.m.

**Concert Orchestra**: Every Wednesday from 3:15 until 5:00 p.m. (4:30 until 5:00 p.m. will be for sectional rehearsals. A schedule will be published with specific dates for each instrumental section. Some Full rehearsals will extend until 5:00 p.m.)

**Concert Choir**: Every Tuesday from 3:15 until 5:00 p.m. (4:30 until 5:00 p.m. will be for sectional rehearsals. A schedule will be published with specific dates for each voice part. Some full rehearsals will extend until 5:00p.m.)

**Jazz Ensemble**: TBA

Occasionally, additional rehearsals may be called over the lunch hour for any of the ensembles listed.

**Dress Code**

Part of being a member of a musical ensemble is looking professional. To ensure uniformity in dress, concert performances will require the following:

Ladies:   
: White Blouse and Dark Dress Skirt or Dress Pants  
: Black shoes with natural tone stockings

Gentlemen:  
: White Dress Shirt and Long Tie: Black shoes with Black socks

Jazz Ensemble Only: All Black (Shirt and Pants/Skirt)

**Know Your Music**

Ensemble members are expected to learn their music. This requires at home practice for music. Rehearsals are not designed to teach you the notes for your part, but rather to teach all students how to play well together as an ensemble and to stylize the repertoire being learned. This can only be accomplished if everyone learns individual parts at home. Being prepared for rehearsal means being able to perform your part.

**Music and Equipment**

Members of the ensemble must bring their instruments, music, and pencil to every rehearsal. Music folders are handed out at the first rehearsal and collected after the last rehearsal or concert. Members are responsible for taking care of music and folders. Lost folders and music are expensive to replace. Music should be marked in pencil!  
 Please bring music and other equipment to rehearsals and concerts .  
BE PREPARED!!

**Newsletters and Website**

We will be communicating with our youth ensemble members and their parents primarily through the newsletters and our school website.

**Behaviour Expectations**

You are special! You are a member of a talented group of SAM’s finest young musicians. You were selected to be part of an ensemble. The way you present yourselves to the public, both individually and as a group, leaves a lasting impression.

Your cooperation in maintaining the excellent reputation and high calibre of performance is required. Please conduct yourself in a manner that is respectful of this honour.

Behaviour during rehearsals and performances should reflect a spirit of respect and cooperation for the conductor and other ensemble members. We are a 7 Habits school, and as such, we are always thinking WIN-WIN. The needs of the entire ensemble supercedes the needs of the individual. Much like in a team support, every individual in an ensemble is important and integral to the success of that ensemble.

For continued membership in a Mackenzie Music Ensemble we expect:

1/ That all members will represent themselves, their parents, their conductor, and their school in an appropriate manner.

2/ That all members will show respect for and cooperation with each other and their director.

3/ That all members will show a willingness to follow instructions and put forth a consistently good effort.

4/ That all members will demonstrate regular and punctual attendance at all rehearsal and activities.

**Attendance**

Attendance is taken at every rehearsal. Members should arrive promptly after school and are expected to be ready to practice at the appointed time.

Absences and late arrivals interfere with the goal of musical excellence for your ensemble. Please help by being on time and attending every rehearsal, performance, and special activity.

Sometimes an absence is unavoidable, but it would be appreciated if appointments and family events be planned at times other than scheduled rehearsal times. Every musician is a key player, and much learning is lost if even one rehearsal is missed.

**Student Membership Commitment**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read the conditions of membership

and agree to giving my best effort as a member of the: Wind Ensemble

Concert Orchestra

Concert Choir

Jazz Ensemble

Student Signature

**Parent Commitment**

Permission is granted for my son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

to participate in a Mackenzie Music ensemble. I understand my role in

supporting their responsibilities as a member by ensuring attendance at

rehearsals and performances.

Parent Signature

Contact Information:

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell Phone Number:

PLEASE RETURN THIS SIGNED PAGE TO THE APPROPRIATE MUSIC DIRECTOR