



September 6, 2019

Dear Potential Band Parents:

Hello! My name is Stacey Gaeta, and I am the new band director at St. Benedict. I have heard a lot of great things about St. Benedict and I am excited to get the band program started this year. Next week I will be showing all the band instruments to the fourth grade students on Monday and Tuesday. Students will be able to try the different instruments and I will send them home with my recommendation and some information about band.

Beginning band is open to grades 4th-8th. A student may start in any of those grades and it is never too late. Music is such a wonderful adventure, we want as many children as possible to experience it. If your child is in 5th-8th grade and is considering joining band, please have him/her speak to Mrs. Gaeta on Monday or Tuesday next week and we can have him/her try the instruments as well.

I will be at St. Benedict for **Back to School Night on Tuesday, September 10th**. Parents can meet me, ask questions and get more information about band. I will also have forms available such as applications for financial aid for tuition, and applications to rent Music Alliance instruments, which are at a lower cost than most music stores.

PLEASE NOTE: For all beginning and returning band students, the deadlines for financial aid applications are September 14th and 16th. No exceptions.

To register, please go to the Music Alliance's website: www.musicallianceinc.org. Low cost instrument rental forms are also available on this site. You may also call Music Alliance toll free at: 1-855-333-1357 to register or if you have questions.

I will have a schedule for returning band students very soon and want to get them started in the next few weeks. Please check the school website for updates. I will also send information home.

Mark your calendars! Our **Winter Concert is Wednesday, December 11th, 6:30PM**. Band students will have two evening concerts, one in December and one in May. Concert attendance is a requirement for all band students.

I look forward to meeting your child and discovering the joys of music together! If you have any questions please email me at: sgaeta@musicallianceinc.org
Sincerely,

Stacey Gaeta

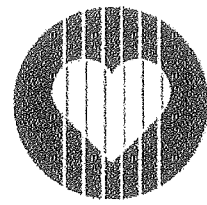
Band Director

St. Benedict Catholic School

sgaeta@musicallianceinc.org



Applying for a Low Cost Rental of a MusicAlliance-Owned Instrument Instructions Page



D'Addario Foundation

Thanks to generous grants from the D'Addario Foundation, MusicAlliance has purchased band instruments that may be rented for \$90 for the school year or 2 payments of \$50 (one payment per semester).

First Priority will be given to:

- families whose child(ren) qualify for the federal free lunch or reduced lunch program
- those who have lost their job (including layoffs) or have major medical expenses
- those families that have more than one child in the band program
- those families that have multiple children enrolled in tuition-based schools

MusicAlliance has a limited number of flutes, clarinets, alto saxophones, trumpets, trombones, french horns, baritones, bells, and snare drums. To be considered, please fill out the instrument rental application form completely. Applications are first considered based on financial need (then any leftover instruments may be rented by anyone whose child is enrolled in a MusicAlliance band program). For those selected to rent a MusicAlliance instrument, the student must remain in good standing in the band program.

If you are approved for the rental of a MusicAlliance-owned instrument, the instrument will be delivered to your child's school and a copy of the rental agreement terms will be emailed to you for your records.

In addition to completing the application form included with this letter, please explain (on a separate piece of paper or on the back of the application) the financial circumstances of why you are applying for the low cost instrument rental program (if you are in one of the situations of financial need listed above). Describe in as much detail as you feel comfortable (type this information if possible). *If you are in a situation of financial need, please send supporting documents with the application and be sure to black out/remove Social Security numbers and banking numbers.* If you qualify for the free or reduced lunch program, please specify whether free or reduced and attach a copy of your letter of qualification.

These items and the rental application should be returned to MusicAlliance as soon as possible and by no later than September 14th, 2019.

Please return this form and supporting documents to the MusicAlliance office (at the address shown below). DO NOT send your instrumental rental application to your child's school office.

If you wish to pay in 2 installments, a \$50 check (payable to MusicAlliance) should be included with this application (the check will be returned to you if you are not approved for the rental of an instrument). The \$50 instrument rental fee for the 2nd Semester (if paying in 2 installments) will be charged on February 5th to account that you set up for payment of the band program tuition. If you wish to pay the instrument rental for the full school year by \$90 check (a savings of \$10), a \$90 check (payable to MusicAlliance) should be included with this application (the check will be returned to you if you are not approved for the rental of an instrument). Please return the completed instrument rental form, and any supporting documents, along with a check for \$50 or \$90 (payable to MusicAlliance) to the address shown below.

If you have payment questions or concerns, please call the MusicAlliance office toll-free at 1-855-333-1357, Ext. 2

Application and Agreement Terms & Conditions for Rental of a MusicAlliance-Owned Instrument

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____ Instrument Needed _____

Child's Name _____ Grade _____ School _____

Method of Payment (Select One):

_____ \$50 per semester: \$50 check (payable to MusicAlliance) – instrument rental payment for 1st Semester (mail payment with this form)
The 2nd Semester Instrument Rental Fee of \$50 will be charged to the account used for payment of the band tuition on Feb. 5, 2020.

_____ \$90 check (payable to MusicAlliance) – instrument rental payment in full for the school year (mail payment with this form)

MusicAlliance-owned Band Instrument Rental Authorization/Agreement

I represent and warrant to MusicAlliance that I have full legal authority to authorize this instrument rental payment agreement, and that I have full authority to make use of the payment method(s) for which the band instrument rental fee will be paid. I also understand that to pay by check in one lump sum of \$90 for rental of the instrument for the 2019-20 school year (a savings of \$10 over the 2 rental payments plan) I must mail this completed and signed form to MusicAlliance along with a check for \$90 payable to MusicAlliance by September 14th, 2019 (the check will be returned to you if you are not approved for the rental of an instrument). I understand and agree that if I select the \$50 per semester payment option, I must mail this completed and signed form to MusicAlliance along with a check for \$50 payable to MusicAlliance by September 14th, 2019 (the check will be returned if you are not approved for the rental of an instrument), and I hereby grant MusicAlliance permission to charge the 2nd Semester instrument rental payment to the credit card or bank account that I use to pay the band program tuition on February 5th, 2020.

I understand that if within 30 days of my child receiving the rental instrument, I decide that the instrument is not needed (i.e. due to getting an instrument from another source), and the instrument is promptly returned to the school band teacher in good condition, the rental fee that I have paid will be refunded minus a \$10 restocking fee. I understand and agree that damage to, or loss of the instrument, will result in the billing of the undersigned for the cost of the repair or replacement, not to exceed the value of the instrument, and that the instrument must be returned to MusicAlliance or the MusicAlliance band director at your school in the event that the child discontinues lessons, fails to care for the instrument properly, or for any reason that is deemed necessary by the band director and/or MusicAlliance. I also understand and agree that if I am renting an instrument from MusicAlliance and it is turned into the school's office instead of to MusicAlliance or the band director and the instrument is lost, I will be responsible for reimbursing MusicAlliance for the value of the instrument.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

REMINDER: Please explain the financial circumstances, in as much detail as you feel comfortable, of why you are applying for the low cost instrument rental program (if you are in a situation of financial need). Use the back of this form or a separate sheet of paper (typed if possible). Please send supporting documents with this application and **remove personal data such as Social Security numbers**. If you qualify for the free or reduced lunch program, please specify whether free or reduced & attach a copy of your letter of qualification.

Please submit this application by September 14th, along with a \$90 or \$50 check (the check will be returned to you if you are not approved for the rental of an instrument). **Mail this form, supporting documents, and payment (payable to MusicAlliance) to:**

**MusicAlliance
P.O. Box 1749
Mentor OH 44061**

Below this line for MusicAlliance office use only

Status of Instrument Rental Application: ___ Approved ___ Not Approved Date _____

Instrument Brand/Type: _____ Serial Number: _____ Value: _____

2019-20 MusicAlliance Financial Aid Application (Due by 9/16/19)

Thanks to last school year's fundraisers, families in financial need may apply for financial aid for the band tuition.

Please note that a completed application does not guarantee that financial aid will be provided.

Those who are granted financial aid will have the amount of the financial aid deducted from the regular band tuition.

Low income families and those who are facing a financial hardship due to extenuating circumstances are encouraged to apply for financial aid. Financial aid funds are limited, therefore the information requested below is required to help us best determine applicants level of financial need. To be considered for financial aid, you must submit the following:

- This Completed Financial Aid Form
- A Copy of the First page of your most recent Federal Income Tax Form* and a recent pay stub if you are currently employed
*Please sure to remove social security numbers & banking information from submitted documents. (*If you did not file a tax return this year due to not being required to, please attach a recent pay stub if currently employed, or verification of public assistance if not currently employed.)*
- Statement/Description of Financial Need Written/Typed on the back of this form.

1. BAND STUDENT(S) INFORMATION:

First Name(s) _____ Last Name _____

School _____ Grade(s) _____

Does above student(s) qualify for the federal free or reduced lunch program? Yes* No

**If Yes, please specify Free or Reduced:* _____

2. APPLICANT/FAMILY INFORMATION:

Mother or Guardian 1 - First & Last Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Phone Number _____

Father or Guardian 2 - First & Last Name _____

Check Here if same address/contact info as above, otherwise fill in the address/phone for Father/Guardian 2 on next line.

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Phone Number _____

Is this a single parent household? Yes No If yes, do you receive child support? Yes No

Who is the student's custodial parent?

Mother/Guardian 1 Father/Guardian 2 Both Other _____

Student lives with (check all that apply):

Father Mother Legal Guardian(s) Stepmother Stepfather Grandparent(s) Other _____

Number of dependents in your household: _____ How many of the dependents go to a tuition-based school? _____

What are the total school tuition costs that you (and your spouse if applicable) will pay out for the 2019-20 school year? \$ _____

Is the student's mother currently employed? Yes No N/A Is the student's father currently employed? Yes No N/A

3. ANNUAL GROSS FAMILY INCOME* FROM ALL SOURCES: \$ _____

***Please attach a copy of the first page of the Federal income tax return that you filed this year showing your adjusted gross income, as well as a copy of a recent pay stub (if employed). Remove social security numbers & banking information. In cases of joint custody, include the total incomes of both parents on the line above. If you did not file a tax return this year due to not being required to, please elaborate below and attach a recent pay stub and/or verification of public assistance.**

4. CERTIFICATION:

I certify that to the best of my knowledge all information provided is accurate and complete.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Email Address to send notification of financial aid if awarded: _____

5. PLEASE INCLUDE WRITTEN/TYPED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL NEED ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM

Funds for financial aid are limited. Therefore, it is important that parents explain financial needs in detail (we also understand that not all need is due to low income). Please use the reverse side of this form to describe extenuating/extraordinary family expenses, special circumstances, or other financial considerations that you feel that we should consider when evaluating your application.

Completed applications are due by September 16, 2019. DO NOT send your application to the school office

**Please Email this completed form, including statement of financial need, and supporting documents to:
office@musicallianceinc.org or you can Fax it to MusicAlliance at 440-205-0114**

If you cannot email or fax your application materials, our mailing address is:
MusicAlliance, P.O. Box 1749, Mentor, OH 44061

If you have any questions, please call the MusicAlliance office toll-free at 1-855-333-1357.