6th-8th Grade
Advanced Orchestra
**SKILLS AND TECHNIQUES/PERFORMANCE**

**MMSAO.1 - Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music**
- a. Demonstrate the ability to match pitch and adjust intonation in melodic and harmonic settings.
- b. Demonstrate an understanding of phrasing through singing melodies.
- c. Discuss the relationship between singing and quality tone production on a string instrument.

**MMSAO.2 - Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music**
- a. Demonstrate correct left hand position and finger placement, right hand position (bow hold), bow placement, posture and instrument position while increasing the level of technical difficulty.
- b. Demonstrate basic vibrato.
- c. Exhibit the ability to accurately tune respective instrument.
- d. Demonstrate the ability to shift to advanced positions (Violin/Viola-III position, Cello-III and IV position, Bass- ⅓-Ⅳ position).
- e. Produce a characteristic sound using legato, staccato, slurs, detached slur, accent, spiccato, hooked bowing, and pizzicato.
- f. Utilize correct finger patterns in performing scales and repertoire in the major keys of D, G, C, A, F, Bb and Eb, and the minor keys of e, a, d, b and c.
- g. Demonstrate awareness of individual and group roles within the ensemble relating to tone, tuning, balance, blend, dynamics, phrasing and tempo.

**MMSAO.3 – Reading and notating music**
- a. Identify notes on the staff and on ledger lines of respective clef.
- b. Read and notate notes within the following key signatures: D, G, C, A, F, Bb and Eb, and the minor keys of e, a, d, b and c.
- c. Read and notate rhythms containing whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes, dotted half notes, dotted quarter notes, dotted eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and their corresponding rests in the time signatures of 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, 6/8, alle breve and mixed meter.
- d. Recognize and execute symbols for dynamics, tempo, articulation, and expression as used in corresponding literature.

**CREATION**

**MMSAO.4 - Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments**
- a. Play by ear simple melodies and provide rhythmic and melodic variations based on those melodies.
- b. Improvise simple melodies and harmonic accompaniments in the keys of D, G and C.

**MMSAO.5 - Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines**
- a. Create original rhythm patterns in 4/4 time.
- b. Compose simple melodies for respective instrument in the keys of D, G and C.
- c. Arrange the melody of a popular song for respective instrument.
MMSAO.6 - Listening to, analyzing, and describing music
   a. Discuss the basic principles of meter, rhythm, tonality, and instrumentation in selected aural examples.
   b. Identify melodic and harmonic material and phrase endings in given aural examples.
   c. Identify simple musical forms.

MMSAO.7 - Evaluating music and music performances
   a. Distinguish between correct and incorrect melodic and harmonic intonation and demonstrate ability to adjust accordingly.
   b. Evaluate the accuracy of rhythm and tempos for individual and ensemble playing.
   c. Assess the quality of performance in tone, intonation, balance, dynamics, articulation, precision, and rhythm.
   d. Critique music performed by ensemble and make suggestions for improvement.

MMSAO.8 Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts
   a. Explain how music contributes to a well-rounded education
   b. Establish awareness that all subjects are related to music.

MMSAO.9 Understanding music in relation to history and culture
   a. Identify and compare performance styles of music learned in class.
   b. Discuss characteristics of music from various societies and cultures.
   c. Compare, in several cultures of the world, functions music serves, roles of musicians, and conditions under which music is typically performed.