

ASTA CERTIFICATE ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM
Performance Evaluations

Dear Parents,

I would like to acquaint you with the Certificate Advancement Program, a program offered by the American String Teachers Association (ASTA) that is now available in our state.

Evaluations will be held in a variety of locations:

March 25 at Indian Hill Music School (in Littleton)

March 31 at Gordon College (in Wenham)

April 1 at Dana Hall School of Music (in Wellesley)

April 7 at Dana Hall School of Music (in Wellesley)

The Certificate Advancement Program is a graded evaluation program in eleven levels for string students, which measures technical progress and musical development. Upon successful completion of the annual exam, a student is awarded a *Certificate of Achievement* by ASTA, the nation's largest organization for string teachers.

Over the next several months, your child and I will prepare one or more pieces, scales, an etude, and hone sight-reading skills for his performance before an examiner from whom he will receive reinforcing and constructive comments. The examiners are musicians who are knowledgeable, highly experienced teachers.

I like my students to participate because I feel that the work that goes into preparation and the feedback from the examiner are invaluable to each player. Opportunities such as these evaluations provide a goal to strive for and an occasion for every student to shine in a non-competitive environment. They also lead to more success at youth orchestra auditions, festivals and recitals.

The completed application form and the application fee for each student will be due to me by February 14, 2012.

I am pleased to offer this opportunity to my students, as we work towards higher levels of achievement in making beautiful music. Please call if you have any questions.

Yours cordially,