

Dear 4th grade students and families,

Thanks to a generous donation from our PTSA and other donors last year, DC West bought a set of 10 ukuleles! Aside from using the instruments in elementary music class and the music programs, we will again hold an after school club for 4th grade students to expand on their playing technique, learn more challenging musical literature, and perform within the community.

This year, 20 students will have the opportunity to participate in the DC West Ukulele Club, as the instruments are shared best between two students. That being said, members will be chosen through a lottery system. All interested students must submit a permission slip and will then be chosen at random using an online lottery. Students not selected will be placed a waiting list.

The club will meet weekly on Thursdays from 3:30–4:30 pm in the elementary music room starting on February 6, 2020. Once a member, students are expected to be at all rehearsals and performances. This spring, the club may have opportunities to perform; those dates and times will be shared several weeks in advance. If a conflict or emergency arises, parents/guardians should contact Ms. Beck as soon as possible. After rehearsal, students must have a means of getting home from school, as buses will not be provided. All members are responsible for knowing their after school plan and should be picked up by 4:45 pm at the latest.

If your student(s) is interested in signing up, please review the membership expectations with your child(ren) and fill out the attached form. Completed forms should be returned to Ms. Beck by Thursday, January 30, 2020. If you have additional questions, please reach out to Ms. Beck via email at kbeck@dcwest.org.

Musically,
Kaitlin Beck

DC West Ukulele Club

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Does I need to purchase my student an instrument to participate in Ukulele Club?

We have 10 ukuleles that belong to the school for playing during club rehearsals. If you are interested in purchasing an instrument for your child(ren), recommended brands with pricing are listed below. However, this is completely optional. If you do buy one, I would recommend getting a case for the instrument to keep it safe.

Brand Recommendations

- Kala Waterman Soprano Ukulele – around \$50
- Kala Soprano Ukulele – between \$40-\$70
- Lanikai Soprano Ukulele – between \$50-\$80
- Mahalo Soprano Ukulele – between \$25-\$40

2. Can students bring school ukuleles home to practice?

Because our instruments were purchased through a grant and donations from community members and are considered school property, students will not be able to bring them home to practice.

3. Does my student have to have prior experience playing ukulele or guitar to join the club?

No prior experience is needed! We will start from scratch with everyone and go from there 😊

DC West Ukulele Club

General Information

- WHO: 4th grade students
- WHEN: Thursdays from 3:30–4:30 pm starting February 6th
- WHERE: Elementary music room
- WHY: Ukuleles rock!

Membership Expectations

- Students must be safe, respectful, responsible, and kind
- Students must attend all rehearsals and performances
 - **Attendance Policy:** students may only have 2 unexcused absences per semester; additional absences will lead to dismissal from the group
 - **Unexcused Absences:** sports practices
 - **Excused Absences:** appointments, sickness, school absence, religious holidays, or family emergencies
- Students must work collaboratively with others
- Students must be willing to challenge themselves as a musician
- Students must give their best effort at all times

DC West Ukulele Club

Student & Parent Contract

Student Membership Expectations

I will be respectful, responsible, safe, and kind during Ukulele Club. It is my job as a member of this club to attend all rehearsals and performances. I promise to work collaboratively with others, challenge myself as a musician, and put forth my best effort at all times.

I understand that my failure to meet the above expectations may result in my dismissal from the DC West Ukulele Club.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Verification


I have read and discussed the above expectations for Ukulele Club with my student(s). I will notify Ms. Beck or the front office if they will be absent from rehearsal or a performance.

I understand that my student must attend all rehearsals and performances and be respectful, knowing that their failure to do so may result in their dismissal from the DC West Ukulele Club.

Parent Signature: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____ Date: _____



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UKULELE CLUB

Coming 2.6.20