



# Indiana Christian Academy Handbell Syllabus

2011-2012

Dear ICA Ringers,

It's definitely exciting to be beginning yet another year in the ICA Handbell Program! I am so eager to begin our new bell literature and see where the Lord leads us this year as an ensemble. By choosing to play bells at ICA, you are choosing to help yourself grow as a musician, as a student, and as a person. You'll learn so much more than music by playing in our handbell choir! I know you'll enjoy this experience and that you'll enjoy the music I've picked out for us!

I have posted this syllabus on the school's web page for your convenience should you or your parents need to consult it throughout the year. That web address is [www.indianchristianacademy.org](http://www.indianchristianacademy.org). If you have a question concerning something that is not here, please feel free to call me at school (643-7884 ext. 215), at home (810-3478) or you may e-mail me at [sherrydubois.ica@gmail.com](mailto:sherrydubois.ica@gmail.com). Communication is key!

Please take a moment to read this brief syllabus. It will make you acquainted with the grading system, calendar, and other important material to insure a successful year of ringing. You'll be responsible for all that's here, so please read carefully!

Thanks so much for being a part of this group. I can't wait to see what great things we accomplish!

Sincerely,

Miss Sherry DuBois  
Indiana Christian Academy  
Director of Music

## 2011 Handbells Calendar 2012

Aug. 31	GBC Handbell Practices Begin (Music Hall)	7:15 p. m.
<b>Aug. 30*</b>	<b>Syllabi from choir and band must be signed and returned to Miss DuBois</b>	
Nov. 4*	Grandparents' Day concert (GBC Auditorium) .....	8:30 a.m.
Dec. 13*	ICA Christmas program .....	6:30 p.m.
Mar. 16*	Sr. High Academic Meet (South Bend)	TBA
April 9-12	AACS - Bob Jones University	
April 24*	ICA Spring Concert .....	7:00 p.m.
April 27*	Junior High Academic Meet (Colonial)	TBA
May 25*	ICA Year-End Awards Ceremony.....	.8:30 a.m.

\*These events are required for all handbell members (where applicable).  
Grades will be docked and/or demerits given for failure to meet these requirements.

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance to all scheduled events is crucial. The group's morale and overall performance suffers when you are either late to or absent from rehearsals or performances. Your participation in the group mandates your attendance to the required events. Any exceptions to this will be made on an individual basis, but please try to plan vacations and weekends away so that each student will be able to fulfill responsibilities to the group.

**Senior High Handbells meet at 7:15 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday.** Because we do not have a long practice time, it is VITAL that all members be present and ready to ring at 7:15. There will be 2 minutes of grace given, but demerits will be given and grades will be docked if ringers are late. This is simply common courtesy!

**Junior High Handbells and Chimes meet at 2:25 every Tuesday and Thursday during the school day.** This meeting time is considered a normal class hour and students should be in the room, ready to ring by 2:25. No graces will be given unless a special circumstance arises.

Students who form a habit out of being tardy to any practices will be dismissed from the handbell choirs.

## DRESS

For every performance, the dress code will be as follows:

Ladies:

- Black hose and black dress shoes
- Handbell Gloves

Men:

- Black dress pants and belt
- Black dress shoes and socks
- White dress shirt
- White t-shirt
- Handbell Gloves

The students will be asked to purchase or rent a necktie (guys) or an outfit (girls) that is chosen for the entire group. **Please have these outfits clean and pressed as needed, and the shoes polished for every concert.** The cost for these outfits will be applied to your school bill unless you contact the school office to make different arrangements.

Hair standards should also be met by young men before all performances. Young ladies should avoid heavy make-up and should not wear large earrings, large rings, large bracelets, large hair accessories, or colored necklaces. (Diamond-looking, clear, gold, or silver is acceptable, provided it is small and does not draw attention to the wearer.) Also, young ladies are requested to pull hair away from the face as much as possible. We want to see your lovely eyes!

## PASSES

If a student wishes to practice during a study hall, he or she must obtain a pass before the day he/she wishes to practice. Please follow the school's study hall regulations when obtaining any pass.

## GRADING

Each student will receive a grade this year based on attendance, punctuality, and effort in performance and rehearsals. Each 9-12 grade student will receive one credit per year for participating in the handbell program.

### HANDBELL POINT SYSTEM

#### A. Positive points

1. Participation points (1.5 given per practice at school) 27
2. Arriving early for handbell practice 1
3. Good effort and behavior in practice 1
3. Ensemble playing in public 3
4. IACS ensemble 6
5. Fine Arts Festival/AACS ensemble 5
6. Help to director 2 per occasion
7. Listening to a handbell recording 3

\*\*\*Must turn in a listening card with the following information:

- Title of recording
- Performer(s)
- Length of recording (must be at least ½ hr. total for credit)

#### B. Penalty points

1. Absence from required performance -20
2. Unexcused absence from class\* -3
3. Unexcused tardy to class\* -1
4. Abuse of music\* -5

(Note: #5 may also require the replacement of any damaged music as determined by the director.)

5. Misbehavior during rehearsal -2

**\*Penalty points will also carry a demerit penalty as stated in the ICA handbook.**

<b>Grading Scale</b>			
Points Received During 9.5 Weeks	Grade Earned	Points Received During 9.5 Weeks	Grade Earned
40+	100	21	83
38-39	99	20	82
37	98	19	81
36	97	18	80
35	96	16-17	78
34	95	14-15	76
33	94	12-13	73
32	93	10-11	70
31	92	8-9	69
30	91	7	64
29	90	6	61
27-28	89	5	58
26	88	4	55
25	87	3	50
24	86	2	25
23	85	1	15
22	84	0	0

## **WRAPPING THINGS UP**

I can't tell you how much I love playing handbells! And I can't tell you how eager I am to see what you all accomplish this year as a group. With handbells, there are so many neat, fun, lovely things to play and experience with this music! You're in for a treat and won't be disappointed—I'm positive! I really appreciate the extra sacrifice you all make by coming early or staying late. And I appreciate the support from the parents and family members who act as chauffeurs, coaches, and sounding boards (among other things!). A successful choir is a group effort, to be sure. And I know this group has what it takes to be a success this year. Thank you so much...let's get ringin'! 😊