

Principal Players

Five principal players or section leaders are selected for each orchestra: Concertmaster, Principal Second, Principal Viola, Principal Cello, Principal Bass.

These students are chosen by the director to lead their sections. They are chosen for their musical ability as well as their leadership capabilities. It is expected that principal players assume the role of the director in helping to provide information during sectionals and rehearsals. Principal players may call sectionals in addition to the ones required by the director, with director approval, in order to fully prepare their sections.

It is expected that during orchestra rehearsals the principal players conduct themselves in a responsible and serious manner as the student role models for their sections.

Musical suggestions given by principals should be viewed by their sections favorably and representative of orchestral goals. Sectional leaders will also listen to suggestions provided by their sections. The ability to work with a co-operative team spirit will be vital to the success of our ensemble.

Technical suggestions section leaders are responsible for include: fingerings, bowings, dynamics, repetition of passages, rhythm and tempo issues, etc.

Principal players have numerous responsibilities to the director, their sections, the orchestra, and to the audiences.

As the leaders and role models, principal players are expected to attend all sectionals and rehearsals. Principals who miss rehearsals/sectionals will be moved to a lower position.

Many thanks to all of the fine principals and leaders of the Brandeis Orchestras.