

# GERIK FON-REVUTZKY

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## BASSOON AND CONTRABASSOON

[www.gerikfon.com](http://www.gerikfon.com)

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September 21, 2008

Dear Parents and Students:

Thank you for your interest in the bassoon program at Schaumburg High School. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you. I have a Masters degree in bassoon performance from Northwestern University and am an active freelance bassoonist, contrabassoonist and instructor throughout the area. I have been teaching privately since 1995, and thoroughly enjoy the teaching process. Please feel free to look through my website ([www.gerikfon.com](http://www.gerikfon.com)) for more detailed information about me.

These group classes are meant to serve as an introduction to the bassoon so that you can better judge whether you are truly interested in starting the bassoon. You will learn the basics of the instrument (parts, reeds, tone production, introduction to bass clef, general care, etc.), as well as learning several notes and playing some beginning music/etudes. My goal is for everybody to come away from group lessons with some new knowledge about an often ignored instrument, and therefore to be able to decide whether to continue on bassoon. Depending on general advancement within the class, I plan to hold group classes for the next 1 or 2 months, and then will begin interested students on individual lessons, with the goal of playing bassoon in band by the Spring term. I have found this format to be highly successful; 3 junior & 3 sophomore students currently playing bassoon in the SHS band program started this way.

Group classes are \$10 per student for ½ a class period; I require payment in advance for the month at the first group class of the month. Furthermore, I sell the required reeds at a cost of \$10 each – double reeds (oboe & bassoon) are considerably more labor-intensive than are clarinet & sax reeds, therefore the cost is greater. I will provide photocopies of music for the group class and practicing. Therefore, if planning to partake, tuition for the month of October would be \$60 (5 weeks/lessons + \$10 for 1 reed).

**Required Materials:** Reed(s), Reed Case (individual plastic vial that comes with reeds OK, for *now*)  
*both available from me*

*for those wishing to continue:*

Seat Strap, Swab, better reed case (*can make one from an Altoids, or similar, mint tin*)

Method Book(s) (Weissenborn *Practical Method for the Bassoon*, others as needed)

Suppliers – Woodwind & Brasswind ([www.wbw.com](http://www.wbw.com)) [excellent prices]

Edmund Nielsen ([www.nielsen-woodwinds.com](http://www.nielsen-woodwinds.com)) [excellent resource, Villa Park, IL]

TrevCo Music ([www.trevcomusic.com](http://www.trevcomusic.com)) [superb source of double-reed sheet music]

Local music store will likely have basics [reed case, seat strap, swab, possibly Weissenborn]

I look forward to working for and with you. The bassoon is a versatile and wonderful instrument, and I am sure that you will enjoy it as much as I do. I strongly believe in personal responsibility and expect my students to be responsible for remembering their lesson times, bringing necessary lesson materials and any other required materials. If you need anything or have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or Email me. (Email is preferred) Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gerik Fon-Revutzky  
Bassoonist & Contrabassoonist