

DIXIE MIDDLE CHOIR

Disclosure

Course Description

Students receive the tools and training in class to maximize their individual and collective vocal musicianship through sight reading, music history, vocal technique, and exposure to singing a wide variety of choral literature.

Performance is a required part of participation. Students are expected to participate fully in all scheduled evening concerts & festivals. **Dates are already scheduled. Please put them on your calendar now.**

Objectives

The vocal music department is dedicated to training students in vocal technique, music literacy (notation & sight singing) and music history & skills that will be directed toward performances throughout the year.

We will explore a variety of musical genres, such as: Folk, Sacred, Secular, Classical, Multicultural, Foreign Language, Broadway, Pop & Contemporary music. Our ultimate goal is the enjoyment of singing, and becoming the best musician possible.

Expectations

- Be Prompt- on time & in your seat
- Be Prepared- music, pencil & water every day
- Be Productive- employ excellent rehearsal skills & habits daily
- Be Polite- be kind & considerate to everyone & everything in the room
- Be Persistent- don't give up when things get tough

Performance Attendance

Students are expected to attend ALL concerts, festivals & performances with correct performance attire. Performance is an Essential Standard and part of the choir grade.

In the event of an unavoidable performance conflict, please discuss with Mrs. Ricks well in advance. Individual circumstances will determine full, partial or no points and possible concert makeup options. Any concert "no show" will result in 0 points for the performance.

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Fees

As a co-curricular class, operational costs to provide a high quality choral experience require additional fees. I do my best to keep costs as low as possible while providing the best value for our students. I recognize that this often comes at a sacrifice to families. DHS Choirs are grateful for the support of our choir families and community as we seek to participate in and provide a comprehensive choral program for our students. I never want fees to be a reason for a student to miss out on these experiences. If fees are a concern, please contact me so accommodations can be made.

Class Fee: \$85

This is a WCSD approved fee and will be collected from all students participating in choir. If a student is enrolled in multiple choirs will only be assessed one time.

Robe Fee: \$25

This fee applies to Concert Choir only and may be less than #25.

Additional Fees: varies by choir

Choirs may have additional opportunities for travel & participate in music opportunities beyond our usual choir events. These opportunities will be discussed with parents on an as needed basis. Every choral opportunity is planned to provide a high quality music experience and education for the student. These experiences have additional costs and vary based on location and other factors.

Madrigals Attire: approximately \$200

Blue Angels Attire: approximately \$150

Performance Attire

ALL CHOIR STUDENTS:

Just as a sports team has a uniform for games, performance ensembles also have a uniform for stage appearances. It's actually one of the items we are adjudicated on in performance!

- Black Pants without rips or tears (dress-style slacks, leggings. Please, NO athletic pants/jeans.)
- DMS Choir Shirt (included with choir fee)
- Black/dark shoes- dress shoes, black flats or similar are preferred. Shoes that are very dark with minimal white/bright color can work.

*please let me know if you need assistance with obtaining performance attire.

Contact

Email:

Ashley.ricks@washk12.org

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Cell Phones

Keep your phone in your backpack during rehearsal. It is expected that earbuds and headphones are removed during rehearsal.

Cell phones can be wonderful tools, but also great distractions. If you are distracted by your phone in rehearsal, you are not giving your full focus to the success of our ensemble. If your phone is inaccessible during rehearsal, it will not be a distraction for you or others. *If you choose to have your phone out during rehearsal, you choose to accept the consequence of having your phone confiscated for the duration of class, or turned in to administration for repeat offenders.*

Movies/Video

Instructional videos may be shown in class and via canvas. (Warmups, vocal technique, performance factors, etc..) These videos have been previewed. Occasionally we may watch a movie or musical that is music related. This is rare! Examples include: Hello Dolly, The King & I, The Sound of Music, STOMP, Amadeus, The Greatest Showman, The Marriage of Figaro (Opera), etc. These movies are rated G and PG.

Performance Dates

October 9 @ DMS

December 4 @ DMS

March 4 @ Dixie High Auditorium

May 13 @ Dixie High Auditorium

**Student report/call is 5:30pm.

Performance begins at 6pm.

NOTE: We usually participate in an adjudicated festival in the 2nd semester. This is typically held in February and generally during the school day. When that date is announced, you will be notified.

Calendar

Performance is a required part of participation. Students & families should **PLAN AHEAD** for all performances. Please put the dates in your personal and family calendar. Our calendar is prepared at the end of the previous school year.

All calendar dates are listed on the [DMS Choir Website Calendar](#). Dates are also posted on the board in the choir room. It is your responsibility to make sure dates are on your personal calendar.

*Student Athletes- I work with coaches so that you are able to be a musician and athlete. Please see me if you have questions about coordinating choir with your sport.

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Grading

Every quarter, you start with an A! Keeping the A is up to you, by completing the following:

- Daily rehearsal skills (approx. 60% of grade): Proper body alignment, Rehearsal Markings/Notes, Vocal Phonation, Rehearsal Engagement & Productivity (includes tardies/absences) You have 3 FREE ABSENCES/TARDIES. After that, you may lose a portion of rehearsal productivity points.
- Sight Reading Assessment (approx. 10% of grade): may be given in class or via canvas.
- Classwork/canvas assignments (approx. 10% of grade): varies by quarter
- Quarter Concert/Performance (approx. 20% of grade): Performances are the choral equivalent of a Each quarter includes performance opportunities/ Choir is a performing arts class and performance is an essential standard of our curriculum. (Concert, festival,SUPAF, etc.)

Options for extra credit: Other performance attendance/participation, music lessons, etc.

Acknowledgement

By signing below, you indicate that you have read & understand the expectations and requirements of participating in a performance based choral ensemble.

No need to return this portion if you completed the online form.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____